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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these plans. I realize that much work has gone into generating the proposals. I am a hiker and have volunteered on Appalachian Trail maintenance and management issues for over 40 years. During that time, I have developed a respect for the dedication of many USFS professionals. I do, however, want to express a few concerns.

I am concerned about the lack of specificity for various proposed management activities. This is especially concerning since there does not appear to be much opportunity for continued public input as specific projects are prepared for implementation.

I hope that in carrying out some of the proposed activities, serious consideration will be given to the impact of the disturbance on recreation activities. Since the CONF is an urban forest, there are a large number of citizens who go there to experience the beauty of the landscape.

The area that is subject to this proposal is huge, so there is really wide latitude for where specific projects can occur. Under the proposed actions, nearly half of the area could be treated with herbicides, but there is no specificity as to where. Other treatments such as logging and prescribed burns similarly lack specificity.

I hope that you will reconsider the framework of this proposal. There should be MUCH more detail and MUCH more opportunity for public comment at projects are implemented. Although many USFS professionals could do an excellent job of managing projects, I have a concern about national direction that comes from non-professionals and is politically motivated.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.