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Comments:

To:

Dan Olsen, Forest Supervisor

Daniel Boone National Forest

1700 Bypass Road

Winchester, Kentucky 40391

Subject: Forest Plan Amendment

Dear Mr. Olsen,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the proposed Forest Plan Amendment with regards to Indiana bats and other federally listed species.

The possibility that the Daniel Boone National Forest would change Forest Plan standards in such a way as to increase the probability of impacting or destroying a maternity colony is not something that I find acceptable. The loss of a single maternity colony at this juncture could be catastrophic.

Therefore my main concerns are stated below. I believe those issues should be addressed in the environmental analysis for the Plan Amendment:

1. What are the current protocols for identifying maternity colonies or other active roosts? When during planning and harvest operations are surveys made, and by whom? What training is received by personnel to identify active roosts?
2. Please provide ample scientific evidence demonstrating that the newly proposed Forest Plan standards (e.g., changes to basal area standards, snag retention, seasonal harvest restrictions relating to habitat occupancy, etc.) are more or as protective for federally-listed bat species as the current plan standards. It does not appear to me that they are.

Sincerely,
Daniela Herzog