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Comments: I vacation to North Georgia occasionally with my family, particularly to experience the beauty of the cove forests in southern Appalachia.

I am familiar with the practice of forest bathing, or, Shin Rin Yoku, in Japan: part marketing and part healthcare, the practice of restorative time spent in nature is not only well-researched and results-driven, but it is widely adopted in that country.

As a representative of natural health and wellness brands across the country through my company I am sure that the trends of American interest in natural health are on the rise. And I can't help but think, every time I visit north Georgia, that if any place in America was primed for an introduction of US shin rin yoku it is there.

With sadness I have to say that the healing power of the natural landscape, I fear, is potentially counteracted by the application of herbicides and pesticides, at least from a marketing perspective. And even when assessing the evidence, these herbicides have not been determined safe and healthy despite their common use.

I hope to see this change.

My biggest concern with the Foothills Landscape project is the pesticide applications on over 70,000 acres. Some limited applications may be necessary and understandable but the sheer amount of Forest that will be treated with chemicals under the Foothills plan is disturbing and shocking to me! I do not support this plan to allow these chemicals into our forests for the next 15 to 20 years despite the growing scientific evidence of pesticide and herbicide effects on people and wildlife. Please keep the public informed on exactly where and how these chemicals will be applied BEFORE they are approved, and allow alternative methods to be proposed and implemented when feasible.