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First name: Norman

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Supervisor Jewett,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Foothills Landscape Project on the Chattahoochee National Forest. I live close and visit these lands for biking, hiking, camping, and fishing. I care deeply about the management of this Forest now and into the future. I attended a meeting announcing the Environmental Analysis and appreciated the focus on recreation in this project.

I am concerned with the lack of information about exactly where and when you will be cutting trees, reworking trails, and burning areas near many of my favorite trails and camping areas. I am worried that when we are planning our hikes and camping trips, we will be unable to know if the area is in a project area. I want to keep the long standing practice of being notified and given an opportunity to have a say in where management and disturbances occur.

We would like to know because many of the activities planned in this project do not provide a pleasing environment for my family and I to enjoy. In general, Forest Service projects seem to mess up an area, take a long time to complete and re-grow, and sometimes look worse. I would hope recreation areas, trails, and unique areas like Georgia's Mountain Treasure areas will get special consideration in Foothills Landscape and future project proposals.

If the Forest Service does not plan to include the public in site-specific decisions before implementing, I would like the Forest Service to specifically identify and explicitly prohibiting cutting, herbicide application, and road work close to trails in the Foothills Landscape. I would like my experiences on the trails within Foothills and in the National Forest to reflect a sense of natural beauty. These values are why I choose to spend my time in the "Foothills Landscape."