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Comments:

Forest plan

Dear sir or madam,

Hello, my name is Steven Kinsella, I live in Haywood County and would like to make the following comments on the Pisgah-Nantahala management plan:

1. I would like to see open spaces and young forests/early succession increased in the forests. I support responsible logging and feel the forest isn't offering enough open habitat for wildlife.

2. In addition, I'd like to see some open spaces managed for NC's expanding elk herd. The herd is moving off the GSMNP and the best places for it to end up are the national forests. I'd like to see the Forest Service work with the NCWRC to ensure the elk have a place to grow so that in the future we can have a hunting season like Tennessee.

3. I favor some expansion of wilderness areas, because I do think it's important for some mature forests to grow. New 'Old Growth' forests in the future will be an important part of the forest, especially for hikers.

4. I'd like to see the Forest Service (continue?) to work with groups like the American Chestnut Foundation to restore some American Chestnuts to Western NC.

5. I support any effort to save hemlocks, butternuts, red spruce and any other threatened tree species in the forest and strongly support any public-private attempts by the forest service to do so.

6. I support the forest service working with groups like the SAHC to purchase high priority inholdings, to secure the future of the forest, especially in areas where wildlife corridors can be created or protected.

These are all the comments I have at the time. Thank you and good luck with the planning process.

Best,

Steve