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Comments: Just learned about this! Worrying that this project seems rushed... considering the scale of the proposal and the impact to the forest & its critters. Here are some hurried thoughts in response:

*The Northern Escarpment plan should be put on hold until a detailed environmental assessment can be carried out, followed by a well-advertised comment period. The forests you've included in your proposal have been stewarded for years by a profoundly invested public-and at minimum we deserve a careful review of your study results. What will the impact to sensitive species be? If the science is good, we'll listen.

*Assuming the project is greenlighted, the Forest Service should find a way to keep the public apprised of their progress, including any interventions currently being used- possibly through town notices that could then be posted on Front Porch Forum.

*The use of herbicides should honestly be avoided altogether. Area residents, hunters, hikers would need assurances that you could accomplish your restoration plan without applying Glyphosate and Triclopyr to our already-stressed ecosystem.

Thank you for your consideration!