Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/20/2024 4:42:05 PM First name: Linda Last name: McGowen Organization: Title:

Comments: Old-growth forests store large amounts of carbon, clean the air we breathe, maintain and increase biodiversity, filter water, and reduce wildfire risks. The old-growth forests of the Nantahala-Pisgah National Forests are home to several endangered and threatened species, including four species of endangered bats and the imperiled Blue Ridge lineage of green salamanders. Please strengthen and clarify NOGA to close its loopholes and protect our precious old growth forests!