



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/07/2009 09:20 AM

Submitted by: Walter Dent
At: wdent@yahoo.com
Remark: After attending the last meeting I would like to stress that I believe at this time we have enough wilderness areas in the state of Virginia.

Untouched areas of \"wilderness\" may seem like a good idea to some but what it really does is cut the effectiveness of the Forest Service to manage the land.

As you are aware of, wilderness areas can be devastated by Gypsy moth infestation, tree diseases, ice storms and fire to name a few and the FS will be helpless to implement any recovery plans.

I also believe a lot of the interest for new wilderness is not brought here by local people that actually use the forest but by special interest groups who have never been to the GW/JNF and have their own agendas.

I feel that the back country designation achieves everything a wilderness area designation does with out tying the hands of the FS.

I would also like to voice my concerns over OHV trails in the national forest. At this time there are a documented 244 miles designated OHV trails in the forest. Unfortunately, I and many others can't tell the difference between a \"High vehicle clearance\" roads and a normal fire road. We as the OHV community are all for protecting the environment and treading lightly as witnessed by all the volunteer actions such as trail clean ups, trail repairs and assisting the forest service in various OHV projects, but if a trail is maintained at a level that a non high clearance vehicle can navigate it, then the \"High vehicle clearance\" designation is moot. We just have another fire road with a different set of signs.

I am also concerned with road closings in the national forest. Every year it seems I see more tank traps and roads blocked by other means. This prevents access for people that are less able to get around such as the handicapped or elderly.

I would also like to voice my concerns about trail discontinuity. While looking at USGS maps you may believe a road continues to a certain spot, such as a hard top road or another trail only to find that it is blocked after driving 15 miles or so to access this roadway.

I would like to see some of this roads reopened to provide continuity to these roads.

We all realize that it may be difficult to maintain these roads with the present staff and or budget. If the maintenance was to concentrate mostly on erosion control, signs could be placed on these trails stating the difficulty of access, a \"use at your own risk\" type warning.

I am an actual user of the GWNF being up there almost every weekend whether it is riding the trails, fishing, camping or just sight seeing.

I want to commend all of you in the Forest Service for the hard work you do for us.

Thank you, Walter Dent



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/07/2009 06:21 PM

Submitted by: Will Lloyd
At: will.lloyd.home@comcast.net
Remark: The plan highlights indicate that no additional ATV trails or OHV road will be added. The current level of both are inadequate. We live in the Manassas area and have access to ATV trails at Taskers Gap and frequent the Harrisonburg area in our Jeep.

The Taskers Gap trails are very limited, to the point of being overused making them very rocky, and at times, dangerous, due to the volume of traffic. The ATV trails in Harrisonburg are just too far away for the limited mileage.

The OHV roads exist only in the Harrisonburg area. Few trails are open at any given time, but more open around hunting season. More need to be open year round or at least during times other than hunting season. It is dangerous and inconsiderant to use these trails when hunters are present.

Given the amount of acerage in the forest, there needs to be more access for ATV\'s and OHV\'s.

Thanks.



**Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s**

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/07/2009 08:21 PM

Submitted by: Kevin Wills
At: kevin_wills@verizon.net
Remark: Please keep the trails open and give the public legal places to off-road! Also, please add obstacles to the existing trails to add technical challenge. Local, responsible, wheeling clubs like mine (Off Camber Crawlers) would be happy to partner with the Forest Service to help build and maintain these trails and obstacles.



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/08/2009 10:52 AM

Submitted by: James Downing
At: james.a.downing@gmail.com
Remark: I wanted to add in my request for more high-clearance trails. I actually drive in from Baltimore in order to enjoy the Virginia mountains. The trails around Rt 33 seem to be excellent, but I would love to see more pop up. I would like to see 2nd Mountain trail become more friendly to OHVs too. I also feel that more challenging areas may keep the meth-labs and other illegal activity out of the woods. Loop trails that take the driver from point-a to point-b are also better than a dead-end trail. I, as an OHV driver, like to feel like I am traveling somewhere, and not just doing a trail to see what obstacles I can get through. Ending at a mountain top is ideal. A beautiful vista is always worth a tough drive.

Thank you for listening to our concerns. Your work is most appreciated!



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/09/2009 10:15 AM

Submitted by: Barbara Dean
At: newinwv@aol.com
Remark: Please do not permit wind energy projects in the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests. Not only was this land set aside for recreational enjoyment of the public, but to ruin it for the negligible energy derived from wind projects is unthinkable. The only real benefit derived from these intrusive projects is reaped by the developers, who quickly move on to destroy other ridgelines. Upkeep of the national forests is funded by tax payers. Wind projects are subsidized by tax payers. Please do not make us pay twice -- once to maintain something beautiful, and once again to destroy it.



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/09/2009 11:04 AM

Submitted by: Donna Malvin
At: donnamalvin@cox.net
Remark: It was good to learn that the George Washington-Jefferson National Forest will be preserved. Now we must see that it is truly preserved and not hacked away by loggers who make quite a profit from cutting trees on \"public\" land. All too often trees that take decades and even centuries to grow are destroyed in a few minutes in the name of progress. However, through research I've conducted for my senior paper, I have found that living trees contribute to our progress in the way of maintaining our quality of life. What good is destroying trees for shopping centers located a mile or 2 apart and other unnecessary development if water supplies are affected and clean air is put in jeopardy. As if this is not enough, road building, logging and oil drilling also put wildlife habitat at great risk. In these days where greed seems to be the order of the day, I urge you to resist an easy path of letting businesses purge \"public\" lands for profit. If we fail to care for our natural resources now our quality of life will definitely suffer and for generations to come. I implore you to please resist the temptations of greed and short term profits and think seriously about the far reaching negative effects these types of actions will produce.

Our natural forests are not only beautiful but benefit us in more ways than many of us can even imagine. They are truly treasures and more than likely we could not survive without them. Our forests and other natural resources are well worth the time, effort and finances that are required to protect and preserve them.

Thank you for your time and continued efforts to maintain and preserve Virginia's National Forest.

Sincerely, Donna Malvin, 21 Yeardeleys Grant, Williamsburg, VA



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/09/2009 04:20 PM

Submitted by: James Walton
At: jwalton3rd@gmail.com
Remark: Hello, I live in Alexandria and it is tough for me to get to Harrisonburg during the week for these meetings. However I do spend alot of weekend and vacation time in the GWNF having hunted,fished,camped and riding trails with my ATV or OHV for over 25 years.

Living in VA especially the northern area it is next to impossible to find places to do these type of activities that I enjoy and try to pass along to my kids. I suspect that in many areas of the state this is a problem as well.

When riding through the forest I see alot of debris that has been left behind by careless firewood collectors,hunters,fishermen,hikers,bird watchers,partying teenagers etc and yes I\'m sure some has been left by OHV operators. It is my opinion that most of the smaller stuff is left by a combination of the above groups but the larger things-appliances,mattresses,furniture etc have to be left by someone more local because it makes no sense for anyone to haul that type of stuff very far.

Some of the roads that are closed or are planned to be closed could be protected from that sort of thing by putting a barrier in that could be cleared by vehicles designed for off road use but not the average passenger vehicle. Some of the barriers already in use would fall into that category but we obviously do not cross because we know it\'s not permitted.

I have to buy a National Forest stamp to hunt or fish in the forest so why not do the same for OHV users. Or come up with a reasonably priced permit that would help pay for new access,improvements and maintenance and would also give the Forest Service a way to keep tabs on who is using the trails.

I do not feel it is fair to single out a particular group of forest users when most of us leave the area better than it was when we arrived. The forest is so large there has to be a way to leave a reasonable amount of trails open and open new ones in differing areas of the forest while leaving other wilderness areas to the wildlife.

I\'m sure if we all work together we can come up with a reasonable answer to this issue.

Thank You,
Jim Walton

Take your kids outside! They will thank you for it later.

Nova Jeepers,National Wild Turkey Federation,Beltway Jeepers,Rocky Mtn Elk Foundation,VA Crawlers,VA BASS Federation,United Four Wheel Drive Assoc,Trout Unlimited



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/10/2009 12:08 AM

Submitted by: Kenneth Moore
At: lightman6@juno.com
Remark: I am a member of two groups that use GWNF on a consistent bases. One is the OFF CAMBER CRAWLERS which ORV based from Northern Virginia. The other is NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRAIL RIDERS ASSC. which is an atv/motorcycle group. Both of these groups do trail clean-ups on the trails we use in the park. We do this because we feel responsible for the permisson that we have been given. We/Im in the park in all the 4 seasons. What the groups do while there I am proud of. We act for the park. It SNP is a vital part of what we do. You guys need to realize that all the effort that the rangers give to us as users of the park is given back every time we use it. I always take a trash bag when I ride. We need more trails but I would suggest that they would be put on a schedual of useage. Please keep the trails on Rt. 33 open. Ive been in contact with Greg Jackson which is the United representative. Please keep the ! park open for us. If there is any thing I can do...I will. KEN



jeepnatv4life@aol.com
02/10/2009 12:42 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
CC:
Subject: GWNF Comments

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to voice my opinion on the new forestry plan. I believe that there shouldnt be anymore wilderness areas around GWNF. These areas make it hard for Forest Service to mamnage and isolates area from peoples enjoyment. I feel that the back country designation achieves everything a wilderness area designation does with out tying the hands of the Forestry Department. It seems that these wilderness ideas do not come form regular users of the area but from special interest groups that probably have never set foot on Gwnf areas. Wilderness areas don't even seem to flourish with wilderness as planned. The animals aren't just going to appear. They may over a long time but I havent really seen any real standouts. Wilderness designation is unnecessary in my eyes. I am also concerned with road closings in the national forest. Every year it seems I see more tank traps and roads blocked by other means. This prevents access for people that are less able to get around such as the handicapped or elderly. This also leads to people who may have never used that road to try and climb the Tank Trap leading to more hard feelings about OHV traffic. I would also like to voice my concerns about trail discontinuity. While looking at USGS maps you may believe a road continues to a certain spot, such as a hard top road or another trail only to find that it is blocked after driving 15 miles or so to access this roadway. I would like to see some of this roads reopened to provide continuity to these roads. I would like to see some sort of trail enforcement if there can be such a thing with the budgets. Im always venturing to all parts of the National Forest rather it be hunting, hiking, fishing, or just riding around in the mountains to get away from it all. I would like to see trails open and not being shut down. I would gladly pay a fee for a stamp like on a hunting license to help generate revenue or pay for a decal to post on my Jeep to verify that I have paid the annual fee that could be imposed f or the new generation of Revenue for the department. On the issue of Logging, go ahead and log the areas for revenue but just don't shut them down. Thanks for your time.

