Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/9/2020 11:32:25 PM
First name: Terri
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: I find the Foothills Landscape Plan extremely disturbing. Please manage our Public Lands, which belong to everyone, for recreation and solace not timber sales. Our natural world is quickly shrinking in the face of urban sprawl and development. We may not have a say in the decimation of privately held lands but we do and should have a say in the management of our public lands.

Our forests provide a place for recreation, solitude and a chance to experience nature. They are home too many rare and fragile plants, wild flowers, fungi and animals Forests are a rapidly disappearing resource and one that is not replaceable in our lifetime. Our forest differentiate us here in the foothills. We are the closest forest to much of the Metro Atlanta Area. The forest differentiate us from the ugly urban sprawl that is ever growing closer to our National Forest. Our forests are a refuge for many. Spending time in the forest can disconnect us from our always connected busy modern lives. It has the ability to act as a balm for the nervous system. This is something that we all can definitely benefit from. Being in a forest full of tree stumps and one that is scarred from heavy machinery and clear signs of man will most definitely have the opposite effect.

I spend a lot of time hiking in the Forest. I believe nature does a good job of taking care of our forests. Trees will die or fall from high winds and wet conditions which will create natural canopy gaps. Young trees will grow in these gaps. I witness this all the time in the woods. No cutting or herbicides required. When the Forest service cuts and applies herbicides that requires a lot effort. Paying contractors to spray herbicides to prevent unwanted trees and vegetation in the "managed" areas will definitely be very time consuming, expensive, and risky. Better to let nature do it for free with no risk of the possible long term effects of herbicides.

If the Forest Service cuts trees and sprays herbicides trees there will be fewer trees to clean our air and our streams will be contaminated with herbicide. We are the headwaters to many areas and I am fairly certain that people do not want to be drinking herbicide introduced into the system by the Forest Service. Too many other countries are deforesting their land at unprecedented levels. We do not want to follow their short sited and very disturbing example.

We need clean air, clean water and shade to cool the planet. We need forests to restore our souls.

I object to the unnecessary cutting and poisoning of our National Forest which I am part owner of.