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First name: Stan Last name: Crane

Organization: Northeast Georgia SORBA

Title: President

Comments: Northeast Georgia SORBA is concerned about timber sales at Jake/Bull and Stonewall Falls/White Twister. In the recent past, stands of timber have been offered for sale. Trees immediately adjacent to the trails have been marked for cutting. Enough trees are marked on the trail to expose the trail to direct sunlight. In many areas of the these trail systems where direct sunlight hits the trail briars and honey locust appears in large numbers. These plants will completely obscure the trail in the summer months requiring many volunteer hours to keep them cut back. Our concern is that if timber is logged right up to the trail it will allow these undesirable plants to become established on more trails at Jake/Bull and Stonewall Falls/White Twister thus presenting a burden for our volunteer efforts and reducing visitor satisfaction. There should be an undisturbed buffer of trees and vegetation left between timber cuts and trails so as not to markedly change the understory adjacent to the trail.