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Comments: This note is to strongly support and encourage the US Forest Service to implement ALTERNATIVE 1 (log 3,000 acres over 4 to 6 years using significantly less clearcut).

With increasing climate instability, including excessive rains, winds, and heat, we have seen first hand the devastation that areas in the mountains undergo when this happens (reference the floods of Eastern Kentucky in July, 2022). With less (or no) trees and landscaping for dissipation and retention, those areas will be at much higher risk of destruction. The people in this area already have enough day-to-day challenges without this additional created threat.

In addition, even though many of us do not live in areas that would be directly threatened, we enjoy the resources these areas provide for recreation and retreat, including the old growth trees, wildlife, and unique flora and fauna of the region. We strongly encourage you to reconsider the original plan and implement the more responsible ALTERNATIVE 1.