

# North Shenandoah Mountain Project

TERRESTRIAL WORK GROUP

# Desired Conditions



# Existing Conditions

- 1) Commonly , we have closed canopies with little light reaching the understory.
- 2) As a result very little herbaceous plants, shrubs and advanced oak regeneration.



# Desired Conditions of MA 13, Mosaics of Wildlife Habitat.

- ▶ 1) About **10%** of area should be in the 0 to 10 year age class.
- ▶ 2) About **70%** of mid to late successional stands should be “open” , or 1/3 to 1/2 of the number of trees present.
- ▶ 3) **5%** of area will be in permanent or semi-permanent herbaceous openings.
- ▶ 4) Use of Rx fire is prevalent on the landscape.
- ▶ 5) Maintain hard mast producing capabilities of the forest (optimal at 40 to 100 years).
- ▶ 6) Forest products commodity outputs to support local communities.
- ▶ 7) Manage for species diversity and tree vigor to reduce pest outbreaks.

# Enhancing development of understory grasses and herbs.





Re-establish shortleaf pine and  
Table Mountain pine.



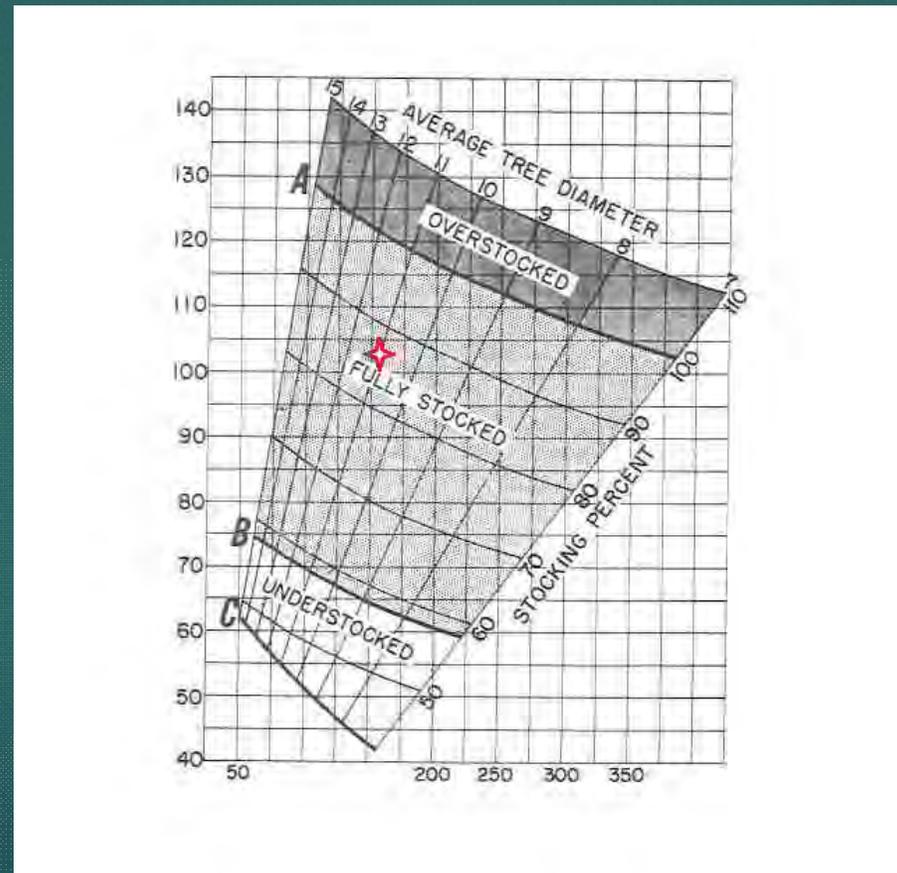
Rx fire will be crucial in maintaining yellow pine ecosystems.



