Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/10/2020 4:11:04 PM First name: Rachel Last name: Doughty Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Foothills Restoration Plan proposes to restore the majority of the forests to a pine type, using intensive logging practices followed by herbicide treatments, where most trees are removed to establish a two-age or even-age stand of featured tree species to be managed as a tree crop. We do not believe that the majority of the forests in the Southern Blue Ridge Ecoregion naturally regenerate as even-age forests, but are indeed forests that contain a diversity of tree and herbaceous understory species, and that are multi-layered, uneven age forests. In addition, these forests are critical to combatting climate change and providing habitat for species that cannot survive elsehwere--a reserve until we are better stewards of our world. In just a couple of hundred years, we have nearly wiped old growth forest structure from the land of this country. Shame on you for perpetuating that while wrapping your actions in the language of conservation.