JOSH PULTZ

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. [See yours in just 2 easy steps!](#)



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/10/2009 01:16 PM

Submitted by: Josh Pultz
At: jeepnatv4life@aol.com
Remark: To whom this
may concern,

I am writing to voice my opinion on the new forestry plan. I believe that there shouldnt be anymore wilderness areas around GWNF. These areas make it hard for Forest Service to mamnage and isolates area from peoples enjoyment.I feel that the back country designation achieves everything a wilderness area designation does with out tying the hands of the Forestry Department. It seems that these wilderness ideas do not come form regular users of the area but from special interest groups that probably have never set foot on Gwnf areas. Wilderness areas don\'t even seem to flourish with wilderness as planned. The animals aren\'t just going to appear. They may over a long time but I havent really seen any real standouts. Wilderness designation is unnecessary in my eyes.I am also concerned with road closings in the national forest. Every year it seems I see more tank traps and roads blocked by other means. This prevents access for people that are less able to get around such as !

the handicapped or elderly. This also leads to people who may have never used that road to try and climb the Tank Trap leading to more hard feelings about OHV traffic. I would also like to voice my concerns about trail discontinuity. While looking at USGS maps you may believe a road continues to a certain spot, such as a hard top road or another trail only to find that it is blocked after driving 15 miles or so to access this roadway.I would like to see some of this roads reopened to provide continuity to these roads. I would like to see some sort of trail enforcement if there can be such a thing with the budgets. Im always venturing to all parts of the National Forest rather it be hunting, hiking, fishing, or just riding around in the mountains to get away from it all. I would like to see trails open and not being shut down. I would gladly pay a fee for a stamp like on a hunting license to help generate revenue or pay for a decal to post on my Jeep to verify that I have p!

aid the annual fee that could be imposed f or the new generation of Re venue for the department. On the issue of Logging, go ahead and log the areas for revenue but just don\'t shut them down. Thanks for your time.

JOSH PULTZ



Caroline Petti
<carolinepetti@yahoo.com>

02/12/2009 12:44 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

February 10, 2009

George Washington Plan Revision
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Planning Team:

The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), has enjoyed a partnership with George Washington National Forest since the 1930's. We are writing to you today regarding the Proposed George Washington Revised Land Management Plan that is currently undergoing review and development. We have some suggestions for improving forest protections in order to enhance the forest for low-impact recreational opportunities, and we hope that you will consider these in your planning process.

PATC recommends that the following areas receive special protection in the new forest plan:

Shenandoah Mountain Proposal

The Club endorses the proposal submitted by Friends of Shenandoah Mountain on October 30, 2008, that calls for protection of the following areas:

Shenandoah Mountain National Scenic Area - approx 115,000 acres in Augusta, Rockingham, and Highland Counties

Within the National Scenic Area, the following proposed Wilderness areas:

- **Skidmore Fork Wilderness** - 5,228 acres in Rockingham County
- **Little River Wilderness** - 12,490 acres in Augusta County
- **Lynn Hollow Wilderness** - 6,168 acres in Highland County
- **Bald Ridge Addition** to Ramseys Draft Wilderness - 6,550 acres in Augusta County

Kelley Mountain-Big Levels National Scenic Area - 12,895 acres in Augusta County

Laurel Fork Wilderness - 10,153 in Highland County

PATC supports protection of these areas because of their natural beauty and the extensive network of trails in remote backcountry. The Wild Oak National Recreation Trail and the Shenandoah Mountain Trail, which is part of the Great Eastern Trail, are particularly important. The entire length of Shenandoah Mountain Trail provides a critical link for this long distance north-south trail, which will be a more primitive alternative to the heavily used Appalachian Trail. The club supports the Ramseys Draft Wilderness boundary adjustment that would make the Shenandoah Mountain Trail a shared-use trail as a part of this larger protection strategy that would involve National Scenic and Wilderness designations.

The proposal by Friends of Shenandoah Mountain was developed in a collaborative way, and members of PATC's Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter were involved in discussions about it over the past few years. PATC asks that you give it serious consideration as you decide which areas should be recommended for permanent protection.

Northern Areas in the George Washington National Forest

The northern part of the George Washington National Forest is endowed with wildlands that have a high recreational value. These areas should be off limits to timber cutting, road building, and other development. The club supports strong protection for the following areas that fall within PATC's area of responsibility for trail maintenance or interest in future trail development:

Massanutten Mountain Area: This area includes five areas of almost 49,000 acres on the Lee Ranger District including Signal Knob, Catback Mountain, Northern Massanutten Mountain, Southern Massanutten Mountain, Short Horse Mountain and Duncan Knob. The network of trails in this area is the area most accessible to residents of the DC Metropolitan area. This area should be protected in a manner that emphasizes hiking and other low impact recreational opportunities (including trail maintenance with motorized equipment) while ensuring the protection and preservation of scenic and environmental quality.

Big Schloss Cluster: This area includes approximately seven areas in the Lee Ranger District totaling around 71,000 acres including: Jonnies Knob, Great North Mountain, Falls Ridge, Church Mountain, Big Schloss, Long Mountain, and Cove Mountain. A particularly notable feature is the rock outcrops that the area is named for. These outcrops are sites for hacking stations where peregrine falcons are reintroduced to the wild. The area also includes 6,000 acres of old growth and the Salus Spring Special Biological Area. This cluster should be protected in a manner that emphasizes hiking and other low impact recreation opportunities (including trail maintenance with motorized equipment) while ensuring the protection and preservation of scenic and environmental quality.

Three High Heads: This 5,200-acre area lies on Paddy Mountain on the northeastern corner of Big Schloss Roadless Area. Large rock outcrops are a notable geologic feature. The club

supports designation of this area as Wilderness. It would be the only Wilderness area in the entire Lee District. The only trail within this area is the 1.1-mile Sulphur Springs Gap Trail.

Beech Lick Knob: Located in the North River District, this 11,000-acre roadless area in northern Rockingham County is a real gem with over 4,000 acres of old growth. The Carr Mountain Trail, recently approved by the Forest Service for construction, bisects the Beech Lick Knob area and will serve as a critical connector trail for the Great Eastern Trail. The club supports Wilderness designation for the portion of Beech Lick Knob that lies east of the Carr Mountain Trail. Wind development threatens this area; in December 2008, the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors approved a meteorological tower on private land on Shenandoah Mountain directly west of Beech Lick Knob. The club requests special protection of this beautiful area from any development that would mar its natural character.

The club looks forward to continuing our longstanding and productive partnership with the George Washington National Forest, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the new forest plan. Protection of these areas that are of high recreational value and that have exceptional scenery will ensure that future generations will be able to hike in beautiful, wild places and enjoy them as much as our generation has. This is a good legacy for the George Washington National Forest and its many partners to leave.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Lee Sheaffer

President

cc. Maureen Hyzer, Forest Supervisor

Karen B Overcash
02/12/2009 02:23 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@FSNOTES
CC:
Subject: Fw: [WebEmail] Bicycle use in the George Washington National Forest.

Karen Goode Overcash
USDA Forest Service, Land Management Planning
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019
(540) 265-5175 Fax (540) 265-5145
kovercash@fs.fed.us

----- Forwarded by Karen B Overcash/R8/USDAFS on 02/12/2009 02:23 PM -----

**Mailroom R8 George
Washington Jefferson**
Sent by: Kenneth Landgraf

To: Karen B Overcash/R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES
cc

02/12/2009 02:13 PM

Subject: Re: [WebEmail] Bicycle use in the George Washington National Forest.

bhangy41@comcast.net



bhangy41@comcast.net
01/22/2009 07:44 AM

To: Mailroom_R8_George_Washington_Jefferson@fs.fed.us
CC:
Subject: [WebEmail] Bicycle use in the George Washington National Forest .

Begin Transmission ##
USDA Forest Service - National Web Site Email Response Form.

=====

Posted on Thursday, January 22, 2009 at 7:44 Hours (Server time).

From: Basil E Hangemanole
Email: bhangy41@comcast.net

Telephone Number: (540)908-1845

Street Address:
2680 Hopkins Rd.
Massanutten Va. 22840

Message Subject: Bicycle use in the George Washington National Forest.

Message Contents:

I am appealing to the administrators of the Geo. Washington and Jefferson National Forests allow bicyclist to use the trails in the Forests. Any revisions to the existing plan would deprive us of that use. As a member and Director of the Shenandoah Valley bicycle Coalition I use the Forest and I am a good steward of the environment there. Each year I participate in several major events held there in addition to regular weekly usage. Please do not deny us the use of these recreation facilities.
Basil E Hangemanole

=====

The following information may only be used to monitor for SPAM and/or abuse posts using this automated response system. It may not be used for any other purpose.

