

Date submitted (Eastern Standard Time): 1/10/2020 8:11:58 PM

First name: MICHAEL

Last name: BOUTWELL

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Dear U.S Forest Service,

Please do not destroy trails, public forest land, wilderness or recreation areas in the Chattahoochee National Forest in Georgia. This is forest land that all Georgians and those from around the Southeast use for recreation and solitude. As unchecked sprawl and population growth continues across Georgia, especially metro Atlanta, it becomes even more important for forest land to be available and open for recreation including hiking, biking, fishing, horseback riding and other activities. Outdoor recreation brings significant money to the area and supports the economy of the local communities that surround the forest. There are long standing mountain biking trails in the Foothills project area that are maintained by volunteers of SORBA (Southern Off Road Bicycling Association) for the benefit of trail riding for mountain bikers across the southeast. There are numerous hiking trails in the Foothills project area that do not need to be destroyed by logging or development. There are numerous mountain streams and rivers that are used for fishing and boating that could be impacted. Furthermore, the ecosystem needs the forest land to remain intact. Destroying forest land will only negatively impact the surrounding environment. Please preserve this forest land for now and for future generations. Thank you for your consideration.