Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/10/2026 2:28:29 AM
First name: Deborah
Last name: Moses
Organization:
Title:
Comments: I am filing this Notice of Objection pursuant to Title 36 CFR Part 218, in regards to the Jellico Vegetation Management Project in the Stearns Ranger District of the Daniel Boone National Forest, where the responsible official is Kyle Edmonds, District Ranger. My name is Deborah Moses, 97 W. Church Street, Williamsburg, Kentucky 40769 and I may be contacted at (606)521-6221 or via email at debmoses16187@gmail.com.
As a property owner owning several acres immediately adjacent to the proposed operation, I appreciate the opportunity to submit an objection to the proposed Jellico Vegetation Management Project. Unfortunately, it appears that my previous efforts to have my concerns addressed, have largely gone unanswered. Therefore, I will once again state my concerns regarding the proposed project.
1.Hydrology/Sedimentology - My previous comments regarding the increased sediment loads and the watershed sized used in the modeling remain an issue. It appears that no further consideration was given to these concerns. As a Mining Engineer, I am well aware of the parameters and guidelines necessary to properly model hydrologic impacts and the modeling for this project does not conform to prudent engineering practices. Moreover, my comments regarding modeling only of "during logging" conditions and no consideration being given to the long term degradation of the soil stability seem to have gone unnoticed, as well.
2.Slope Stability - Some of the steepest areas in the Damiel Boone National Forest are included in the proposed project area. Additionally, the project area lies in close proximity to the Pine Mountain Fault Zone. I have found no evidence of slope stability analysis for soil conditions after the conclusion of the logging operation. That is a huge concern for me, given the fact that the majority of my property lies below the proposed operation.
3.Herbicides - Once again, the exact chemicals to be used are not listed. I feel that hazardous materials, such as herbicides, should be listed.
4.Endangered Species - Increased sediment loads, increased stream pH, use of herbicides, and many other side effects of the proposed operation will, without a doubt, have an adverse impact on the endangered species within the project area, and it seems no consideration has been given to the protection of these species.
5.Overall Forestry Stewardship - For a project of this magnitude, or any logging project. To not include a reforestation plan is absolutely WRONG. Because of previous surface mining operations in the area, before the knowledge of invasive species was understood, many types of invasive species were used for post-mining vegetation. Without a clear reforestation plan, the project area will inevitably be covered with autumn olive trees, or some other invasive species currently found on adjacent tracts. This will not foster future tree harvesting, recreation opportunities, of anything else beneficial to the area.
In closing, it appears that Alternative 1, which was a much better option even though it wasn't great, has been totally forgotten and that makes no sense at all. I urge the USFS to reconsider the project and once again include Alternative 1 as a viable option. At a minimum, the comments submitted previously should be addressed rather than ignored.

Sincerely,
Deborah B. Moses, PE, PLS