IP Address: 209.249.123.31
Browser-O/S: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 5.1; FunWebProducts; .NET CLR 1.1.4322; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; .NET CLR 3.0.04506.30; .NET CLR 3.0.04506.648)

=====

End Transmission

Karen B Overcash To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@FSNOTES
02/12/2009 02:24 PM CC:
Subject: Fw: more Deer and grouse habitat

Karen Goode Overcash
USDA Forest Service, Land Management Planning
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019
(540) 265-5175 Fax (540) 265-5145
kovercash@fs.fed.us

----- Forwarded by Karen B Overcash/R8/USDAFS on 02/12/2009 02:23 PM -----

**Mailroom R8 George
Washington Jefferson** To: Karen B Overcash/R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES
Sent by: Kenneth Landgraf cc
02/12/2009 02:12 PM Subject: Re: more Deer and grouse habitat

Jeff and Kim Breeding <jeffandkim_breeding@yahoo.com>



**Jeff and Kim
Breeding** To: Mailroom_R8_George_Washington_Jefferson@fs.fed.us
<jeffandkim_breeding@yahoo.com> cc:
Subject: more Deer and grouse habitat
01/22/2009 12:51
AM

what are the hunters going to have no say and all you people want to do is
have just wilderness



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/12/2009 07:47 PM

Submitted by: Steve
At: shulet1958@hotmail.com
Remark: There are currently proposals to place industrial sized wind farms in the national forests of Vermont, Michigan, and Virginia. Forests in other states await further study. The companies seeking to develop our forests are large and foreign owned; British Petroleum seeks to develop nearly 10,000 acres in Michigan and Iberdrola Renewables of Madrid, Spain would move on the Green Mountains National Forest of Vermont. Each of the giant turbines requires a 60 ft. diameter cement pad 30 ft. deep. This along with the massive infrastructure to support their construction will devastate these fragile ecosystems. These are not the vast open public lands of the west, only 13% of our national forests system lies east of the Mississippi River. Because of their proximity to large urban areas they are enjoyed by millions and form the foundations of thriving tourist economies. Why such a looming and potentially devastating threat to!

our National Forests isn't being more actively publicized by the myriad array of conservation groups previously charged with their protection? Perhaps when having to make the choice of protecting the wilderness or standing in the way of long awaited "green technologies" many are choosing to stand silent. Are the millions of tons of cement poured to construct a wind farm any less malignant to these ecosystems than the cement that would be used to build a coal fired electric plant over them? Our forests are a legacy and should never fall victim to any administrations "pet project".

PLEASE PROTECT OUR NATIONAL FORESTS



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/16/2009 06:52 PM

Submitted by: Herb Coulter
At: cochise69@live.com
Remark: To whom it may concern,

I am a OHV enthusiast in VA and would like to comment on the plan that has been issued. I have not lived in VA long but I moved here because of the public access to trails. The few public trails that I have been out on are almost all included in the proposed wilderness areas in the new plan. The trails Numbers from the motor vehicle use map are as follows: 1823, 599, 227, 85, 227, 422 and 426.

I belong to the River City Trail Runners off-road club. We frequently drive these and other trails in the public system. We pack out all of our trash and most of what we find on the trail left by others.

I would also like to say that the addition of some more high clearance only trails and/or offshoots from the main trails would benefit the system by keeping people from going off of the legal trails looking for a challenge.

Thank you for your time.

Herb Coulter
River City Trail Runners



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/17/2009 05:13 PM

Submitted by: John Woodson
At: jwwdsn@yahoo.com
Remark: As a user of the Forest trail system, I am certainly in favor of keeping all the public land open to the public. I would like to see more high clearance trail challenges on the trails for capable 4WD vehicles. This would also keep out the trespassers and element that is NOT there to use the lands responsibly.
thanks

John Woodson
Richmond, VA



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/19/2009 10:12 AM

Submitted by: John Bailey
At: nextproject@verizon.net
Remark: My family and I have enjoyed exploreing the fire roads and high clearance roads of the Forest for many years. I understand the issues involved with management of this vast area but hope that closures of established routes is not considered. Also providing areas with greater challenges for those with more extreme vehicles would help protect more sensitive areas. Denying access only hurts the lawful citizens and does nothing to prevent those with no respect for the law, from entering the forest.

Thank You
John Bailey



Dan Peck
<dan@78cj5.com>

02/19/2009 11:09 AM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc: Gregg Jackson <gregg.jackson@godwinpumps.com>
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

I am a member of Off-Camber Crawlers, an OHV club that represents over 100 members who are regular users of public lands in the George Washington National Forest (GWNF). This year we have already held two official trail runs in the GWNF, last year at least six, in 2007 we recorded more than ten, in 2006 nine events, in 2005 seven events and the history goes on. In addition to accessing and partaking in all kinds of motorized and dismounted recreation in the GWNF OCC has participated in at least one annual GWNF clean-up providing volunteer man hours to maintain our public land for public access for many years including but not limited to all of the past five years. We are regular, responsible and legal users of these public lands.

As with all changes to the management of public lands we are very interested in how the proposed changes for the GWNF will impact current and future legal access to public lands. The information available on your website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/gwj/forestplan/revision/meetings.shtml#november> sounds very reasonable from what I can see, but I would still like to raise a few concerns...

First, while maintaining current road levels is fair, I would be very concerned if this means no additional OHV trails under any circumstances. Several trails that were either previously legal, or believed to be legal have been shut down over the years, and some areas face risk of needing shut down if conditions or impact worsen. In these cases OCC and VA4WDA have worked to assist the rangers in spreading the word on what roads and trails are illegal and closed and continues to support all legal enforcement within the GWNF. When we do lose trails, however, the less responsible users seek alternative routes or access. If management plans do not make allowances for adding new trails in order to 'maintain current levels' of OHV access, we all lose out. Illegal access and use rise and legal users are pushed off of public lands. I strongly encourage you to continue working through VA4WDA, OCC and other responsible organizations to provide new legal trails and roads that make up for losses in access. It is in everyone's interest.

Second, I am concerned when areas are designated for timber harvest only. If you are allowing timber harvest in an area all claim that motorized public access is too damaging are lost. It is very hard to accept shutting out legal land using citizens from public access to public lands when you are willing to let timber companies 'buy there way in' because of the economic value. We have all seen the damage irresponsible users can cause, and we all know the impact of timber harvesting on forest roads. It is hard to accept that legal access which generally causes far less damage than either of the above would be shut out of an area while timber harveting continues to gain access to public lands for the purpose of profit.

Lastly, I am very concerned about the few things I have heard on "wilderness" designation. I have been told these designations bear extremely long periods of no access status that cannot be reviewed for more than a decade. I have worked on a research forest in California and seen the falacies of designating "old growth" "wilderness" or other protected areas. These designations are sold as required in for habitat of certain species, essential for improving water quality, and other selling points but are rarely backed up by evidence or research. I feel most of these type long standing non-reviewable statuses are nothing more than emotional pleas to 'save the forest' by well meaning but uneducated people who don't use public lands and don't understand the complexities of the forest. I admit fully that I need to learn more about these specific wilderness initiatives but urge you, the professionals and experts to look deep intot he details of these efforts and see if they are truely attempts to protect our lands with solid research work behind them, or merely misguided efforts to limit access for future generations with no real understanding of how they will improve the quality of our public lands.

I was dissapointed to be unable to attend recent January and February information meetings you have hosted ont hese changes as I am seeking to learn more about these processes. Please keep up the good work informing the public and if you maintian a mailing list pelase add my e-mail address.

We look forward to working with you in the effort to protect public lands for future generations, and protect public access to public lands now and in the future. I strongly believe these are not mutually exclusive efforts.

I hope these comments have not arrived too late for consideration.
Thanks for your time in reading my thoughts,
Dan

Dan Peck

www.OFFCAMBERCRAWLERS.com

cell: (703) 608-5382



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

02/22/2009 11:24 PM

Submitted by: Terry Gooding
At: terry.gooding1@cox.net
Remark: I am very passionate about environmental issues and encourage you to plan for climate change by protecting core wilderness and roadless areas, reducing forest fragmentation and decreasing and eliminating other stresses such as logging, road building and oil and gas leasing
There is also a need to protect all existing Old Growth tracts watersheds, identified biological areas, the Shenandoah Mountain Area for its unique ecological and recreational attributes, all endangered rare species (the Wood Turtle, the Cow Knob Salamander, and the Black-throated Green Warbler), all areas identified in the Virginia\'s Mountain Treasures publication by designating them as unsuitable for timber harvest, new road building and surface-occupying oil and gas drilling.

Thank you for considering my concerns about the future our natural resources.

Karen B Overcash To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@FSNOTES
02/24/2009 08:43 AM CC:
Subject: Fw: GWNF Management Plan

Karen Goode Overcash
USDA Forest Service, Land Management Planning
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019
(540) 265-5175 Fax (540) 265-5145
kovercash@fs.fed.us

----- Forwarded by Karen B Overcash/R8/USDAFS on 02/24/2009 08:42 AM -----

**Mailroom R8 George
Washington Jefferson** To: Karen B Overcash/R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES
Sent by: David CC
Woodall/R8/USDAFS Subject: Re: GWNF Management Plan
02/24/2009 08:16 AM

"Josh Brittingham" <jbrittingham@earthlink.net>



"Josh Brittingham" To: <Mailroom_R8_George_Washington_Jefferson@fs.fed.us>
<jbrittingham@earthlink.net> cc:
Subject: GWNF Management Plan
02/23/2009 04:33 PM

Dear Ms. Hyzer

I am contacting you regarding the new forest management plan. I am an avid hunter, fisherman and outdoorsman. I try to do my part for wildlife habitat and conservation as well. I am a member of many of the organizations that fight for wildlife habitat conservation including Quail Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, and the Ruffed Grouse Society. Unfortunately many of the species that were once common here in the mid atlantic are on a serious decline and have been so for some time now. The main reason for this decline is habitat loss. Some have been able to adapt and flourish, deer for one, but that is not the case for many of the species that absolutely require the cover, protection, and food sources associated with early successional habitat. Grouse and quail are two species that are very important to me and should be important to all others living here in Virginia as well but these two species are all but gone in Virginia. At one point very far in the past Virginia was considered a destination to bird hunt with very high numbers of birds. Now it is barely even worth a residents time to head to the woods in pursuit of grouse or quail! I have hunted for days without even seeing a single bird. Now, if I want to bird hunt my choices are to go to a preserve and pretend that I'm hunting or I have to head out of state.

Unfortunately I was not able to attend the meetings on the new management plan. From what I understand there is the possibility of adding thousands of acres into the "wilderness" category. In theory this would be OK but there is no such thing as a true wilderness here on the east coast. Nature's way of creating early successional habitat is fire. But I'm sure that if a fire were to break out in the "wilderness" it would not be allowed to run its course. From what I understand there would be no roads, no timber harvest, basically no management of any kind in these areas. But when nature begins to manage itself we would step in to stop it. I understand this too, there are many private properties bordering the forests and the dangers of a fire burning out of control are not acceptable. These proposed wilderness areas will not benefit wildlife in the long run and in turn the people of Virginia will not benefit. The land will require active human involvement for the proper management. I fully support more timber harvesting, prescribed burns, and any other means of creating prime wildlife habitat in the GWNF.

