Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/17/2024 4:00:00 AM

First name: Alisa Last name: Norfleet Organization:

Title:

Comments: Regeneration cuts, such as clearcuts and shelterwood logging, in mature and old-growth forests has no place in the Jellico Mountains. These practices pose a significant threat to the crucial role mature and old growth forests play in mitigating climate change, as emphasized in President Biden's Executive Order. Research shows that old growth stands store 35-70% more carbon than logged stands. In addition, old growth keeps wildfires at lower severity. Further, these habitats are essential for the survival and well-being of species such as the Cerulean Warbler, and it's critical that they are preserved and protected.