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Comments: LAWRENCE ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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March 22, 2020

Wayne National Forest/ Forest Plan

Athens Ranger District- Athens Unit

13700 US Highway 33

Nelsonville, OH 45764

(740)753-0101

RE: Wayne National Forest Plan Assessment

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lawrence County Convention and Visitors Bureau appreciates the work that the Wayne National Forest is doing to work on the Forest Revision Plan.

The Lawrence County CVB, the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, and the Lawrence Economic Development Corporation have worked together to formalize our recommendations for the revised Wayne Plan. We recognize forest management has in the past been by far the largest part of those plans and hereby request that the new Plan place recreation on the same level. The hundreds of thousands of residents and visitors of the area are more concerned with recreation than any other part of the Plan. We realize without a well-managed forest, we wouldn't have high quality recreation; however, we ask that the two be of equal efforts in planning, management, investment and the future Plan. We want to make sure that recreation is on the same

level as forest management during the process would like to see a multi-layered major section of the Plan with assessments, goals, and desired outcomes to focus on recreation.

Our staff and resources are here to assist when and as needed. We realize the major responsibilities placed on Carrie, Rachel, and the entire team; however, we do believe that the Wayne will only fully develop and prosper when it[rsquo]s value of recreation is recognized across the region and the nation, and this will only come through recreation.

Sincerely,

Marty Conley, Director

Lawrence County Convention and Visitors Bureau

cc. Bill Dingus, Lawrence Economic Development Corporation

Shirley Dyer, Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce