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Comments:

As a board member with Northeast Georgia SORBA, the Foothills Landscape Project in its current state concerns me because of the disregard for established recreation sites and the disconnect between user group wants/needs, advocacy group concerns, and Forest Service plans. Specifically, the area of the Bull Mountain and Jake Mountain Trails are in danger of clear cutting, widespread herbicide use, and decommissioning of trails CRITICAL to the entire trail system. In the current plan, the Bull Mountain Connector Trail and Jones Creek Dam Trail are both subject to decommissioning. These are trails that the Forest Service itself has stated as being some of the most popular multi-use trails within the entire CONF. The decommissioning of these trails cannot happen as these trails are main thoroughfares within the entire trail system. This paired with the anticipated timber harvesting (i.e. clearcutting) along many high traffic zones such as Black Branch Trail (near FS 28B) will highly impact user experience along this highly treasured trail system. I expect trail users and advocacy groups such as Northeast Georgia SORBA be included in future conversations regarding the changes surrounding the Bull and Jake Mountain Trail Systems.