



FOOTNOTES ISSUE 137: TELL THE FOREST SERVICE HOW YOU WANT THE FOOTHILLS MANAGED!



The Forest Service is seeking public comments on its ["Proposed Action for the Foothills Landscape Project."](#) The [Foothills area](#) is a 143,419-acre swath of national forest land in north Georgia stretching across eight counties. **Comments on this action are due by December 22, 2017.**

What is the Foothills project?

The Forest Service proposes to conduct a massive, multifaceted project that includes industrial logging, changes to recreation areas, restoration activities, wildlife activities, and changes to the forest road system to reduce sedimentation - just to name a few! The project is significant for several reasons:

1. **This is the largest project on the Chattahoochee National Forest in decades - maybe ever!** The project contemplates plans to log well over 50,000 acres. The logging ranges from just taking down midstory trees to cutting nearly everything but a few seed trees.
2. **The project is the first of its kind on the Chattahoochee to solicit public input before fully developing the project.** Input from the public and other stakeholders was collected over the past 18 months through public meetings, field trips, and online bulletin boards. The Forest Service collected this information to plan the "right work in the right places for the right reasons." Now is the time to let them know if they've met that goal.
3. In past projects , the Forest Service has identified areas on the ground that will be managed in specific ways. This has allowed the Sierra Club and other groups to visit those areas to evaluate whether the proposed management is a good idea or not. **This time, the Forest Service plans to not disclose where management activities will occur on the ground until after it has completed the public participation requirements mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).**

Submit Comments

Comments are due on **December 22, 2017**. Let the Forest Service know:

- That we need to know where project activities will occur on the ground in order to understand what impact those activities will have on the landscape. The agency should disclose site-specific treatment locations as part of its NEPA analysis.

- Let the Forest Service know how tens of thousands of acres of commercial logging and as much as 70,000 acres of herbicide application will impact your ability to use and enjoy the Chattahoochee National Forest.
- That you support the agency's proposal to set aside 5,050 acres of old growth and improve soil and water quality through decommissioning and upgrading roads that are sediment sources.
- That the Forest Service should take the time to fully evaluate the impacts of this proposed project, including site-specific impacts, before making any final decisions.

To submit your comments, click the button below:

[TAKE ACTION](#)

For information on submitting comments, visit the following sites:

[How to Comment >>](#)

[Tips for Effective Comments >>](#)

[A Citizen's Guide to NEPA >>](#)

[A Citizen's Guide to the NEPA: Having Your Voice Heard >>](#)

[A Citizen's Guide to the NEPA: Having Your Voice Heard \(Spanish\) >>](#)

THE VOGTLE DECISION IS UPON US- HELP US PACK THE PSC

Georgia Power customers have been paying upfront for the unpredictable, overpriced, and dangerous Plant Vogtle nuclear project since 2009, with corporate mismanagement and unproven technology making the project too expensive and too risky to complete. Georgia Power should move away from dirty, dangerous, expensive nuclear and give customers what they want: clean, safe, reliable, affordable, job-creating options like energy efficiency, solar and other renewables.

On Thursday, December 21st, the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) will vote on the future of the Plant Vogtle nuclear expansion. This decision was originally scheduled for February but has been moved to December 21st in order to provide millions in 2017 tax savings to Georgia Power in the case that regulators cancel the expansion.

Join us on Thursday, December 21st we "Pack the PSC" to hear the rapidly-approaching decision!

Arrive: 8:30 AM

Speakers outside the PSC: 8:45 AM

Enter Decision Hearing at the PSC: 9 AM



[RSVP](#)

CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING FUNDRAISER

The Atlanta Inspiring Connections Outdoors group is in need of volunteers to help wrap presents for their Christmas gift wrapping fundraiser.

Give back this holiday season by signing up for a gift wrapping shift at the Patagonia Atlanta Store. All proceeds go towards funding the Atlanta Inspiring Connections Outdoors' outings!

Gift wrapping shifts will be on December 16, 17, 23, and 24.

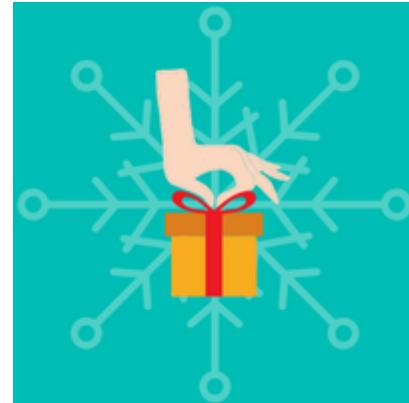
To sign up for a gift wrapping shift, click the button below:

[SIGN UP](#)

JOIN THE LAST READY FOR 100 COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Attend on January 10th, 2018 to make your voice heard!

The last English language [Community Conversation](#) before the Atlanta 100% clean energy plan is released will take place on January 10, 2018. The plan for how Atlanta can achieve 100% clean energy for all operations by 2035 will be written, vetted, and submitted by the end of January. We can still make sure our ideas and priorities are considered in the plan by attending the public conversation and filling out an official survey.



Don't wait - [take the survey](#) before it closes and attend the [January 10th Conversation](#) to make sure your perspective is considered!

Stay involved through our [Add-Up site](#) or contact Misty Novitch at misty.novitch@sierraclub.org.

[RSVP](#)

MEET OUR NEW CLEAN ENERGY ORGANIZERS!

Kimberly Spence has more than 18 years of experience in national marketing, politics and public policy. She specializes in leading organizations that are poised to drive national public policy via effective communication, opposition research, legal strategy, and political relationships. Kimberly was born in Cumberland County, NC, raised in San Diego County, CA and has lived in Atlanta for more than 20 years. She is a proud alumnus of Clark Atlanta University.

David Joannides graduated from Emory University in 2017 with a BA in Philosophy with a focus in social and political philosophy. David was previously an organizer for the Vincent Fort for Mayor of Atlanta campaign. Outside of the Sierra Club, David is also politically involved as an active member of Our Revolution Dekalb. He is excited to begin mobilizing political energy in Georgia and to keep the planet healthy and end reliance on fossil fuels.



THANKS FOR COMING HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!



Thanks to everyone who joined us at the Chapter Office on Tuesday night for our annual holiday party! Delicious food was shared, we took a look back at the Georgia Chapter's year, and a good time was had by all.

To view photos from the party, [click here >>](#)

To view our End Of Year presentation, [click here >>](#)

BE A PART OF THE SIERRA CLUB'S VOLUNTEER LEGACY!

For 125 years Sierra Club volunteers have fought for and protected our environment. Your help is needed now, more than ever.

[**GET INVOLVED TODAY>>**](#)



SUPPORT OUR WORK!

[DONATE](#)

There are several ways to make a contribution to the Georgia Sierra Club. Visit our [recently renovated webpage](#) to learn how you can make a lasting impact!

Help our Coastal Group raise money for a tribute to John Muir in Bonaventure Cemetery! [Click here >>](#)

CONNECT WITH US