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Title:

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed Foothills Landscape Project. It is way too big in scale and does not really allow for proper public input. I work as a vegetation ecologist and I foresee many problems with this approach. Some 60,000 acres of logging are proposed, 63,000 acres of herbicide application and 50,000 acres of prescribed fire. This is a tremendous amount of disturbance in a forest that has already been subjected to extensive alteration from prior logging and misguided forest management. What is particularly disturbing is that no particular location information is provided and the public will not be able to review specific actions. This largely appears to be an end run around the NEPA process. These are public lands and the Forest Service benefits from public input. I have seen many poorly thought out management activities occur over the years, especially the extensive clearcutting that occurred in the 70s-90s. These areas are now successional tulip poplar, red maple and black locust and largely biological deserts. I fear that much of the management proposals put forth in this plan will have equally negative effects. I strongly object to the scale of this project and its exclusion of public input.