Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/13/2024 12:44:19 AM
First name: Jared
Last name: Dubin
Organization: River Valley Greenscapes
Title:
Comments: I'm a local resident and business owner living in the South Toe river valley. Seven Mile Ridge is right behind my land, and it would be heartbreaking to see all of that forest cleared away. I am all for healthy forest management but this does not seem to be that. Please know that I and many of the other residents here strongly oppose the proposed logging and hope you will do what is right and protect our forests, not sell them out!

I echo the following sentiments from my friends in the sciences:

I believe these forests should be managed for the purpose of protecting and encouraging native biodiversity. I don't think the GAP project should include commercial timber harvest in NC Natural Heritage Program Natural Areas. These areas are designated for their biodiversity significance and protect many rare plant and animal species. Sevenmile Ridge Wetlands Natural Area in Yancey County is one of the best examples of Swamp Forest-Bog Complex in the state and is home to several rare plant species. Please remove this and all other NHP Natural Areas from the areas proposed for commercial timber harvest.

Thank you for doing the right thing!