Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/5/2022 9:29:46 PM
First name: Carly
Last name: Healander
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Hello my name is Caden Healander and forest saved my life. I grew up in them, around them and they provide the roots of this country,
Forest are becoming fewer and fewer especially in America, damaging the ecosystem and sending more animals near extinction. It is becoming more difficult to find hope as forest continue to decline in number.
The Jellico Forest has been talked about in my family for years and I found memories of hiking, driving through and smelling the clean scent of the forest through the opened window, visiting it and finding a sense of peace there. Makes me feel closer to people I've lost who have been there with me.

Not only do I have an emotional connection but there is science supporting the negative effects in deferment harvesting this forest. These trees are causing no environmental harm, they are enhancing it, removing the trees in this area would increase flooding and landslide potentially reaching residential areas due to its steep elevation. The people who live around that area often do not have the financial means to move or will be forced off land they have been on for generations. It will greatly harm and impact these communities not to mention the wildlife. There are endangered species in the streams and those areas that these species live in are vital to their survival.

Know that this action, The Jellico Vegetation Management Project does not care for the land or serve the people it endangers it.

Consider what this will mean for future generations of Kentuckians.

Thank you