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First name: Laura Last name: Hart Organization:

Title:

Comments: I write to comment on the massive Foothills Landscape Project in the Chattahoochee National Forest in Georgia. I oppose the efforts of the Forest Service to avoid engaging with the public on specific projects. My family moved to Rabun County, Georgia in large part because of the beautiful forests, rivers, and wildlife. These attributes comprise a large part of the economic engine in this area, where nature and tourism is so important and valuable. I fear that the increased timber harvesting, road construction, herbicide use, and industrial machinery in the forests will degrade them and change them from what we have now. The Foothills Landscape Project does not specify where particular work will be done or when. This hinders the public, which owns these lands, from evaluating and commenting specifically on individual projects. I request that the Forest Service hold meetings annually to provide information to the public on an ongoing basis about the status of the project, the planned activities for that year, and to allow the public to comment on the planned activities for each year.