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First name: Del

Last name: Meadows

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Date Submitted: 5/25/2024

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Last Name: Meadows

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Comment: Concerns over Jellico Vegetation Mountain Project #63037

I moved to the Osborne Creek area 53 years ago from Silver Springs Maryland. I will never forget the first time I saw the mountains and the beauty that this area holds. There are so many people who will never get to experience what we get to enjoy everyday, but if you continue with this project you're going to be taking away one of the main reasons that many of us chose to purchase land and build homes at the bottom of these gorgeous mountains. I have seen firsthand what happens when the government allows clearcutting. Back in the 80's the land next to ours was owned by the government and they allowed people to clear-cut that. That has been over three decades ago and to this day the land is briar patches, non native trees, brush piles laying under the briars, skinny trees that will never amount to anything like was cut. It was a beautiful little forest that had huge trees and the floor stayed clean with paths all through it, now you couldn't walk through it if you tried. Is that how the mountain is going to be if this project goes through? What happens when the rain washes down and floods our land? How about when the creeks wash sediment into my catfish pond that my husband spent thousands of dollars having built and stocked? The rain that comes from the mountains already washes out my driveway I can't imagine what it will be like when it's cut and there isn't trees there to absorb a lot of the rain water. I am asking that you think of those of us who live here, pay property taxes on this land and will be affected by the mountain being cut and don't go through with it. Thank you for allowing comments and taking the time to read our thoughts. I hope you listen to our wishes and not log these mountains.