# Rx burning with mechanical treatments.



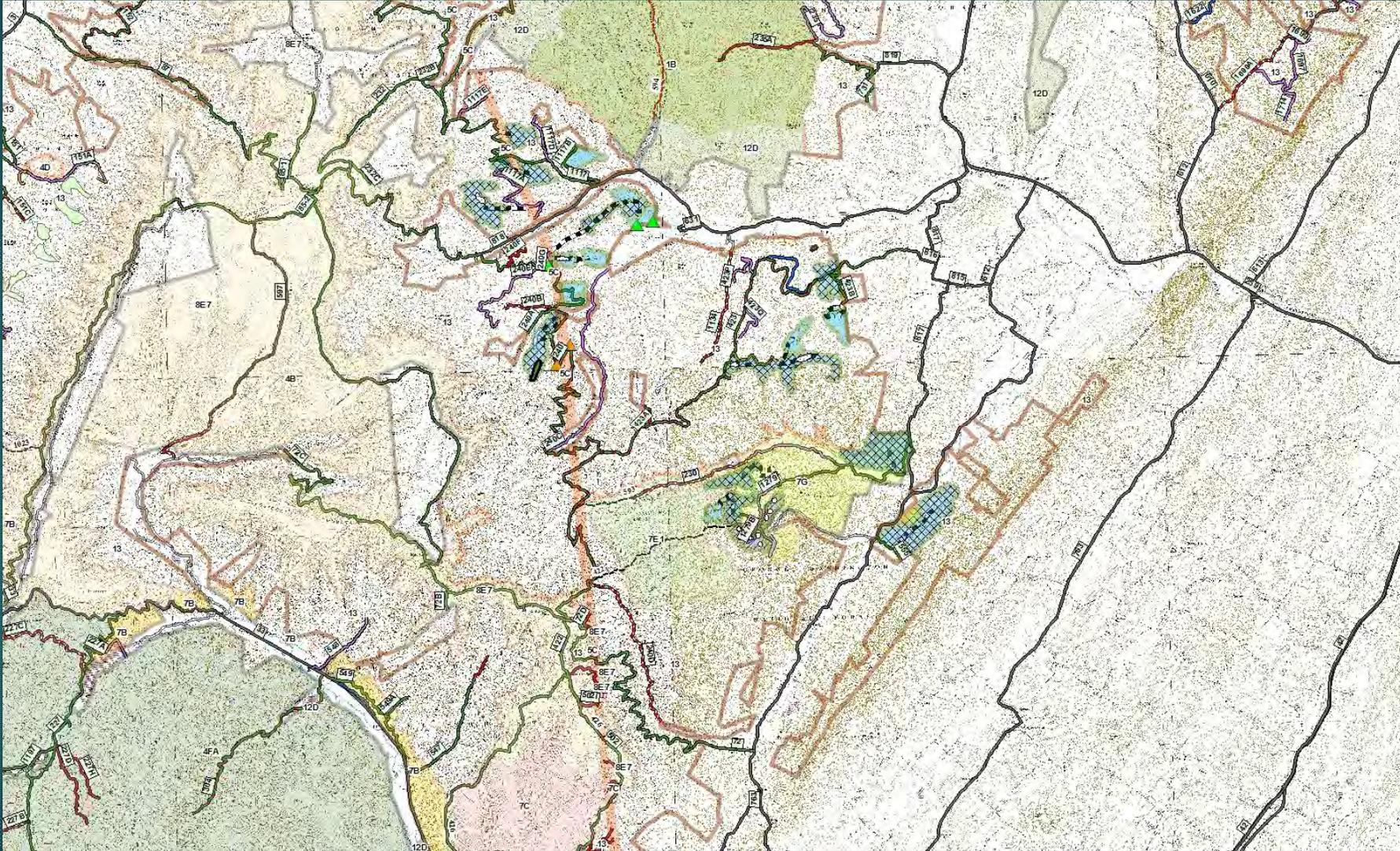
# Thinning with and with out prescribed burning.



