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First name: Sarah

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a Kentucky native, farmer and small business owner living in Lee County, Kentucky and I am writing to strongly oppose the Forest Service's logging proposal in Jellico. I have read it in detail and find it to be a completely irresponsible management plan for the stewardship and protection of the people's public resources and the needs of future generations. I do not support the FS's indiscriminate cutting of older forests based on timber targets. Further, FS staff should not be potentially incentivized to make decisions based on short term gains due to linking timber targets to performance reviews. The need for forests is multi-faceted and we should be considering much more than timber targets in taking care of them.

I want my children and grandchildren to grow up getting to experience the beauty and magnificence of Kentucky's forests. Mature forests are needed to provide us with clean air and drinking water and to maintain habitat for the diverse flora and fauna of Kentucky. I have watched irresponsible logging in Eastern Kentucky cause landslides, the build up of troublesome invasive species and cause declines in the native birds that I love. I URGE the Forest Service to prioritize the protection of old growth trees, endangered and threatened species, and the role of intact forests in protecting humanity from climate change in the Jellico Mountains.