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Title:

Comments: Jellico Vegetation Management EA .

District Ranger

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There is an extreme lack of detail provided in the Draft EA for this Project. It's difficult for me to understand how the USFS is making plans to log in this area where there are significant tracks of old growth forest!! By doing so, the USFS is ignoring President Biden's E.O. of 2022 to protect mature and old growth forest on federal lands!

We are in a climate emergency and cannot ignore the valuable role the mature and old growth trees play in capturing the carbon in the atmosphere and releasing oxygen!! The public in general know how very important it is to protect our federal forests - why is the agency tasked with protecting the forest actually making plans to do the opposite?

The answer is that your agency has timber harvest as the determining factor when making plans! The focus of the USFS needs to change from this paradigm - wood products can be made from trees harvested on private land! And, income can be made from recreational opportunities in the forest!

The Jellico Management EA does not take into account the habitat impacts involved in this project! The biodiversity of the forest is essential for it's health - plants, animals, reptiles and amphibians all play a part! Logging roads affect the soil and destroy the habitat!

Thank you for reading our comments! Please remember you are stewards of the forest - not the owners!