I understand that the majority of the habitat loss is due to the expansion of the human population and that has become unavoidable. Not to mention the current farming practices, pollution, etc. The GWNF contains a vast amount of land and it's management can have a huge impact, positive or negative, on wildlife. This new plan will have a lasting effect on Virginia's wildlife and depending on how it is handled could help turn things around for our declining wildlife or it could help speed the losses to a devastating point. That is why it is important to me that the wildlife and their habitat come first in any new management plans for the GWNF.

I thank you for your time
Sincerely,

Josh Brittingham
404 Dice St.
Charlottesville, VA. 22903
(434) 989-0963



"William Braford"
<brafordw@comcast.net>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc: <Cdhuppuch@aol.com>
Subject: Long, Long Term Management of Our National Forests

02/27/2009 11:29 AM

Last night I listened to a presentation on neotropical birds at the Rockbridge Area Forestry and Wildlife meeting. I learned that large unbroken blocks of mature hardwoods are very valuable for these species' continued existence. This seems to lead toward more preservation of our old growth hardwoods. Given the present age of most of our trees on the GW, I can see where preservation by wilderness designation may be quite beneficial to these and other wildlife species during the next 50 to 100 years. However, my concern is that our wilderness advocates may not be looking at the long, long term consequences of restricting forest management on large sections of our National Forests.

As a professional forester, I am trying to visualize a climax forest over the long term. I do see 500 year old trees in the eastern forests. However, just like our human populations, many trees will not live this long. When we add in natural catastrophes' such as ice, wind-throw, fire, native and introduced diseases and insect pests, we cannot expect to see a large block of 450,000 acres that are maintained at maturity forever and ever. (I am afraid that too many wilderness advocates visualize wilderness as unbroken mature hardwood forests that will remain that way forever if we eliminate commercial logging). To me, wilderness gives us a chance to see what naturally occurs in nature over the long term. Among the benefits of having wilderness designation, is the opportunity to study how to manage the forests that we have not designated as wilderness. We should have some reasonable percentage of wilderness, but we don't need a large percentage of our valuable national forests tied up in this way.

When I think of conserving our national forests, I think of maintaining them as healthy forests. Old growth trees, just like old people, eventually become unhealthy just before they die. If we utilize commercial logging properly and in a timely fashion we can keep our forest healthy and maintain more forests near maturity over the long, long term of thousands of years, not just during the life of a single stand of trees or the single life of a staunch wilderness advocate.

Thank you for reading and seriously considering so many divergent opinions on how to write this plan.

William L. Braford
110 Cattle Drive
Natural Bridge Station, VA 24579
540 291 4701
Feb 27, 2009



Lynn Cameron
<camerosl@jmu.edu>

03/01/2009 10:32 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc: Elwood Burge <eburge@fs.fed.us>
Subject: Map for Forest Plan

Dear Planning Team,

I am sending a better map of the Shenandoah Mountain National Scenic Area proposed by Friends of Shenandoah Mountain. It is large, so I am sending it through YouSendIt. You will have to download it. Here is the url:

<https://download.yousendit.com/Y2ovYUlrDGpPSHhMWEE9PQ>

Thanks.

Lynn Cameron
Co-Chair

--

Lynn Cameron
Coordinator of Library Instruction
Liaison Librarian for Psychology Carrier Library
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
(540)568-3826

"I only went out for a walk, and finally concluded to stay out till sundown,
for going out, I found, was really going in"

- John Muir (1838-1914)

Karen B Overcash
03/04/2009 09:41 AM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@FSNOTES
CC:
Subject: Fw: Plan comment

Karen Goode Overcash
USDA Forest Service, Land Management Planning
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019
(540) 265-5175 Fax (540) 265-5145
kovercash@fs.fed.us

----- Forwarded by Karen B Overcash/R8/USDAFS on 03/04/2009 09:41 AM -----



**Kenneth
Landgraf/R8/USDAFS**
03/03/2009 01:25 PM

To: Karen B Overcash/R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES
cc
Subject: Plan comment

I received a call yesterday from Jim Jones. He is from Pennsylvania and owns cabin near Trout Pond. He is a grouse hunter and wants us to do whatever we can in the Forest Plan Revision to improve grouse populations.

Ken Landgraf
Planning & Forest Ecology Group Staff Officer
George Washington and Jefferson National Forests
(540) 265-5170
e-mail: klandgraf@fs.fed.us



"Hammond, F
Marshall"

<marshall_hammond
@merck.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>

cc:

Subject: George Washington Plan Revision

01/13/2009 07:33 AM

Please add my support for mountain biking trails in the National Forest. My family bikes extensively in the National Forest, particularly the GW and Jefferson but also the Monongahela and we would like to see expanded mountain bike trails as well as improvements to existing trails. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Marshall Hammond
1221-A Old Windmill Cir.
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
e-mail: marshall_hammond@merck.com
phone: 540-432-3312

Notice: This e-mail message, together with any attachments, contains information of Merck & Co., Inc. (One Merck Drive, Whitehouse Station, New Jersey, USA 08889), and/or its affiliates (which may be known outside the United States as Merck Frosst, Merck Sharp & Dohme or MSD and in Japan, as Banyu - direct contact information for affiliates is available at <http://www.merck.com/contact/contacts.html>) that may be confidential, proprietary copyrighted and/or legally privileged. It is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity named on this message. If you are not the intended recipient, and have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by reply e-mail and then delete it from your system.



Patrick Miller
<patrickgmiller@gmail.com>

01/13/2009 05:11 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Trails in the George Washington National Forest

Hello-

My name is Patrick Miller and I am the Maryland Advocacy Director for MORE, a mountain bike organization representing thousands of area mountain bikers.

Our membership spends much time visiting the George Washington National Forest and riding the many miles of superb trails. I personally attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival and the Shenandoah Mountain 100 annually as well as monthly visits to the forest. Please, in your efforts to protect this land, remember bicycles.

MORE contributes more than 3,000 volunteer hours annually to local parks and forests, including the GW and we appreciate all of your efforts over the years to make this such a great destination.

Sincerely,

Patrick Miller



Misty Tilson
<mistyloo@hotmail.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: comments for biking

01/14/2009 10:26 AM

I wanted to let you know that I ride my bike in the Shenandoah National Forest. There are many many trails that I enjoy riding and I attend three to four events there per year that I want to be able to attend for many years to come. Please allow us to continue to ride bikes there.

Sincerely,
Misty Tilson

Windows Live™ Hotmail®: Chat. Store. Share. Do more with mail. [Check it out.](#)



Erin Bishop
<erin.bishop@yahoo.com>

01/15/2009 09:41 AM
Please respond to
erin.bishop

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Biking in the GWNF - Plan Revision

George Washington Plan Revision
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests,

I am an avid cyclist living in Harrisonburg, Virginia. My husband is a professional athlete, the US National Champion in the sport of mountain biking. We have traveled the country and the world, but one of the main reasons we have made our home in Harrisonburg is directly due to the proximity of abundant cycling trails in the nearby GW National Forest and the active community of cyclists that supports and maintains many of these trails.

Personally, my favorite trails are Lookout/Trimble Mountain and the Shenandoah Mountain Trail. My family attends the Shenandoah Mountain 100 bicycle race and the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Club (now the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition) festival each fall. We love these events, and are glad they are hosted in the National Forest. In preparation and conjunction with each event, my family participates in many hours of trail maintenance in the Forest, and as long as trails are available to us, we will continue to lend our support to the maintenance and improvement of our public lands.

With our family growing, I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. There is a need for beginner trails, and connectors that would enable some of the existing routes to be more easily accessed.

Please continue to allow, encourage and expand the opportunities for cycling in the GWNF. These are opportunities that I feel strengthen our community's recreation opportunities, tourism and, through passive use, the safety of the GWNF for all outdoor enthusiasts.

Thank you,
Erin Bishop
331 New York Avenue
Harrisonburg, VA 22801



"Michael Tinyk"
<dcbunky@gmail.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: More Mountain Bike Trails Please!

01/15/2009 12:57 PM

Dear Forest Manager,

I ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest (GWNF).

I attend the Mid Atlantic Offroad Enthusiasts and International Mountain Bike Association-Virginia Chapter (MORE/ VA IMBA) Memorial Day Weekend event annually. It is the highlight of the mountain biking season, as it is the first major gathering signalling the beginning of summer riding.

During that weekend I always try to ride Braley Pond, Dowell's Draft and Wolf Ridge. At least some of these trails are in the proposed Ramsey Draft extension area. Each of these trails is a part of the annual Shenandoah Mountain 100 mountain bike race, which I intend to ride this Labor Day.

The Southern Traverse (the portion of the Shenandoah Mountain Trial from Route 250 south to Scotchtown Draft Rd.) is my favorite trail. It is in the heart of the Jerkemtight RA. I also ride this during Memorial Day weekend festivities.

Closer to home, I have often ridden many of the trails in the Massanutten East section of the Lee District, such as Kennedy Peak, Duncan Hollow, and sections going north intersected by Sherman Gap, Shawl Gap, Buzzard Rocks, and the like. It would be devastating to lose access to areas on Mass. East, since these are very close to my home in DC and provide great outdoor exercise and adventure opportunity for my friends and me.

While I haven't yet ridden Big Schloss in the Wolf Gap area, I plan on doing that this spring.

In sum, I would like to have more trails to ride in the GWNF.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Michael D Tinyk
4114 Davis Pl., NW
#314
Washington, DC 20007
202-744-9251



Douglas Pepelko
<pepelkod@hotmail.com>

01/15/2009 01:00 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Please do not ban bikes in GWNF

I ride the "Southern Traverse", and many other trails around the Harrisonburg area in the GWNF. Please don't close these to mountain bikers. There is much evidence to show that bikers more good to trails due to the trail work programs put on by IMBA and MORE.

