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Comments:

Please base any changes on careful preservation of our remaining forestland

* Our forests are the small remnant of the great forests that once covered this nation, and the goal of management should be to preserve this national heritage, with all of its globally outstanding biodiversity and its ecosystem services (like clean water, carbon dioxide absorption, flood control, wildlife, etc.), as well as for its recreational and aesthetic values. Logging should be a means to this end, not the primary purpose of management, and not a fundraising means.

* Management Areas and the permitted practices within them must be more carefully defined, so that we agree from the beginning on management practices, rather than have these debates again every time a new project is proposed.

* Another forest zoning should be carried out based on wildlife habitat for bears and other animals including neotropical bird migrants, defining critical habitats and corridors needed to connect them.

* Some areas in the Pisgah District need to be protected as backcountry or primitive areas: Upper Courthouse Creek, Daniel Ridge, Cedar Rock Mountain, and Upper Lickstone Ridge.

* The "Old Growth" areas selected in the current Plan should be preserved. Every preserve should include old growth trees.

Thank you for serving us.

Diane Huey

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"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that[1]."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

[1] Strength to Love, 1963 (see: <http://www.thekingcenter.org/archive/document/strength-love#<http://www.thekingcenter.org/archive/document/strength-love>>)