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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Foothills Landscape is important to Georgia residents as we love to play and live and work in the Foothills. The area is loved to death. The Forest Service could be more efficient in this Foothills Landscape Project endeavor if you exclude areas that will stir up disagreements and are widely acknowledged as being healthier than others. Please do not try to manage all activities, resources, and areas and avoid activities that will be contentious.

I especially want to call for excluding Georgia's Mountain Treasures from commercial timber harvests. I want to call for excluding activities on areas more than half a mile from a road. Temporary roads actually last for decades to centuries and access roads disrupt ground water, fragment habitat, destroy soil.

Please stop any plan to log in our mesic (moist) forests. Forests on moist soils naturally have dense canopies.

There is no ecological justification to have plans to thin or cut half of the trees there.

I implore the Forest Service to manage the forests the way they really work: Southern Appalachian forests naturally contain trees of many different ages. That's what we really like about our forests, many species living mixed, some over 200 years, thank goodness, and some younger trees, all jostling for their space, sun, and moisture. Please do not manage our forests as if all the trees in a stand should be the same age. Disturbances here typically wipe out an entire stand of trees.

I want to thank the Forest service for committing to use a two-step analysis for this important Foothills Landscape Project., by considering effects broadly before coming back to conduct site-specific review and public engagement before taking any on-the-the-grounds actions.