

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/24/2024 4:00:00 AM

First name: Olivia

Last name: Juarez

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

Thanks for accepting public comments. Please do not proceed with harvesting old and mature trees given the important role these specimen and other species in these forests play in mitigating climate change. It is imperative that your final project decision includes a substantial area to allow warblers, other birds and bats to thrive. Contemporary research demonstrates that cerulean warblers benefit from intermediate disturbance in mature forests with large trees. Your final assessment should include maximum area specifically dedicated to habitat restoration and any vegetation management that results in optimal habitat for wildlife while controlling the serious invasion of Trees of Heaven in the forest. Finally, please produce a final EA that includes recommended Best Management Practices aimed at reducing the risk of landslides, including specific analytical methods relevant to land management planning. The Forest Service needs to incorporate the science and methodology and adopt the recommended Best Management Practices into the Jellico analysis and any final approved action. Daniel Boone National Forest lands in the Jellico project area represent a critical headwaters area that directly affects many families and landowners in the immediate vicinity, and many more downstream. The combined efforts of optimizing aquatic species habitat, controlling Trees of Heaven, and maximizing the retention of optimal old and mature stands for wildlife habitat is essential to preserve community health and deal with the greatest challenge of our era--the climate crisis. Thank you.