

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/27/2023 1:28:18 PM

First name: Theresa

Last name: Martin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I do not support your use for this project of a single species, the ruffed grouse, as a key reason to log the Daniel Boone National Forest. This is a marketing tactic and I do not support this. Please stop ignoring the fact that most of the land surrounding our publicly owned land is already cleared and perfectly good habitat for many species that need open fields. You say it's because you are only in charge of the national forests but again here, I am so disappointed. You are the STEWARDS of this publicly owned land for all citizens. You are the STEWARDS of large, nearly continuous expanses of mature forests. Yet you continue to treat it as if is isolated, while you know that taking a total ecosystem view is best for all of us. This plan seems to indicate your intention to log many acres of forest, degrading it in the name of marketing words such as "young forests" and "even aged forests." You know as well as I do that young forests sequester carbon at a higher RATE than mature forests but mature forests sequester MORE IN TOTAL. Please stop pretending you don't know these things. Please stop cherry picking old science to support these old and no longer valid approaches. Please use the current best available science even if it does not support your training as a forester. No matter what you call it, "treatments" or "vegetation management" or whatever, it ends up being the same. Logging.

Finally, your proposal to use an exception to avoid doing an Environmental Assessment is terrible. How is this the best approach? Best for who? Not for us, the citizens who own this forest. Also, where are the specifics in this plan of exactly what you plan to log, with what method (clear cut, 2 aged shelterwood, deferment harvest? All of these are forms of clear cut)? I know you have a hard job to do but we as owners of this forest should be told these details clearly.

Please, please make your plans match the currently best available peer reviewed CONSENSUS science. Please use a total ecosystems approach. Please, for me, for my children, for your children and for their children, because what you are doing will matter to all of us 200 YEARS FROM NOW. Do not bend to the short-term influences of money and profit. We all need you to be better than that. Only you can do this. You owe it to yourself and future generations to spend time getting current and thinking longer term and more broadly across the entire ecosystem when making these plans. "For the greatest good," please.