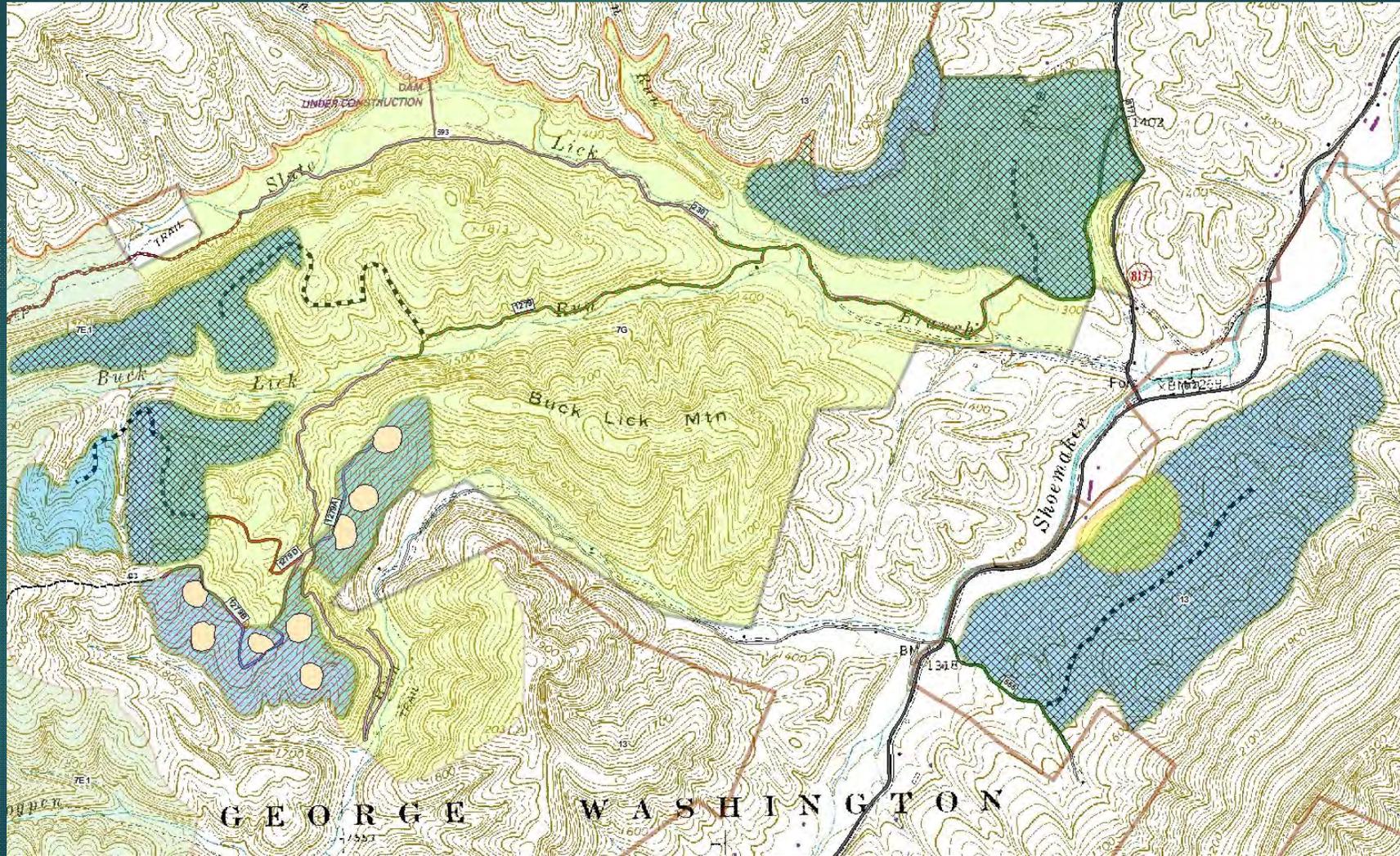
# Update of Treatment Units

- ▶ Thinning to create open canopy conditions – **1403** acres
- ▶ Group Selection – **113** acres
- ▶ Coppice with Reserves to create ESH – **415** acre
  
