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Please manage these beautiful forests

Dear US Forest Service,

More than one million acres of western North Carolina lies in the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests. Ensuring that that land is managed properly for people and nature is vital to its future. This is why I'm urging the USFS to make these changes to their plans:

- Make ecological restoration the primary goal of the new plan
- Restore forest types that are the most departed from their historical condition
- Prevent the breaking up of important core forests
- Return fire to the landscape, including wilderness areas, through the use of controlled burning
- Protecting old growth forests from commercial logging
- Managing the forest to protect 36 ecologically important areas identified by the NC Natural Heritage Program

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Annie Ahern

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