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Comments: I fully support the foothills project including timber harvest, prescribed burning, and herbicide use. It is my opinion that the project does not include enough of these habitat management practices as well and should be expanded. Early successional habitat is ecologically necessary for wildlife and the Forest as a whole. There are currently very few areas where this habitat exists and wildlife and our natural resources are suffering because of it.

I also believe environmental groups such as Forest Watch and Chattooga Conservancy have overstepped their limits concerning how much influence they have on decision making relative to the management of our National Forest. This is due to the simple fact that they have an agenda: aesthetically pleasing forests, NOT ecologically healthy forests. They DO NOT speak for me or the local people who were born and raised in the communities around the Forest. These radical groups of armchair biologists should have no more of a say in the management of the Forest than the people in the local communities.

The bottom line is that we are losing wildlife, native flora, and the overall health of our National Forest. This project in its entirety is a step in the right direction. Stop folding in to these environmental groups. They don't have the best interests of our National Forest in mind, no matter what they say.