I have worked on PATC on hiker trails and with MORE-MTB.org on biking trails. I understand the need for hiker only trails and have spent many hours in Cranberry wilderness area backpacking as well as many other camping trips to GWNF. The current wilderness areas provide plenty of hiking only trails for hikers. Cyclist on the other hand are being shut out of many areas. In the many times I have been through the Southern Traverse trail (from FR 173 to Rt 639) I have seen a total of 3 hikers (two were together). The trails are lightly used as is and limiting them to hikers simply does not make sense.

We are all American citizens. We all pay taxes. The trails are for all users. We can find a way to share.

Thanks for hearing me out,

Douglas Pepelko
pepelkod@hotmail.com



"Marcus Popetz"
<marcus@cpopetz.com>
m>
Sent by:
mpopetz@gmail.com

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: GW Mountain Biking

01/15/2009 01:09 PM

Hello Forest Manager,

I'd like to voice my support of expanding mountain biking in the GW forest. I spend a lot of time out there around the Front Royal area riding and occasionally doing trail maintenance. Some of the more exciting trips we take venture down around the Harrisonburg area of the GW.

It is truly a mountain biking mecca although mostly undiscovered. I'd love to see even more riding there.

Thanks,
Marcus Popetz
Solomons, MD



David Ruppe
<druppe@powerloft.com>

01/15/2009 11:23 PM

To: "comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us"
<comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>

cc:

Subject: George Washington Plan Revision - George Washington &
Jefferson National Forests

I am an avid Mountain Biker and Hiker. I utilize the GWNF (and to a lesser extent the JNF) multiple times per year for both hiking and mountain biking. I do not feel that sharing trails with Mountain Bikers is a problem for hikers. It has been proven multiple times that mountain biking and hiking cause similar rates of erosion, while horseback riding is much worse. Designating additional areas as Wilderness is a draconian measure, in that it bans mountain biking. Taking complete access away from an (under represented/organized) group (mountain bikers) to allow a limited number of vocal users (hikers) to better their experience (in their perception) is unfair. The interpretation of "mechanized transport" to include bicycles is certainly not what the Wilderness designation was about when written, and an organized lobby is perpetuating it's application to the detriment of a large group of environmentally conscious users.

Please do not designate additional areas as Wilderness with these National Forests.

Thank you for your consideration.

David Ruppe
1094 Fairbank Street
Great Falls, VA 22066



fovarg@comcast.net

01/18/2009 05:41 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
CC:
Subject: GW National Forest

Dear Plan revisors,

I ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest & would like to comment for the upcoming forest Plan revisions. I support the Shenandoah Mountain Proposal and recommendations put forth by the Friends of Shenandoah Mountain group. There are numerous trails I have enjoyed bicycling on in the GW National Forest & hope to see more accessible and rideable trails there.

Thank you,

Art Fovargue



Dan Becker
<dansbecker@gmail.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comments about biking in GWNF

01/18/2009 09:46 PM

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to let you know the biking trails in the George Washington National Forest are one of my favorite things about living in the nearby area. I would like to have more trails available to ride, and I hope any plans for the future of the GWNF will allow more trails that are available to cyclists.

Thank You,
Dan Becker



Michael Yriart
<michael.yriart@verizonbusiness.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Please keep trails open

01/19/2009 09:49 AM

Greetings - I love to ride my mountain bicycle on the trails in GW and Jefferson national forests. My sons do as well, along with many of my friends. I have a cabin in Page County, which my family and friends regularly visit. Without mountain biking in these forests, I most likely not come down there for recreation. While wilderness is important, I implore you to find a forest preservation/management solution that keeps mountain biking and conservation together. Mountain biking is non-destructive, silent activity that poses no threat to forest. It is also needed by the general population to fix the horrible obesity and exercise deficit problem. Finally, mountain bikers are among the most active in terms of assisting land managers do trail maintenance.

Please do your best to keep trails open to mountain bikers. Thanks!

Mike Yriart, PMP
Senior Project Manager
Verizon Business
Complex Solutions Project Management
office - 703.886.3125
mobile - 540.223.5230
e-mail - Michael.Yriart@VerizonBusiness.com



"Peter Fraker"
<peter.fraker@dlt.co
m>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject:

01/19/2009 12:01 PM

Hello,

I recently heard that there is some movement to designate more wilderness area in the GWNF. At first I thought this a good idea until I was told that no cycling is allowed in designated wilderness areas...

Without getting into how and why bicycles are different from motorized traffic in the forest and how most if not all of the trail maintenance is performed by mountain bikers in the Forest, I would like to caution against such a move.

I reside in Fairfax County and my friends and I ride our mountain bikes in the GWNF as much as possible, once or twice a month weather permitting. We camp there, hike there but mostly we ride there. I know there are hundreds of folks in the Northern Virginia area that utilize the forest for this type of recreation. Specifically members of MORE, the local cycling club.

My favorite GWNF trails are south of Rte 33 all the way down to Rt 250. Mud Pond, Flagpole Knob, Reddish Knob, Hone Quarry, Wolf Ridge, Hankey Mtn, Mtn House/Bridge Hollow, Little Bald Knob, Chestnut Ridge, Trimble Mtn. I would also like to add that I attend the Shenandoah 100 Mountainbike race every year as do 400-500 other friends of the forest.

Please leave things as they are. I think I can speak for many when I say I will not return to the area if the trails are closed to mountain bikes.

Peter Fraker
Team Lead, SLG
DLT Solutions, Inc.
Direct 703-708-9633
Toll Free 888-472-4358
Facsimile 866-708-7033

Archiving and storage go better together with Symantec and NetApp. Find out how your agency can benefit: www.dlt.com/archiving



peter_fraker.vcf



"Carl Schwab"
<carl@alcovaproperti
es.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject:

01/19/2009 02:48 PM

To whom it may concern;

I have ridden my mountain bike in the national forest for the last 15 years. The sport is an amazing way to stay in tip top shape while enjoying the incredible views and the peacefulness of the forest. During my more frequent riding days I rode every Sunday morning on trails like Dowell's Draft, Shenandoah mountain trail, Reddish knob area, Flagpole. Long Run, Massanutten etc etc. I very rarely saw anyone and whenever I did we always shared a mutual hello and a smile.

It seems such a shame to me that different user groups spend so much time trying to eliminate other user groups from enjoying the trails. If the concern is damage to the trails why do we continue to limit the number of trails thus concentrating the users in certain areas? The mountain biking community has proven it's willingness to work tirelessly to help maintain the trails and should be rewarded for their efforts! If you highlight the trails on a topo map and then squint your eyes it becomes really obvious how little space we are using to enjoy our sport. The hunters have a huge expanse of land to hunt, the hikers can hike in the national park where bikes are not allowed or share the trails with other users, the horses have always appeared to be fine with seeing us out on the trail and they appreciate our willingness to keep the trails clear of debris.

I feel sure the Wilderness areas were originally closed to motorized vehicles and someone slyly changed motorized to mechanized. This probably occurred first in California where there are so few trails that all users have to fight over them. This is not the case in Virginia.

We need to open as many trails as possible and we need to encourage as many users as we can to get out and enjoy what our beautiful state has to offer.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Carl Schwab



Eric Loach
<eloach@verizon.net
>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Forest revision plan

01/19/2009 02:56 PM

Hello,

I wanted to email you to let you know that I ride my mountain bike often in GWNF. I enjoy doing so very much and would like to continue to do so. Therefore, I thought it appropriate to comment on the forest revision plan. I have attended the Woodstock, VA. planning meetings in the past and will try to make it to the next scheduled meeting.

Basically, I ride on a weekly basis in locations from the Elizabeth Furnace area in the north to the Crawford Mountain area in the south. Specifically, here is a SHORT list of some of the trails that I ride (normally for these rides we car pool in with at least 4 persons, so, it's not just me):

South:

Bridge Hollow
Dowells Draft
Chestnut Ridge
Wolf Ridge
Timber Ridge
Buck Mountain

Central:

Catharine Furnace area (Mass. Trail and others)
Wolf Gap /Big Sloss (many different trails)

North:

Mud Hole Gap
Bear Wallow
Massanutten trail (Many areas from Elizabeth Furnace to Catharine Furnace)
Buzzard Rock Trail

Camp Roosevelt area:

Duncan Hollow
Stephens Trail
Mass. trail again in this area
Kennedy Peak area trails

(I am not sure I have all the trail names correct, but I think they are pretty close)

I also enjoy the Virginia Mountain Bike Festival and the Shenandoah Mountain 100 events each year in the Stokesville area.

Now, I don't know if this is important, but I'd also like to say that I think using the Wilderness Act to restrict access to areas that are already being used for large recreational events and have fire roads all through them does not follow the original intent of Congress when the act was passed. There are other designations (National Scenic Area?) that will protect these lands from misuse, without restricting

non-motorized recreational usage. I have hiked all over the US for 35 years, and I just don't see much in the parts of GWNF that I mention above that I think would make it appropriate to designate them as Wilderness.

It may be that mountain bikers don't send as many emails or show up at meetings as much as some persons possibly more passionate about their cause. After all, mountain biking is not a "cause". It's simply outdoor recreation for millions of persons. I think it's important for the preservation of the forests of this country that as many persons as reasonably possible enjoy them. Otherwise, the public will have no idea what a treasure they are. On any given "nice" day, drive around in the forest areas I mention and check the parking spots to see how many cars have bike racks on them. Those are very likely ALL mountain bikers out enjoying the forest. I see more mountain bikers on the trails than I do hikers by a 3:1 margin in the areas I mention above. Please let us continue to use the forest.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Loach
9024 Phoebe Ct.
Annandale, VA.
22003

703-425-1733



Ian Spivack
<gte534j@hotmail.com>
m>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: George Washington National Forest bike usage

01/19/2009 02:56 PM

To George Washington Plan Revision,
I ride by bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Elizabeth Furnace and the Massanutten Trails are my favorite. I attend the Shenandoah Mountain 100 bike race event annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. Please take into consideration my comments,

Thanks,

Ian Spivack
9900 Longford Ct
Vienna, VA 22181
703-200-4519

Windows Live™: Keep your life in sync. [See how it works.](#)



Michael Winings
<blackwolf2007@hotmail.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject:

01/19/2009 05:36 PM

I ride by mountain bicycle in the George Washington National Forest.

