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First name: David

Last name: Whitmire

Organization: Fish and Wildlife Conservation Council

Title: Chairman

Comments: Dear District Ranger Waskey,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Northside project. We appreciate you and your staffs commitment to forest and wildlife habitat restoration. Your District continues to be a leader in moving restoration projects forward outlined in the 2023 forest plan. The importance of using partners in this case EBCI is critical in moving forward to ensure quality wildlife habitat projects can be implemented . We see this as a tier two opportunity identified in the forest plan.

A concern we see within the Northside Project , is access. We understand the cost of both time and money in expanding roads to further expand your ability manage this area. The amount of young forest creation in the project area is minimal to the overall size of study area. We strongly oppose any loss in creating young forest habitat or permeant wildlife openings listed in the units identified. We would support a increase in size of the units by 10% due to the fact of access limitations' and the need of a balanced habitat. Often units are dropped for various reasons, in this project this would drastically effect the wildlife requiring young forest habitat in the overall study area.

Regards,

David Whitmire

FWCC Chairman