Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/6/2022 1:06:03 AM First name: G. Last name: Cantrell Organization: Title:

regards to this field, I believe I can speak from personal experience toward many of the potential impacts from this plan. Overall, I would encourage the Forest Service to work more closely with passionate and educated groups like Kentucky Heartwood in order to best preserve and ensure the vitality of our national forests for all to

enjoy. For surely, if the national forests really are supposed to be for the public good, a group cannot in good conscience make sweeping decisions that hold high potential to harm countless communities, individuals, animals, and plants in the vicinity. My family and I own private property in KY that was logged several years ago (not our choice) and it was done with the approval of a Forester and according to best practice standards. If these practices were so foolproof, I'd encourage anyone to come see the results for themselves. We've had FOUR massive landslides, nearing an estimated 800-1000 feet slide in one location, and ours was not even clearcut. The waterways surrounding run like milk chocolate whenever it rains. The flooding gets worse every year, washing away every sapling I try to get rooted along the banks. The land is steep, the machines and the bulldozing destroy the soil, the incidental damages along the trails kill even more trees, and the erosion is noticeable everywhere. How can this project expect any different outcome? It is the same land and rainy climate!! The area under the project boundaries appears to have even higher slopes with communities in danger of flooding down below. I believe the respondents in these comments are probably all over the map politically and ideologically, but I think we should all be able to agree to minimize harm in any arena possible. Logging releases stored carbon...invasive plants destroy food sources for wildlife and provide fodder for invasive insects...loss of shade and humidity risks rare medicinal plants that KY could take pride in...and what adventurers want to come to a forest with stumps and eroded trails everywhere? Sadly, we all know USFS does not have the resources to monitor and maintain logged land against future degradation - and even if they did, it would probably entail even more destruction in the form of herbicides - so honestly, I really think we need to take a step back and recognize the hubris wrapped up in assuming we know how to "fix" and maintain the forest. It's been doing just fine for at least thousands of years, so perhaps we can use the pause to think on benign ways to help like propagating natives, cleaning up trash, and learning/educating about natural cycles. Kentucky is a beautiful place - how about we stop trying to take advantage of her and her people and help empower the region to recognize their beauty and assets instead?

Comments: Thank you for accepting comments on the Jellico Mountain project. Although I am a layperson in