Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/25/2024 9:52:16 PM First name: Gerald Last name: Hallead Organization: Title:

Comments: President Biden recently issued and Executive Order to conserve old growth forests, and I have been informed that you (The U.S. Forest Service) have announced that you will amend your forest management plans nationwide to comply. This is very good and welcome news.

My concern today is the Pisgah-Nantahala National forests. The existing plan opens 100,000 acres of old growth forests to commercial logging. Please don't let this happen. Extensive logging in the Southern United States has very little growth left. We must protect the old growth now and in the future.

Please never open old growth forests like the Pisgah-Nantahala National Forest or any other old growth areas to logging. Those areas would never recover and the animals, ecology and environment would suffer in the process. We need to protect mature forests on public and private land for the sake of ourselves now and for future generations.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours, Gerald Hallead