

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/19/2024 11:31:35 PM

First name: Gavin

Last name: Griffin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Concerning Pisgah National Forest:

1. The Pisgah/Nantahala plan has sufficient management guidelines for old growth and old growth corridors.
2. Our National Forests in the southern Appalachians have an abundance of mature forests that are naturally progressing towards old growth.
3. It is poor management to further reduce the ability to create young forest habitats that are currently aging out faster than they are being created.
4. This policy circumvents the collaborative process that our plans and projects are built on.
5. It opens the door for political decisions to trump sound conservation decisions.
6. It is irresponsible to issue a blanket policy that covers the entire US Forest Service system.
7. This decision is less about climate change and fire protection and more about further reducing the ability to manage for young forests which are almost non existent in the southern Appalachians.