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First name: Winter

Last name: Gary

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I have some concerns regarding the Foothills project. The project requires preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement before it can be closed for public comment so that the public can take environmental impacts into consideration. The Foothills Project draft Environmental Assessment violates NEPA by not providing the public with site-specific information about where proposed timber harvesting, burning and herbicide treatments would occur, as well as other practices like temporary road and trail construction. I don't see how anyone in the public could agree to a proposal that does not disclose the locations where these practices will occur. It also violates NEPA by denying public participation opportunities guaranteed by law for the duration of the project, which could be several years. Also, this project should not employ the heavy use of herbicides that many scientists believe have carcinogenic properties. We need to seriously consider the impacts of the proposed practices as they will impact the Chattooga River watershed, a federally designated wild and scenic river.