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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Supervisor Jewett,

I appreciate the opportunity and ability to comment on the Foothills Landscape Project in the Chattahoochee National Forest. Thank you for listening to my concerns.

As a resident of North Georgia, the Chattahoochee National Forest is a much treasured space; for the ecological and emotional services it provides through clean air, water, and beautiful natural spaces in which to engage.

This proposal has me very disturbed and frankly I'm growing weary of environmental institutions that are supposed to protect and represent the National Forest abusing power, falsifying messaging, and compromising trust among the community.

I'm concerned about the negative long-term ecological impact non-disclosed herbicide use, prescribed burning, road development, and tree cutting will have for temporary short-sighted gains.

Public participation is a fundamental right and checks and balance for institutions that would otherwise misuse their power. The desire to remove public participation does not reflect an open system where input, collaboration, and compromise are valued.

Our National Forest is critical for ensuring the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the earth we share remain healthy and livable. With all the environmental issues and degradation taking place all around the world due to poor planning and self interest, it is now more prudent than ever to make wiser decisions at the beginning of the process and learn from previous mistakes. Environmental institutions are supposed to be guardians of the earth and our high value natural spaces. Its time actions and policies reflected that.

disappointed,

Leslie