Dowells Draft - Braley Pond is my favorite trail. But I also like: Reddish Knob, North River Gorge Trail, Trimble Mountain, Southern Traverse Lynn Trail to Wolf Ridge, Narrowback Ridge, and Hearthstone to Wolf.

I attend the Virginia International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) Festival, in The **Stokesville** Campground event annually and it is a very good time.

I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the George Washington National Forest.

Michael Winings
4614 Chestnut ST
Bethesda, MD 20814

Windows Live™: Keep your life in sync. [See how it works.](#)



Steve Harmon
<steveharmon@ridethewomble.com>
Sent by:
ridethewomble@gmail.com

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comments on GWNF Wilderness Plans

01/19/2009 07:45 PM

My name is Stephen M. Harmon. I live in Arlington, VA. I am an avid mountain biker, and enjoy riding the trails in the GWNF. I frequently ride at Elizabeth Furnace, and when I can round up a couple of friends, I ride at Wolf Gap and Catherine Furnace. Whenever I ride, I make a point of having dinner and spending some money in the nearest town. I have had many delicious post-ride dinners at the Mexican restaurant in Front Royal.

I have volunteered for the Shenandoah Mountain 100 mountain bike race in years past, and plan to race it this year.

I am concerned about plans to designate large areas of the GWNF as wilderness. This would shut down some of the best trails in the United States. I regularly ride in Arkansas, Vermont, North Carolina, and Utah, so I am in a position to recognize that we have some of the best riding in the country.

Riding in the GWNF is always rewarding. There is nothing like a long, tough climb followed by the sublime beauty of some nice ridge riding. I always learn some history on my trips, and love seeing the flora and fauna in the forest. Losing the privilege to ride in the woods would be a huge blow.

I am a member of the Mid-Atlantic Off Road Enthusiasts, and have volunteered many hours to trail maintenance in the area. I consider myself a good steward of the trails, and a low-impact user. I value this resource, and go to great lengths to keep it pristine.

Please refrain from making the wilderness designation, as it will have far-reaching negative consequences.

Thanks,
Stephen Harmon

--

www.ridethewomble.com



Mark Manley
<mamanley_2000@yahoo.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: George Washington Plan Revision

01/19/2009 08:01 PM
Please respond to
mamanley_2000

George Washington Plan Revision
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Sir/Madam

I understand you are evaluating usage of the George Washington Forest and I want all to know how much I value the ability to ride my mountain bike there. I recently rode the Southern Traverse trail this fall and enjoyed it very much. I would like to continue to have access to trails like these and if possible a few more.

Thanks for you consideration.

Best Regards,
Mark Manley
Charlottesville, VA



"Eric Trebour"
<eric@resultsregroup.com>

01/20/2009 09:19 AM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: George Washington National Forest - Trails for bicyclists

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my concern about the potential reduction or limited access for bicyclists to enjoy trails in the George Washington National Forest. Several bike trails in George Washington National Forest are touted as some of the top rated trails in the country. One area in particular and a favorite of mine is the Georgia Camp & Southern Traverse Trail on the southern tip of Shenandoah Mountain. Other areas include riding trails just west of Harrisonburg.

I along with several members of our mountain bike club enjoy these trails on a regular basis all year round. Further there are several events that we enjoy attending including the Shenandoah 100, and other club sponsored events.

Please consider more access for mountain cyclists to enjoy the trails in George Washington National Forest. This area is truly one of the better areas to ride in the mid Atlantic region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Eric Trebour
Charlottesville, VA

Eric Trebour

Results Real Estate, Inc. *President*
Central Virginia Better Business Bureau, *Member*
Charlottesville Chamber of Commerce, *Member*

1-888-HOM-BYRS Toll Free
434-964-1026 Local
434-964-1008 Fax

www.HOM-BYRS.com

We Buy Houses!

SellYour House

"As Is" for *Fast, Cash* .



"Paul Lindblad"
<paul.lindblad@vadiodes.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: George Washington Plan Revision

01/20/2009 01:34 PM

Hello,

My name is Paul Lindblad. I ride my Mountain Bike in the George Washington National Forest. One of my favorite trails to ride is Whetstone Ridge. Our bike club, CAMBC, has a yearly event where we get other bikers together to do trail maintenance in the GWNF, and to enjoy the trails we help maintain all year.

I just wanted to let you know that I enjoy the outdoors in the GWNF on my bike, and we help take care of it. Anything you can do to help keep the trails open for bikes would be very appreciated. If we can add more trails that would be even better.

Thank you,

Paul Lindblad



"McClintic, William"
<william.mcclintic@wachoviasec.com>

01/21/2009 03:33 PM

To: "comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us"
<comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: G.W PLAN REVISION

I ride by bicycle in George Washington National Forest. My favorite trail(s) are made up of the 27 mile White Oak Trail loop. Sadly I rarely if ever see hikers on these trails. I have ridden most every one open to mtn bikers in the GWNF. The trails are truly some of the best in the country. PLEASE keep this fantastic resource open to those of us who like to hike and bike. thanks for your consideration. Will McClintic

ATTENTION: Please be aware that the confidentiality of Internet e-mail cannot be guaranteed. Instructions having financial consequences such as trade orders, funds transfer, etc., should not be included in your e-mail communications to us as we cannot act on such instructions received by e-mail.

If you are a current Wachovia Securities client and wish to unsubscribe from marketing e-mails from your Wachovia Securities financial advisor, reply to one of his/her e-mails and type "Unsubscribe" in the subject line. This action will not affect delivery of important service messages regarding your accounts that we may need to send you or preferences you may have previously set for other e-mail services.

If you are not a client, please go to:

<https://www.wachovia.com/email/unsubscribe>

For additional information regarding our electronic communication policies please go to:

<http://www.wachoviasec.com/gotoemaildisclosure>

Investments in securities and insurance products are:
NOT FDIC-INSURED/NOT BANK-GUARANTEED/MAY LOSE VALUE

Wachovia Securities is the trade name used by two separate, registered broker-dealers and nonbank affiliates of Wells Fargo & Company providing certain retail securities brokerage services: Wachovia

Securities, LLC,
Member NYSE/SIPC, and Wachovia Securities Financial Network, LLC,
Member FINRA/SIPC.
Wachovia Securities, 1 North Jefferson, St. Louis, MO 63103



"Mark Humbertson"
<mhumbertson@brucewardell.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc: "William Sanford" <sanfordwill@hotmail.com>
Subject: National Forest Service Plan - George Washington-Jefferson NF

01/22/2009 08:23 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am an avid user of the NFS trail system in VA, primarily as a mountain biker. I ride trail systems throughout the GWNF-JNF and I make several vacations each year to attend mountain bike festivals to ride these NFS trails. These forest trail systems are also used by several other groups for mountain bike activities, such as local and national races, and bike clubs for daily organized rides. Wilderness designation, while an important part of preservation, places too many restrictions on mountain bike activity in these popular areas. Groups throughout Virginia have begun work on more extensive and sustainable trail systems in the GWNF-JNF (Harrisonburg, Clifton Forge/Covington, Blacksburg, Roanoke to name a few) in order to expand trails for mountain biking - we are a viable and recognized economic and maintenance force in the outdoors community. I recommend you consider other designations (National Scenic Area, National Recreation Area) which recognize the sustainability and compatibility of mountain biking with the natural surroundings. Thank you for your consideration.

Mark Humbertson
812 Valley View Circle
Charlottesville, VA 22902
434-923-0669



David Wotton
<dw2p@cms.mail.virginia.edu>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

01/22/2009 09:56 AM

I regularly ride by bicycle in the George Washington National Forest, and this area contains some of the best trails on the East coast. I would like to have more trails that are easy to access, well maintained and easy to ride in the GWNF. While I fully support protecting the forests from logging and development, I also think that they should remain open to multiple user groups, including hikers, equestrians and bicyclists, since all of these are low impact uses of the forest.

--

David Wotton

Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics

Center for Cell Signaling
University of Virginia
Room 7008, Hospital West
HSC 800577
Charlottesville
VA 22908

Tel: 434 243 6752

Fax: 434 924 1236

http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/bims_bmbg/chromatin.cfm?uva_id=dw2p&hideintro=1

<http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/cellsignaling/dwotton.cfm>



Tom Newton
<tom_newton@yahoo.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/22/2009 01:58 PM
Please respond to
tom_newton

Greetings,

I am an avid mountain biker and I very much enjoy biking in the George Washington National Forest. I very strongly support the continued access of bikers to national forests and I believe that we as trail users contribute positively to the trails.

My favorite trails in GWNF are in Elizabeth's Furnace and the Wolf Gap area. I am also planning to sign up for the Shenandoah Mountain 100-mile bike race this summer. Please don't take away our access to these wonderful trails!

Thanks,

Tom Newton
North Potomac, MD



Mike Capraro
<mikecapraro@yahoo
.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/22/2009 02:13 PM

Dear Forest Service

I use the George Washington National Forest a lot, and sometime the Jefferson too. I like to mountain bike, hike, maintain trails, camp, snowshoe etc. I respect all trail users of the National Forest. Please do not make any changes to land use designations that restrict or prevent any of the current trail users from using the trails in the future, or from preventing them from being maintained with motorized equipment like chainsaws and gas powered brush cutters.

Thank you,

Mike Capraro
1336 Granny Smith Rd.
Linden VA 22642



"larry camp"
<larry.camp@comcast.net>

01/22/2009 02:38 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: cycling in the GWNF

Greetings all,

Just wanted to let you know how much I appreciate the GW National Forest. My first exposure to mountain biking in the GW in 1989 changed my life. On that day I did a 5-hour ride with a group out of Winchester which included Sulfur Springs Gap Trail, Little Stony Creek, Cedar Creek Trail and others. I was, and remain, completely hooked on that euphoric feeling of being in big forest, on rocky trails, with bikes and friends.

