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Comments: The harmful effects of spraying go far beyond a blade of grass. Not only do these chemicals kill weeds, they also kill other plants, kill insects inadvertently sprayed and kill insects who land on freshly sprayed areas. Chemicals destroy habitat for wildlife and change the ecosystem. Spray eats away at the hooves of wildlife and this damage is actually passed on to the herd. There is no doubt that spray will enter into our watersheds and, cumulatively, you are killing us because we drink the water. This chemical mixture will potentially affect the plants along the stream banks because it's being transported along the way by water. Countless wildlife rely on water flowing through forests for hydration. What is the plan to ensure this poison does not make it into our water?

The time has come for all of us to start looking beyond a simple weed control plan using the quickest and most powerful solution-spraying all of us, and start seeking ways to manage weeds that would not have such a huge, long-lasting impact on our world.

I would encourage all of you at the US Department of Forestry to not take the quick/easy road, but to find other ways for managing the forest. For example, it would be more cost-effective for the US Forest Department to have a herd of goats to eat the invasive species. Goats eat just about anything. They do not require a salary or benefits. They will travel down steep inclines without complaint.