

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/12/2021 2:33:47 AM

First name: Therese

Last name: Meagher

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Good afternoon,

Firstly I would like to express my appreciation for the fact that the public is provided this opportunity to comment and have our opinions taken into account in regards to this project. I was also happy to see the commitment The Forest Service has made to designate areas to manage for old-growth.

I would, however, like to direct attention to a few issues of concern in the outline of project.

The first issue is to do with the broad scale which the project takes on. I would ask The Forest Service to focus in on some specific areas rather than attempting to manage all at once. For example; excluding areas which are too close (within a half mile) of a road, only allowing timber to be harvested close to existing roads and reducing the number of 'temporary' roads. Excluding areas such as "Georgia's Mountain Treasures" from being used for commercial harvests.

And in general to avoid thinning trees where there is no real ecological reason, allowing areas to regenerate and progress on their natural path. Lastly, I would encourage you to choose alternative 3, as I beleive it is the best way to preserve nature within The Forest Service's plans.

As an American who greatly values our environment and the beautiful nature that exists in our country, I hope these ideas will be taken into account.

Thank you very much.