- ▶ Total – **1931** acres

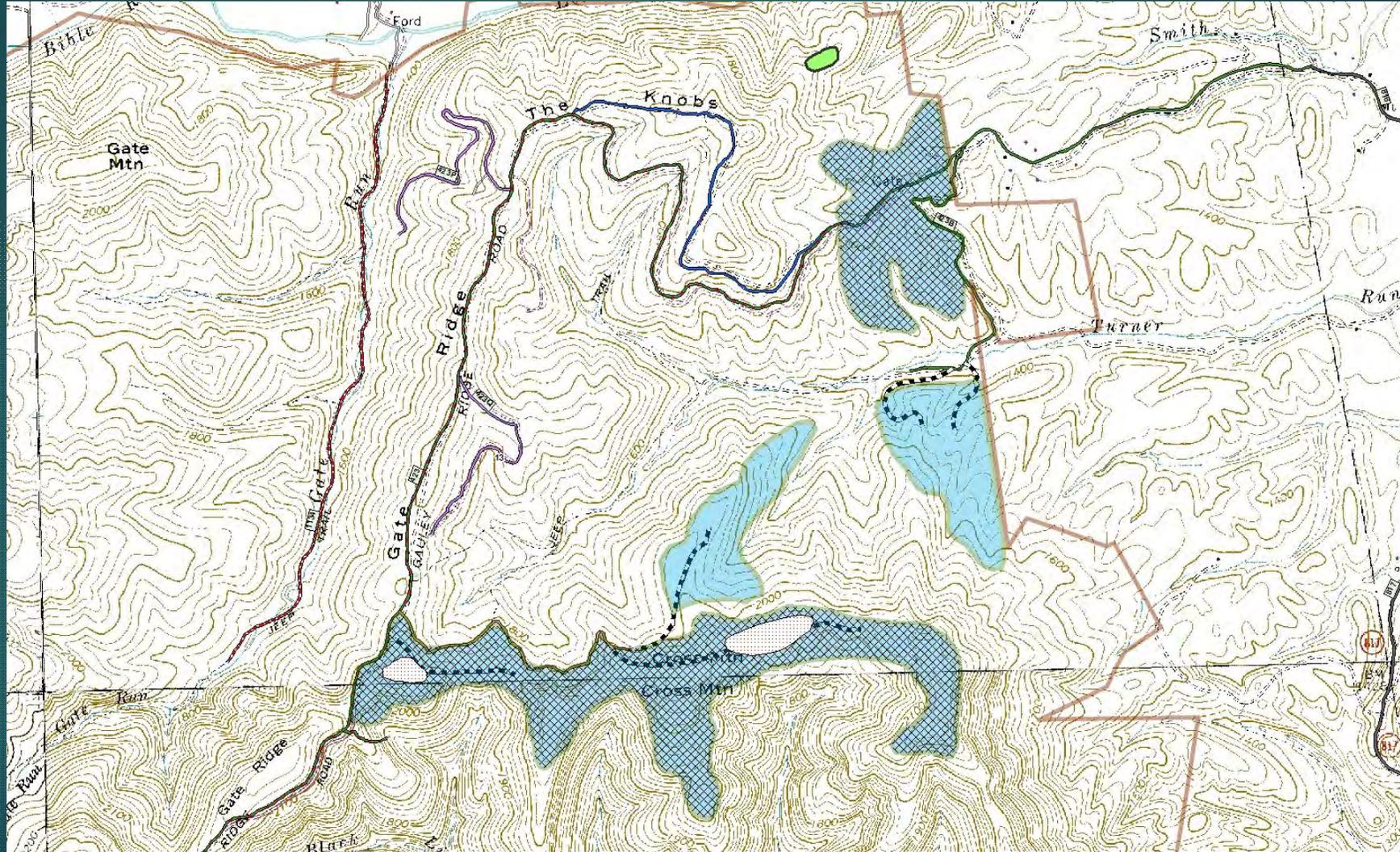
# NSMP overview – Southeast part of project area.



