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Comments: The main economic driver in the blue ridge is tourism are the mountains and the trees, the waterfalls and the hiking trails. No one goes to West Virginia to hike the mountain top removal sites. Decimating this land will hinder economic growth. President Biden recently issued an Executive Order to conserve old growth forests. The US Forest Service announced they will amend their forest management plans nationwide to comply. This includes their plans for the Pisgah-Nantahala National Forests. The existing plan opens 100,000 acres of old growth forest to commercial logging. Due to extensive logging, the Southern US has very little old growth left. We must protect the old growth in Pisgah-Nantahala National Forests. Old growth forests should never be open to logging. We need to protect mature forests on public and private lands for a variety of reasons including tourism, science and the preservation and health of the biosphere they maintain.

In other words diversity is good for forests as well as people.