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Comments: For the Foothills Landscape Project proposed management agenda, I encourage the Forest Service to use selective tree harvesting to restore and maintain the diversity of the broadleaf, temperate rain forest that evolved in this region and supports the myriad of insect, plant and animal species associated with it.

I call for judicious use of fire and herbicides to accomplish this goal based on natural cycles of fire and the best available science regarding the use of herbicides and their potential harmful impacts.

I ask that old growth stands of forest and wilderness areas be protected from intrusive road building and tree extraction. I urge scientists and managers to use evidence based practices to preserve and protect the integrity of this forest area vital to the health of the Chattooga watershed and climate change mitigation. I charge the Forest Service to reflect on its conservation ethic mission with a primary focus on maintaining the health of the natural world, its forests, fisheries, habitats and biological diversity. I hold managers accountable for their decisions that impact the health of forest ecosystems.