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Plan Revision
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8-21-06

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You may comment on any parts of the DEIS and PLRMP. The following topics will help you focus your comments and help us to better respond to your comments. You do not have to fill in every section in order to comment. At the end of the form, you will find a place to comment on other issues, alternatives, management direction and monitoring. Feel free to use additional pages.

Issues in the DEIS (please check the topics you are commenting on)

- [X] Forest Vegetation
- [ ] Habitat Diversity
- [ ] Recreation
- [ ] Special Areas including Roadless Areas and Wilderness
- [ ] Other Concerns

The amount of revenue derived from timber cutting in the Allegheny National Forest has a direct correlation to the amount of revenue derived by local municipalities and school districts from such timber cutting, the amount of jobs within the timber industry, and the overall economic well being of municipalities and school districts in Elk, Forest, McKean, and Warren County. The projected annual timber receipts for the next two decades are considerably higher for alternatives A and B ($137.8 million and $130.2 million respectively) than for alternative C ($107.5 million).

Additionally, the projected 25% payments to local municipalities and school districts under alternatives A and B would be approximately $1 million per year greater than for the preferred alternative C, and alternative A offers nearly 31,000 more acres of "suitable forest land" for timber production than does the preferred alternative C. Last, the preferred alternative C doubles the amount of "no active management" land, which contributes to the decline of Allegheny Hardwoods.

Given the economic benefits that timber harvesting creates for local communities, in order to meet the needs of local communities the preferred alternative must maximize the permissible amount of timber harvesting and the amount of land available for timber management to the greatest extent possible. As indicated above, the preferred alternative C clearly fails in this regard. Therefore, the Plan must be rescinded and revised so that the preferred alternative maximizes the amount of revenue derived from timber cutting in the Allegheny National Forest to the greatest extent possible.