Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/12/2021 2:16:17 PM First name: Joanna Last name: Gardner Organization: Title:

Comments: I object to a massive, vague, ill-defined project that fails to provide essential details about exactly where, when, and what kind of actions will be implemented and that has the potential to inflict significant damage within a huge project area. A proposal such as this must have clarity regarding essential details of any project that otherwise appears to be a massive attack on forest lands.

At a minimum, the proposal must include the following information and provisions:

Preserve all existing old growth stands in the project area, including at least 630 acres of existing old growth trees in the Chattooga watershed portion of project area. Further, cultivate and restore potential old growth stands, connected in a mosaic of intact native forest across the landscape.

The Forest Service should not log, burn and construct roads in potential wilderness areas, Mountain Treasures areas, inventoried roadless areas, or in areas deemed "unsuitable for timber production."

The FLP must adequately address restoring a true native forest connected across the landscape to mitigate the effects of climate change, and to help provide migratory corridors for plants and animals to adapt to changing habitats.

Don't use tree-cutting practices that call for repeated herbicides (that many scientists believe have carcinogenic properties) and burning treatments to cultivate even-age stands of crop trees of pines and oaks-at the expense of restoring native biological diversity.

Don't use a prescribed burning regime that far exceeds natural fire cycles in the Chattooga River watershed, which is a temperate rain forest.

Use selective tree harvesting techniques to restore a diverse native broad leaf forest, which has multiple layers of dominant and co-dominant trees, shrubs, herbaceous understories and ground covers.

Narrow and limit the scope of the project to focus on issues with broad support.

This additional data does not guarantee support, but at least would provide requisite information to made an informed choice.