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Comments: This proposal is ridiculous and goes against every logical biologist thoughts on forest management. Especially in the southeast, early successional habitat created by regular and frequent prescribed and timely timber thinning are crucial to quality timber stands and savannas. There are many species of animals that cannot survive without large interconnecting amounts of early successional forest. This proposal will doom many species that cannot survive or thrive in old growth forest. Not to mention old growth forests prevent a massive potential for catastrophic wild fires.

Just take the ruffed grouse in Southern Appalachia as an example. This species will be extirpated from its natural regions in the very near future if forest management does not heavily include active management for early successional habitat. This broad brush stroke approach to land management is both ridiculous and lazy. I would think the forest service and administration would take more pride on their positions by spending time to create a better proposal that would include holistic approaches to all wildlifes success.

I object this proposal and call for it to be dismissed in favor of a better solution to managing our natural resources.