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Comments:

\*\*\*GREAT plan revision\*\*\*\*

I am sure most of the public is writing you to criticize the proposals on the Nantahala and Pisgah NF's plan. Please consider my comments as well.

Obviously, those who utilize the national forests wish for everything to be aesthetically pleasing to them year round without understanding that changes in the landscape are beneficial to our forests and wildlife. Some of these same people are the ones who cry out that "pets need voices" and actively seek for better animal rights. But, when it comes to wildlife, where are those same people? Where are the posters, commercials, and organizations to help our wildlife?

The common public simply does not understand that "pretty" does not necessarily mean good habitat for wildlife. Our forests are in dire need of some habitat management. If they knew our wildlife and diversity was hurting, they would support these revisions, Especially on MA1 and MA2. Because of the historical past "bad logging practices" management has nearly been halted and the mere thought of it is shunned by the public. But research scientifically proves the need for habitat diversity, especially in our national forests. Science proves the importance of prescribed fire and timber management practices. We need young forests/ early successional habitat and diversity within the landscape. The public only hears the word "logging" and their brains fill up with images from 150+ years ago of clearcuts and bare landscape. We were raised in a generation where we were brought up watching movies with animals that have anthropomorphic features, that can talk, and live harmoniously with other species in family units. These movies also portray animals to be threatened by logging, fire and hunters- where the animals have to band together to stop them. The generations that are criticizing you are led with their emotions and are uneducated about our forests and the need for wildlife and habitat diversity. Management has changed a lot in the last 150+ years, but unless the public has been educated in that field, they would not know that. We need multiple age classes so that we can increase species diversity. Yes, some practices are unsightly, BUT only temporarily. Soon after, the public will see the beauty in the diversity of the landscape and the diversity in our wildlife.

The public thinks they know best, but they are emotionally driven. Trust in your professionals and educated people and move forward with your plan revision.

Please try and ignore all of the outcry to stop habitat diversity. Hikers are not the only ones who utilize our forests- WILDLIFE does too.

Thank you for your time-

Kasey Riddle

(a common user of Pisgah and Nantahala game lands for hiking, hunting, recreation)