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Title:

Comments: I object to the proposed use of public land during the Foothills Landscape Project for several reasons:

As a consumer of tap water in metro Atlanta, I will be drinking water contaminated by the herbicides the forest service intends to spray in the forests upstream of me.

As a citizen of Georgia, I will be deprived of the plant species diversity when forests are managed for even-age pine plantations and hardwoods and herbs are poisoned by the forest service. As a fisherman, I will be harvesting and eating contaminated by these herbicides. My hunting friends will be denied the deer and turkey habitat once afforded by a diverse natural forest. As a hiker, I will lose the tranquility and beauty on local trails when new roads and trail diversions are implemented. Lastly, I object to prescribed burns in this region of the country because it will remove the natural humus that builds on our forest floor that nourishes wild mushrooms and wild flowers and all the people and creatures that benefit in some way from a rich humus layer. Prescribed burns are beneficial in more xeric forests, but in the humid and perhumid Appalachian region, fungi do a much better job breaking down leaves and twigs than fire.