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protect the Big Ivy

Hello,

I am writing to voice my support for The Big Ivy. I unfortunately am unable to make it to tomorrow's meeting, however, I wanted to make sure that I stand with the Forest Service and the concerned citizens of Western NC in saying that The Big Ivy is a special place and must be protected from any potentially damaging designations that leave her precious slopes, creeks and hollows vulnerable to harm.

I lived on the edge of this magical place for 3 years and as a naturalist, botanist and herbalist I can say that The Big Ivy is unique in our region and should be preserved as such for future generations. I ask you to hear the people who are speaking for the plants, trees and creatures who call The Big Ivy home and strive for the highest protections you are able to provide within the bounds of the forest plan revision. A few areas that I am aware of that still need your help are as follows:

- The Designation of Big Ivy's trail network and the old-growth forests of Coxcomb Mountain and Snowball Mountain as backcountry.
- The Designation of Big Ivy's trail-less, high-elevation forests as wilderness as recommended by the Buncombe County Board of commissioners.
- To Ensure that any Special Interest Areas in Big Ivy prohibit logging.

Thank you for your time and consideration and for all that you do to protect the public lands that make Western NC a wonderful place to live. Big Ivy needs your help and we the citizens are counting on you!
In solidarity and gratitude,
Rebecca Anderson