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First name: Anon

Last name: Andrea

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1:

Address2:

City:

State:

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code:

Country:

Email: awatsoninc@att.net

Phone:

Comments:

Opening Most of the Popular Pisgah-Nantahala National Forest to Logging

This proposal will be devastating for our state. This is not smaller government, this is government fiat and over reach, ignoring the will of the people, by selling the soul of the land for corporate profit.

'In what conservation groups flag as a dramatic shift, the U.S. Forest Service is proposing industrial-scale logging in the vast majority of the Pisgah-Nantahala National Forest in western North Carolina ? about 700,000 acres, or an area bigger than the Great Smoky Mountains National Park ? instead of protecting popular backcountry recreation destinations and conserving the Blue Ridge landscapes treasured by residents and tourists from across the United States.

"Under the law and for everyone who enjoys America?s forests, the Forest Service?s first priority should be fixing the mistakes of the past ? restoring the parts of the forest already damaged by prior logging," said DJ Gerken, senior attorney with the Southern Environmental Law Center. "But the misguided logging plan proposed by the agency will repeat those old mistakes, causing more damage and putting the healthiest forests we have left on the chopping block. The people who use and love these forests won?t stand for cutting them down."

It seems that Koch Industries now owns our state and can strip it bare. Shame on our state and federal leaders.

Andrea Watson Lenoir, NC