Favorite areas include all of the Fort Valley and the Wolf Gap/Big Schloss area. I've participated in dozens of trail work days with the mountain bike club MORE, PATC, and the VA Happy Trails club. I also participate annually in the Shenandoah Mountain 100, which is always the highlight of my year (yes, it's far better than Christmas)

I look forward to more, and increased opportunities and trails to ride. I would not like to see any cycling trails lost to Wind development or to Wilderness.

Thank you,
Larry Camp



Susan Musante
<susanmusante@yahoo.com>

01/22/2009 02:42 PM
Please respond to
susanmusante

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

Susan Musante

1336 Granny Smith Rd.

Linden, VA 22642

January 22, 2009

Supervisor Maureen Hyzer

George Washington Plan Revision

George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019-3050

Dear Supervisor Hyzer:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input in the planning process for the George Washington National Forest. I attended the meeting on September 11th in Bridgewater to learn more and there I had the opportunity to meet you. I provided input during the working groups but, as I mentioned that evening to you, thought it would be helpful to write to let you know how a change in the land designation to Wilderness would impact me.

I have been travelling to the George Washington National Forest for recreation since 1996. I am a hiker, runner, and mountain biker. Because bicycles are mechanized I would no longer be allowed to ride my bicycle on the trails in areas that are designated Wilderness. I fail to understand why bicycles are not allow in Wilderness areas - there is no motor, no pollution, and no more impact than the feet of mammals, hooved or booted, make on the trails, however I understand that it is not your role to change the definition of Wilderness. Your role is to make a recommendation about the use and designation of the land. I therefore implore you to not recommend that any areas of the Lee Ranger District in the George Washington National Forest become new Wilderness areas.

I frequently ride with friends and family on the trails of the Lee Ranger District, though this is primarily

because they are the closest to my home. The trails along Massanutten West and East ridges and in the Duncan Knob area are idyllic for mountain biking offering amazing views and unique technical challenges – a true escape into the woods. The trails in the Big Schloss area have a slightly different feel, but still offer the wide open views off of rocks and feeling of being truly away from it all.

Please do not take away the opportunity to ride these trails on mountain bikes, for me, for others who travel to the George Washington National Forest, and for others who will take up mountain biking and come to your forest to explore all that it offers. If protection is what is desired, there are certainly other ways to ensure the land is protected while still allowing “green” activities such as mountain biking. Again, I ask you to not recommend any areas with trails in the George Washington National Forest as Wilderness. Please consider other designations for land protection.

I appreciate all of your efforts and thank you again for the opportunity to share the impact your decisions would have on me.

Sincerely,

Susan Musante



Joe Whitehair
<joewhitehair@yahoo.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comments on GWNF Plan

01/22/2009 03:54 PM

I am writing to comment on the George Washington National Plan Revision. I am a mountain biker who rides in many different areas of the George Washington including Elizabeth Furnace, Reddish Knob, Ramseys Draft and countless other areas and trails. In future forest plans I want to see access for mountain bikes maintained at current levels or ideally expanded. I've been using the George Washington (along with many of my mountain biking friends) for well over a decade and visit it often as it is a beautiful and treasured place.

Thank you,
Joe Whitehair



Kathy Ascenzi
<kascenzi@yahoo.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comments re: GWNF

01/22/2009 04:53 PM

As a bicyclist, I ride in the George Washington National Forest at least two times a month. There are wonderful trails there, and I would love to see more trail opportunities there. I attend the SM100 every year. It is a wonderful event that is well-organized, fun, and challenging. I would like to have more trails and riding opportunities in the GWNF.

Thank you,
Kathleen Ascenzi



"Todd Bauer"
<tbauer@villagesettl
ements.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject:

01/22/2009 04:54 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

It has come to my attention that bicycling in the George Washington National Forest may be further limited if additional land is designated as "wilderness". Let me just say that I am opposed to this proposition and I hope it does not pass. Some of the areas under consideration are places that I have ridden in the past and hope to take my children in the future.

I understand the need for wilderness areas and would agree that we need more; however, bicycles are (mistakenly) considered motorized vehicles and prohibited from these lands. I have never understood how a bicycle could be designated in this way and wish the "powers that be" would remove this label and allow us to enjoy our pastime in these wonderful locations.

If my comments count, and I hope they do, please do not further restrict bicycling in our National Parks and Forests

Thank you for your consideration,

Todd Bauer

IT Guy

Hirschel, Savitz, Parker & Hollman

Village Settlements Inc.

177 Kentlands Blvd. Suite 200

Gaithersburg MD 20878

(301) 556-4935



"Jay Williams"
<jwilliams@ohdbalt.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: MTN Biking

01/22/2009 05:20 PM
Please respond to
jwilliams

I have ridden in the GW several times. Friends & I from MD, PA, VA & WVA do weekend trips, responsibly ride the trails & contribute to the local economy. I do trail maintenance locally in MD and many of my friends work w/ land managers in VA to do trail work there. I would be very disappointed if mountain bikers lost access to the trails in the GW which we treat w/ respect & love to ride.

Thanks!

Jay Williams - Product Manager
The Overhead Door Co. of Baltimore, Inc.
3501 Century Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21227

Office Phone: (410) 636-6300
Fax: (410) 636-4308
Cellular: (443) 992-6182



Jason Stoner
<president@more-mtb.org>
Sent by:
discocowboy@gmail.com

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: George Washington Plan Revision

01/22/2009 05:44 PM

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jason Stoner and I am the President of the Mid Atlantic Off Road Enthusiasts (MORE). MORE is a 501c (3) non-profit representing more than five thousand regional mountain bikers in Maryland, Virginia and DC. We are committed to environmentally sound and socially responsible mountain biking, facilitating recreational trail cycling, educating about the sport of mountain biking, maintaining local trails, and advocating for increased multi-user trail access. This past year our members have put in over 3000 hours of trail work in our parks.

Our members participate in several events each year that draw in hundreds of participants and even more spectators to the George Washington National Forest. In addition to visiting on our own during weekends with friends and families. We enjoy the trails and beauty the area has to offer and would like to voice our support for continued access and more trails that everyone can share and enjoy as well as supporting the local restaurants and businesses that are around the area.

Let me know if you have any questions or would like to talk further.

Regards,
-Jason Stoner
MORE President
www.more-mtb.org
president@more-mtb.org



Barbara am Ende
<no_spam@deepcave
s.net>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Don't exclude bikes from GWNF

01/22/2009 06:41 PM

Dear Sir or Madam,

I understand you're working on your forest management plan for the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests. I am a mountain biker and strongly urge you to make sure you plan for us to have access to the trails.

I frequently ride at Elizabeth Furnace. Other times, when I venture farther afield, I ride at Catherine Furnace, and Mud Pond Gap. I've also attended mountain biking festivals in the vicinity of the Shenandoah Mountain 100 bike race site. I'm planning on riding at the following locations in the future: Braley Pond, Shawl Gap, Sherman Gap, Veach Gap, Stoney Creek, Mill Mountain, Big Schloss, Mine Gap, Kennedy Peak, Scothorn Gap, Little Stony Creek, and Three Ponds.

Thanks for sharing the Forest lands with your fellow nature lovers, the mountain bikers.

Sincerely,
Barbara Anne am Ende, Ph.D.

43465 Laidlow St
South Riding, VA 20152
(703) 909-6550



Joe Foley
<jfoley441@gmail.com>
m>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: GWNF Management Plan

01/22/2009 07:16 PM

I'm writing this email to express my comments on the GWNF Management Plan currently being formulated. My name is Joe Foley and in addition to being a mountain biker who rides and races frequently in the George Washington National Forest, i'm also a board member of the Mid-Atlantic Off-Road enthusiasts, a large mountain bike advocacy organization in the Metro-DC area. I live in silver spring maryland but make the trip to the GW many times a year for events like the MORE. I've ridden many trails in the GW and am in favor of protections for the GW that don't restrict mountain bike access. I've raced the Shenandoah Mountain 100 several times and spent many weekends in the park, both camping and staying overnight in local hotels.

thanks you

Joe Foley



"Steve S."
<kn0bby8@gmail.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: GWNF Bike Trails

01/22/2009 10:53 PM

I ride by bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Bear Wallow is my favorite trail. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW.

Steven Sirota



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

01/23/2009 09:35 AM

Submitted by: jeremy graham
At: toyotanuts@aol.com
Remark: when are you
going to show the background information? And is the meeting on the 29 like a
workshop like the others where we can voice are opinion?
thanks



"Jeff Hankley"
<jhankley@fcsa-water.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Mountain Bike Loops

01/23/2009 10:44 AM

Hi,

My name is Jeff Hankley, and I am a resident of Winchester, VA.

I just wanted to write and say that I am very pleased with the effort that the Forest Service is making to get input from the users of the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests.

The main thing that I want to comment on is mountain biking. I would love to see some new mountain bike loops created in the Lee District of the Forest, particularly in the Western section of that district. I really think that the Harrisonburg area has a great trail network, and would like to see that expanded northward, so that those of us in the Northern Shenandoah Valley can connect some of our favorite areas, like Big Schloss and Trout Pond. I attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival regularly, and am impressed with the work that the folks in that area do with the Forest Service. I would like to know what I can do to facilitate the same kind of relationship in our area.

The second thing I would like to address is OHV use. I enjoy riding off-road motorcycles as well as mountain bikes. My motorcycles are all street legal off-road bikes. I would like to see more of the service roads open to plated vehicles, and perhaps a few motorcycle only trails that could connect the service roads. Many people fail to recognize the difference in impact between motorcycles and ATVs when discussing OHV use. I have travelled all over the US by motorcycle, and find that motorcycles have less of an impact on trails than even horses in many cases, where ATVs can widen and create ruts in trails very easily. I understand the difficulty in enforcing a "Motorcycle Only" policy, especially in these economic times, but I just wanted to make my wishes and observations known.

Thank you again for your continued thoughtfulness in regards to multi-user policies in the National Forest,

Jeff Hankley
IT Director
Frederick County Sanitation Authority
Office: 540.868.1418 X29
Cell: 540.974.3113
Fax: 540.868.1429



"David Scull"
<davidscull@estatesll
c.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/23/2009 11:28 AM

My wife & I attend the MORE/IMBA event at Stokesville annually and have a great time. The trails down from Reddish Knob are our favorites.

