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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am opposed to the proposed Jellico Vegetation Management Project #63037. A 10,000 acre plan spanning 40 years is not manageable. The planners today will be long gone over 40 years and it fails to account for new needs, long range ecological concerns and the new silviculture knowledge and techniques that will certainly emerge. I would prefer Alternative 1 with explicit attention to Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus* sp.) eradication.

It is also imperative that we preserve old growth forest habitat. I ask that a complete environmental impact statement be prepared with strict attention to impacts on water, forest habitat, identification of old growth and near old growth stands, and identification of slopes that must be avoided.

Much attention has been given to a serious biodiversity crisis. In the United States, bird populations have plummeted over the last 50 years due primarily to land use change and habitat loss. 10,000 acres is a huge area and we cannot afford to lose that much habitat.

The Daniel Boone National Forest (DBNF) is public land that is managed for multiple uses. I believe the public prefers recreation, hunting, fishing, hiking, and enjoying nature over huge, unnecessary logging activities. Everyone I speak with certainly does. The DBNF is not a timber company yet with massive increases in logging activity over the last 3 decades, it appears that timber revenue is a priority. Please slow down. I don't want my forest to be sold off to the highest bidder.

Finally, I would like to see smaller, targeted areas of clear cuts and shelterwood activities, conservation of old growth stands, and more thinning whenever possible. Manage for habitat, fire prevention, and sustainable extraction of our renewable forest products.

There is no need for this huge project in the Jellico's, one of our most beautiful remaining, mostly wild places.