

## TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Andy Beshear Governor #1 Sportsman's Lane Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 Phone (502) 564-3400 Fax (502) 564-0506 Mike Berry Secretary

Rich Storm Commissioner

This letter is in reference to the attached bid package that describes 25 timber harvest units totaling 365 acres that are scheduled for Grayson Lake WMA, which we are referring to as the Grayson Grouse Harvest. This harvest will create varying habitat types across the Wildlife Management Area. Maps and data summaries have been included that specifically describe the locations and characteristics of each of these units and access areas. This harvest will happen in three phases, Little Brushy Creek, Frazier Flats, and Deer Creek. In total we plan to harvest 2,768,430 board feet of saw-timber and almost 4000 tons of pulp. The impact from the ice storm of 2021 is not accounted for in our data.

The primary objective of this project is to increase the abundance of young forest and early successional habitat on Grayson Lake WMA in a manner that is sustainable. This is accomplished by spreading the harvest units over the landscape, instead of one area. All of these units will be cut in a regeneration fashion. A regeneration harvest is designed to return full sunlight to the forest floor following the harvest. This disturbance will allow favorable tree regeneration the ability to emerge and compete through high stem densities, encouraging desirable form. Many species, game and non-game, will benefit from this project including but not limited to: ruffed grouse, white tailed deer, American woodcock, wild turkey, and a variety of song birds.

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