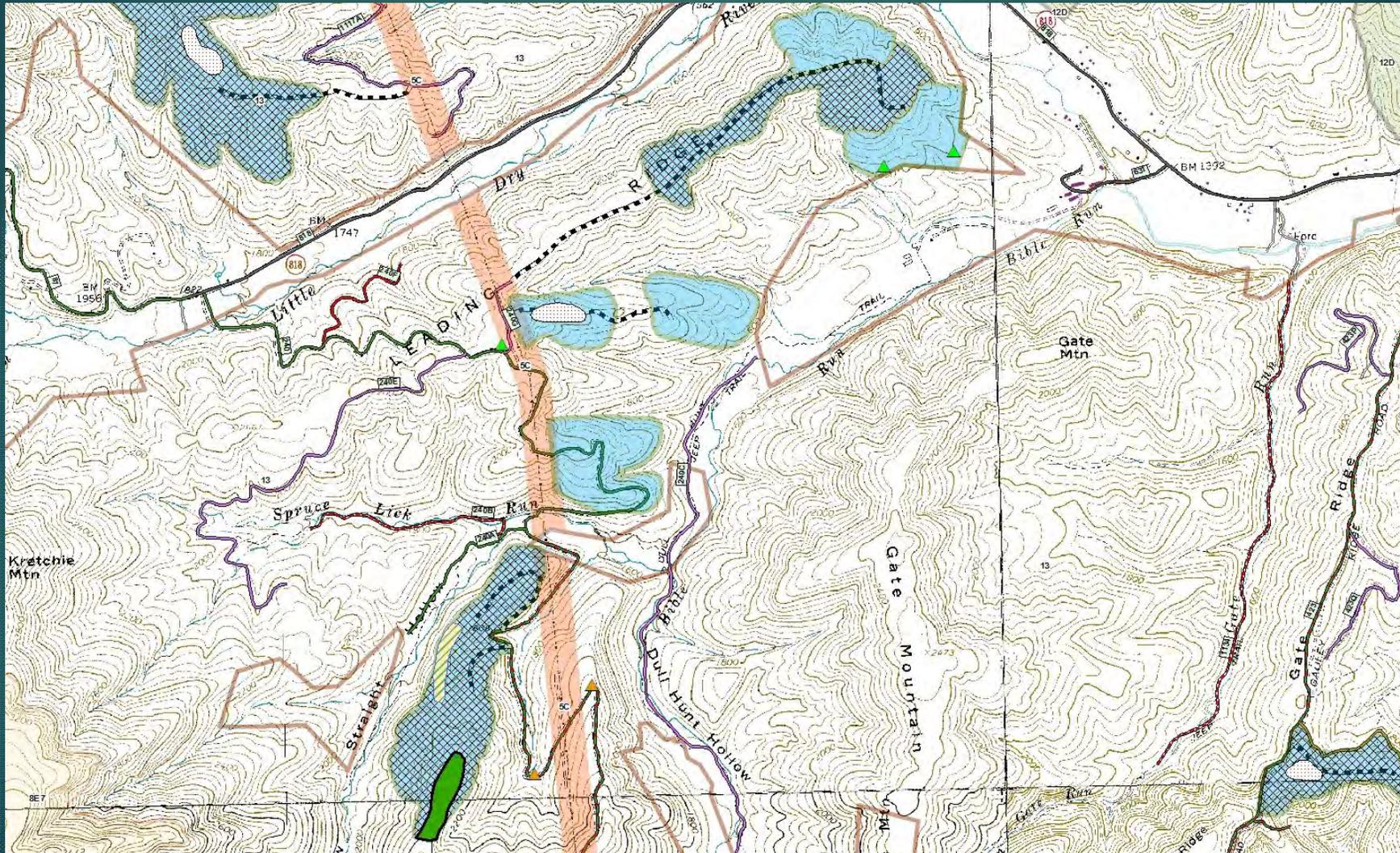
# Slate Lick Units



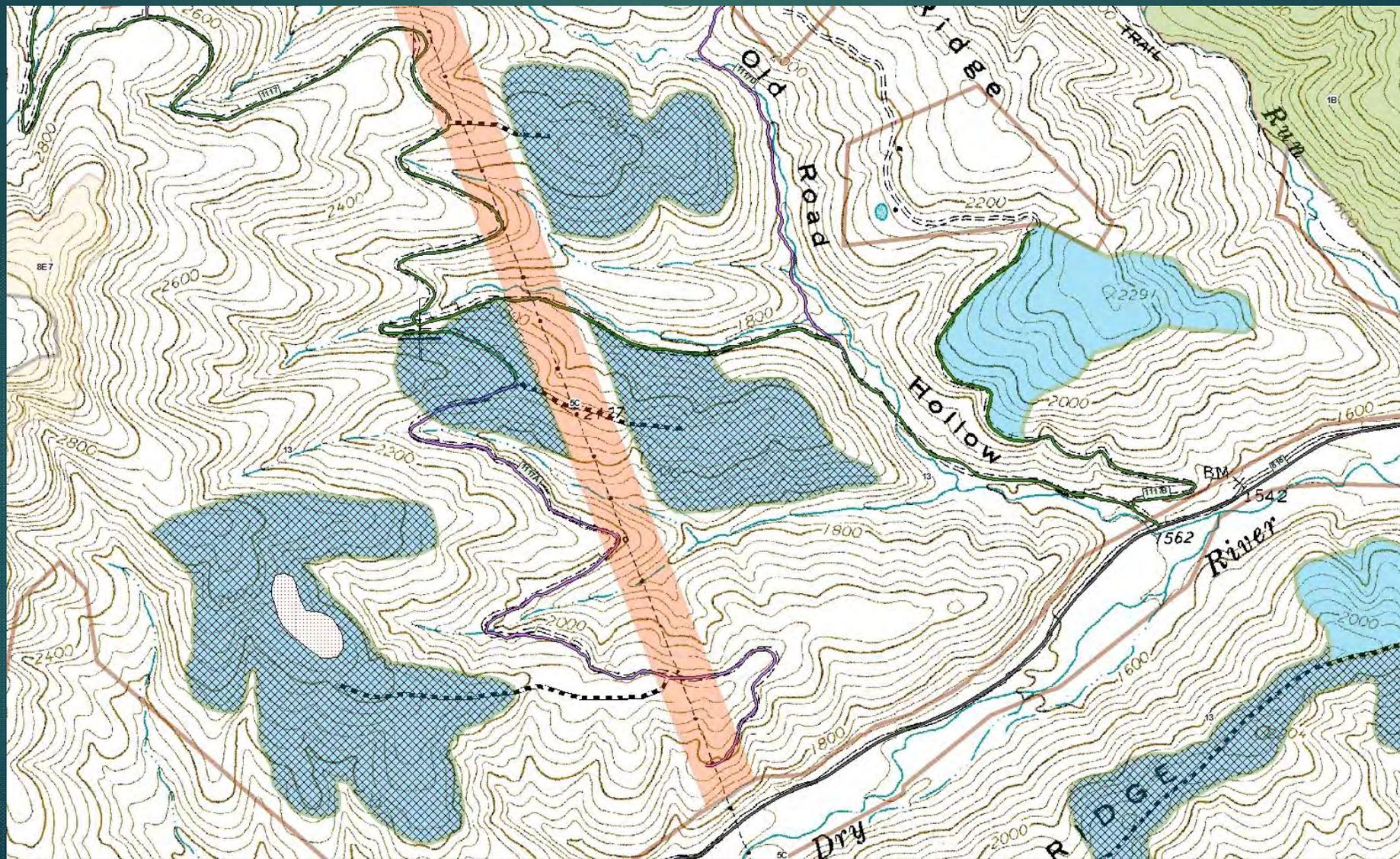
# Cross Mountain Units



# Leading Ridge Units



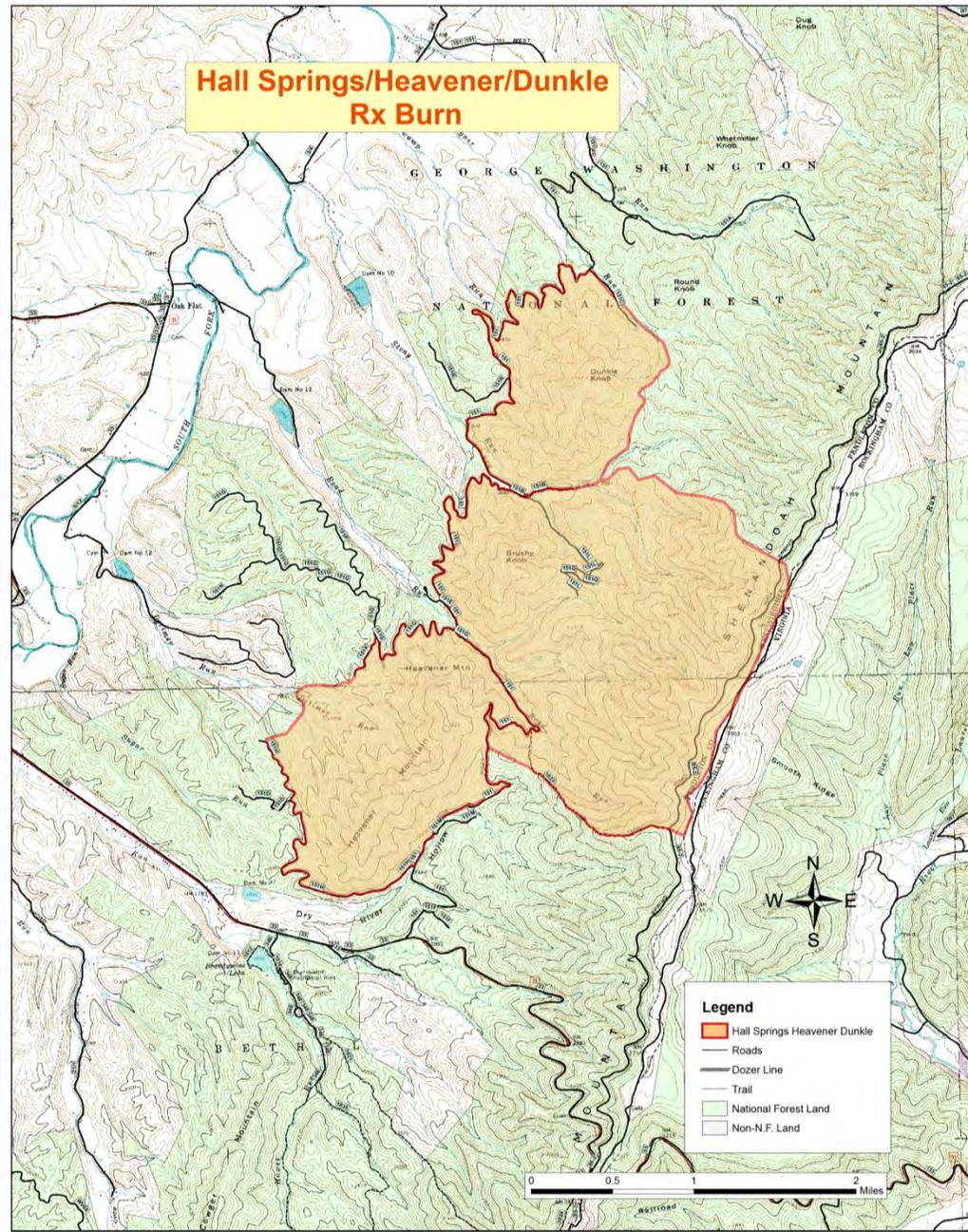
# Feltz Ridge Units



# Stand exams and Old Growth evaluations



# Hall Springs/Heavener/Dunkle Rx Burn



# Gauley Ridge Rx

1310 Acres

**Legend**

- ProposedRX\_Burn\_GauleyRidge
- National Forest Land
- Non-N.F. Land

**Roads**

**Road Status**

- Public Road
- Forest Highway
- Open Year-Around
- Open Seasonally
- Administrative Use Only
- Closed Year-Around
- Decommissioned
- Wildlife Access
- Uninventoried
- Private
- Trails
- Wildlife Clearings\_DR

