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Comments: Regarding Foothills Landscape Project #52509:

Preserving natural ecosystems should be the FIRST PRIORITY of the National Forest Service. The Appalachian Mountains host one of the planet's most diverse ecosystems. It would be a tragedy if the NFS contributes to loss of plant and animal species.

Please protect Springer Mountain, Grassy Mountain, Big Shoals, Five Falls, and Thrifts Ferry areas.

Thank you for preserving old-growth tree populations.

Logging with heavy equipment has never led to a healthy forest-- it just gives a big profit to logging companies at taxpayer expense (they wouldn't do it if they were not making a profit). Logging with mega-equipment causes massive topsoil loss from bulldozer roads that cause soil erosion. Losing topsoil never leads to a healthy forest. Using herbicides to control undergrowth on as much as 74,000 acres is a BAD idea. Avoid lawsuits from persons who get cancer from herbicides (glyphosates). Avoid poisoning water supplies downstream. Don't use herbicides and don't allow contractors to use herbicides.

Spreading green wood chips on 83,000 acres will create a prime area for invasive species to grow. Green wood chips require years to decompose while undesirable species take over. Healthy young trees don't grow in uncomposted wood chips.