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Title:

Comments: I am opposed to the Foothills Management Project. I feel this size of project require an Environmental Impact Statement. It violates the NEPA by not giving site specific information. It does not allow adequate public input.

Further, I believe that the type of cut along with the use of herbicides and only replanting a small variety of trees does not allow for the regeneration of a native forest that is critical to this area. The Chattooga corridor is a crucial migratory channel that is close to it's narrowest point where the Foothills Project is located. It is crucial to have a full diverse forest in this area rather than one managed for maximum timber sales. Our economy has changed greatly over the last several decades and people in this area rely on income generated from visitors to this area that are coming to enjoy the diverse, uninterrupted forests that we have. No longer is it an area that relies on timber harvest to provide good jobs. The type of management proposed takes away from the natural experience which trickles down to a negative outdoor experience and ultimately a loss of tourist revenue. A prime example of this is the clear cuts on Turkey Ridge Road going in to Possum Creek Falls on the Chattooga. Both the county and state are spending vast amounts of money to promote visitation and the hike starts in the middle of a clear cut. It really diminishes the experience after a wonderful hike.