Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/19/2024 9:29:23 PM First name: Dewey Last name: Wells Organization: Title:

Comments: That this issue recurs attests to the influence of a minority of citizens, some influential, who put their selfish desire for old growth/wilderness forest ahead of the interests of the majority of citizens who benefit from management of National Forests as Congress intended. Congress mandated the management of National Forests to serve multi-purposes, not the least of which is to supply lumber for a growing America, recreation and wildlife. Many citizens must depend upon public land for hunting game species dependent upon early successional forest growth. Since Appalachian farms began to be abandoned about a century ago the slow, inevitable forestation has far outpaced the Forest Service's compliance with the multi-purpose mandate. The Service should aggressively address that deficiency!