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First name: Will
Last name: Lance
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Since you at the Forest Service allow for only so little input from the public regarding management of "our forests" and then typically only use cut and pasted previous Forest Service claims (many unsubstantiated) to brush aside and explain away the public's concerns (other than perhaps the concerns of those in the lumber industry) I hope you will read my statement and sincerely consider it. I don't like The Foothills Project overall because it is only an excuse to clearcut. I was present at a meeting of the Lumpkin Coaltion with the Forest Service several years ago where the Forest Service officials present at the meeting outright lied when they said American Chestnuts could be planted in those cutover ridge tops near the Coopers Creek WMA. They knew that the American Chestnut was nowhere near ready, biologically nor politically (re: regulation) to be planted in any such cutover areas and that the clear cuts were being sold to the public at large as being for "wildlife enhancement". The Forest Service has just been prostituting this proposal for big timber cuts in any way they can. I even saw where you all told the Chattanooga news you were "conserving" thousands of acres of land and I have read the b.s. you all also put out about white pines (which, conveniently are worth lots of money) that they are somehow not native to the area and so need removed to make way for snaggly Virginia pines, etc. it's obvious that USFS officials are being paid off by somebody and I think they should be legally required to tell us by who, those officials fired without pensions or benefits, and Forest management be done more for both the ecosystem and the public's benefit. Put that much effort into saving our hemlocks and dogwoods and toward restoring our American Chestnut trees to the forest.