



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0435

ROBERT J. MARTINEAU, JR.
COMMISSIONER

BILL HASLAM
GOVERNOR

To: Office of Policy and Planning

From: Maggie Joyce, Policy Analyst

Date: February 29, 2016

Re: Stone 4 Forest Health Project, Cocke County Emergency Access Special Use Project

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) received requests for comment from the Unaka Ranger District of the Cherokee National Forest on Stone 4 Forest Health Project and Cocke County Emergency Access Special Use Project, which are categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to 36 CFR 220.6 (e)(6) and 36 CFR 220.6(e)(3) respectively. In the Stone 4 Forest Health project, the Forest Service proposes to non-commercially thin approximately 368 acres in Compartment 335 along Stone Mountain, approximately three miles southeast of Unicoi, TN within Unicoi County. In the Cocke County Emergency Access Special Unit Project, the Forest Service proposes improving two locations along the Pigeon River in the Bluffton/Hartford area in order to provide emergency access to the river in multiple locations.

TDEC's Division of Natural Areas (DNA) and Tennessee State Parks and Real Property Management have reviewed both of the proposed projects and supporting materials and have indicated that it is not necessary for the department to provide comments. TDEC's Division of Water Resources reviewed the Cocke County Emergency Access Special Use Project and supporting materials and indicated that it is not necessary for the department to provide comments.

MEJ