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Comments: Dear Director,

As a sportsman who has been involved for the last decade in the planning process for developing the Pisgah/Nantahala plan, I have concerns about the reasons for and implementation of the Land Management Plan Direction for Old-Growth Forest Conditions Across the National Forest System.

After working with multiple agencies, and stakeholders plan was made that takes all forest conditions into account. Old growth corridors were identified. Places where disturbance and young forest conditions are needed were identified, as well as everything in between. We do not need a top down plan from the Whitehouse to take away the voice of the local stakeholders and professionals who are knowledgeable and capable of managing our forests.

A plan such as this should take into account the whole forest and not just one forrest type. In the Southern Appalachians our forests are suffering from a lack of young forest conditions as well as old growth. As things stand there already isn't enough timber being cut to increase the amount of young forest. With less than 1% young forests on the landscape and the vast majority being mid to older age classes, there doesn't seem to be a threat the old growth conditions. Managing for old growth should in no way restrict our ability to create young forests and manage for the #1 users of our National Forests, the wildlife!

Daniel McNeely