We regularly come to the Shenandoah Valley to ride our mtn-bikes in the George Washington National Forest. We would like to see more trails that are easy to ride in GWNF.

Dave Scull, age 65
7960 Old Georgetown Rd. #8C
Bethesda, MD 20814
tel 301-913-9660
fax 301-913-9044
cell 301-922-4344



Michael Klasmeier
<michael.klasmeier@
gmail.com>

01/23/2009 11:28 AM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

To Whom It May Concern:

I travel to VA from MD many times a year with my wife and kids to enjoy the trails of GW National Forest. We stay in the Harrisonburg area, shop in downtown and eat at local restaurants.

Please keep trails open to mountain bikes. Humans are part of wilderness and the only reason mountain bikes are kept out is because of some silly wording. I know that local bike clubs and cyclists spend hundreds of hours a year helping out in the GW with trail maintenance and construction.

Please do not close more trails to bikes. I would hate to lose any part of the Shenandoah Mountain Trail or the Southern Traverse.

Thanks.

Michael Klasmeier
Crofton, MD



Blake Puhak
<blakepuhak@gmail.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/23/2009 11:31 AM

I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Shenandoah Mountain Trail (Southern Traverse) and the trails of the Shenandoah Mountain 100 are my favorite trails. While I support most of the ideals of Wilderness Areas, it would be a great loss to lose these trails to mountain biking.

-Blake

Blake M Puhak
2517 Kenwood Ave.
Richmond, VA 23228
(804) 304-9160
blakepuhak@gmail.com



"Deignan, Greg"
<greg.deignan@capit
alone.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/23/2009 12:12 PM

I attend several events including Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival , Shenandoah Mountain 100 event annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW.

I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. My favorite trails include: Shenandoah Mountain Trail (Southern Traverse) and all the trails in the Shenandoah Mountain 100.

Greg Deignan

The information contained in this e-mail is confidential and/or proprietary to Capital One and/or its affiliates. The information transmitted herewith is intended only for use by the individual or entity to which it is addressed. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, dissemination, distribution, copying or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from your computer.



"Josh Krider"
<joshk@howellsac.com>

01/23/2009 12:19 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to write to provide my support of the Pedestrian and Bicycling trails in the George Washington Forest. I attend several bicycling events as well as recreational rides annually in the Forest system. I would like to see more trails and recreational opportunities in the National Forest. I particularly access the GW Forest via the Shenandoah Valley region. Thanks for your consideration of the recreational activities that utilize this spaces regularly when making your action plans rather than those that don't use them.

Regards,

Josh Krider
Howell's Heating and Air Conditioning
P:804.798.1371
F:804.798.0100



"Stephen Craig"
<scraig@chemetrics.com>

01/23/2009 04:05 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

It's recently come to my attention that plans for the GW National Forest are under consideration for revision. As a mountain biker I would like to comment that I would prefer to have more trails open to cycling in the GW Forest.

I travel to the Shenandoah Valley as often as possible to bike the Shenandoah Mountain Trail (Southern Traverse). Please consider whatever actions are necessary to keep bicycle access to such trails open and, if possible, expand bicycle access to additional terrain.

Thank you,
Stephen Craig

---Sent by CHEMetrics: This e-mail and any attachments to it have been scanned and are certified virus free. They may contain confidential and privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately by return email, delete this email, and destroy any copies of it. Any dissemination or use of this information by a person other than the intended recipient is unauthorized and may be illegal.---



"Brian Junkins"
<brian@fullcircleva.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/23/2009 03:58 PM

I ride by bicycle all the time in the George Washington National Forest want to see more trails open to bicyclist, not trails closed to bicyclist. My favorite places to ride are the Massanutten Trail/Elizabeth Furnace area and all the trails in the Big Schloss area. I also enjoy attending many events to my south like the IMBA Virginia Mountain Bike Festival and the Shenandoah Mountain 100 where I get to enjoy all trails around Braley Pond and the Shenandoah Mountain Trail.

Thank you,
Brian Junkins
34243 Lexington Farm Lane
Bluemont, VA 20135



"Sewell, Joel"
<SewellV2@ndu.edu>

01/23/2009 04:02 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject:

Sir or Ma'am

I attend the MORE Fall Camping Trip event annually...thank you for allowing the group to hold the event in your area it is great time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my Mountain Bike in the George Washington National Forest. Whetstone Ridge Trail is my favorite trail. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Thank you, Vance Sewell



Jay Cullen
<medflight429@gmail.com>

01/23/2009 07:35 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

Dear Sir,

I am an avid cyclist that regularly uses the George Washington Forest for off road trail riding. To me, this is one of the best developed and enjoyable riding areas in the Virginia and I would hate to see access to the trails change. I have been riding and attending various events, such as the Shenendoah 100 Mountain bike race, for over 15 years. In that time, I have never encountered any problems with other users and have taken away only the most precious memories. My children are now getting to the age when I can introduce them to this wonderful area I would love to be able to share this sport with them in the future. Please keep access for mountain bikes open.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

--

Jay Cullen



Misty Tilson
<mistyloo@hotmail.com>

01/23/2009 09:04 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

I am writing to tell you that I LOVE to ride my bike in the GW national forest!!! I participate in many wonderful events that are held there such as the shenandoah mountain 100 and the shenandoah mtn bike festival. I also participate in lots and lots of trail work on these trails to maintain them and keep them in working order - all my work has been done by hand. I really want you to know that I respect the forest and land, I am for conservation, BUT I would love to be able to keep riding my bike in the GW national forest for the rest of my life. Please know that I respect the land and I enjoy riding my bike there which, in my experience, has not harmed the forest in any way.

Sincerely,

Misty

Windows Live™: E-mail. Chat. Share. Get more ways to connect. [See how it works.](#)



"John Yasnowsky"
<ken2paige@verizon.net>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Keep bike trails open

01/23/2009 10:14 PM

Hi

GW National forest is a great place to ride a bike. Please keep bike trails open and encourage even more trials.

Thanks

Ken Yasnowsky
Richmond, VA



Jay Dicharry
<jay.dicharry@gmail.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: GWNF

01/24/2009 09:46 AM

Hello GW National Forrest-

I bicycle often in your territory - the George Washington National Forest. I ride Brailey's, Road hollow, Mountain House, an Dowells most often, but I also ride chestnut, chminey hollow, grooms, Little Bald, Lookout Mtn, Lynn, and Wolf - for me riding my bike in the GWNF is a playland. Its one of the reasons I live where I do. I am a member of not one but 2 mountain bike clubs - and to back up my love for this area, I (and many many others) have personally taken time to do trail work in your woods. You see, we mountain bikers don't just talk the talk, we are preserving the area OFTEN to make sure we can ride your trails, and most importantly - so my 9 month old kid can can grow up and one day ride your trails with me. Please help us preserve access for cycling - its given me more memories than I could ever imagine.

thank you-
Jay Dicharry
CAMBC and SVBC member



Planning.comments.f
orm@svinet2.fs.fed.u
s

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

01/24/2009 01:43 PM

Submitted by: Andy Nelson
At: idward1@earthlink.net
Remark: I am writing to let you know how important keeping the bike trails open in the GW forest is to me. I\'d like to see the trails that exist remain open and usable. Additional trails would be a plus. But at the least, please don\'t close any existing trails.

Thank you,
Andy Nelson



Rtcjohn@aol.com

01/24/2009 04:59 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us

cc:

Subject: Biking in GW

I run, hike, and ride my bike in the GW and the Shenandoah Valley! I would like to see additional easier and accessible mountain bike trails available. I'm older and not a very good mountain bike rider, but I enjoy it as an alternative to running and hiking.

I think we should all work together to make more trails available and hold users accountable for development and maintenance. Thanks. John Deeter-Glen Allen, VA

Know Your Numbers: Get [tips and tools](#) to help you improve your credit score.



"BarbGary"
<barbgary@cox.net>

01/24/2009 05:23 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
CC:
Subject: Bicycle access for Transportation/Rec/Tourism/Economic
Development

January 23, 2009

George Washington Plan Revision
George Washington & Jefferson National Forest
5162 Valleypoint Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Sirs:

My husband and I are adjoining property owners to the George Washington National Forest in Rockbridge County. Our property is on Moore Creek.

We ride in the National Forest on a regular basis to the reservoir. We used to backpack. As we have aged, we now find it easier to ride bikes and carry our gear in panniers and in a trailer.

Bicycling is a mode of transportation for many people. National Forest Roads are used for transportation. Bicycling is an economic stimulus. Tourists visit this area and outfitters provide bicycling tours in the Lexington area.

Bicycling is a multigenerational recreational activity. Families can enjoy the out-of-door destinations in the national forest.

Bicyclists provide monitoring of national forest activities. Most cyclists are professionals interested in protecting the environment. They are the eyes and ears for inappropriate behavior in the woods. Bicycles cause minimal damage to the forest. Bicycle wheel tread causes minimal damage to trails in comparison to foot traffic and horse use.

Keep the National Forest open for bicyclists.

Keep the National Forest open to senior citizens.

Girl Scout Leader
Boy Scout Leader
Leave No Trace, Trainer
LAB League Cycling Instructor, #480
Roanoke Valley IMBA Mountain Bike Patrol Member

Barbara Duerk
2607 Rosalind Ave., S.W.
Roanoke, VA 24014
540-343-1616 h



Warren Bailey
<pwarrenbailey@yahoo.com>

01/25/2009 04:40 PM
Please respond to
pwarrenbailey

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Mountain biking GW National Forest

I just wanted to put in my input in regards to the GW National Forest plans. I thoroughly enjoyed our recent trip to there. A group of regular mountain bikers and I took a camping trip to Trimble Mtn and Dowell's Draft trails. We thoroughly enjoyed the trails, although we wished there were more trails dedicated to mountain biking, or at least mountain biking in mind. Seemed many of the trail systems were Hike a Bike sections that were just not rideable. We really enjoyed the area and the trail system and would like to see measures to ensure and expand its mountain biking capability.

Thanks,
Warren Bailey
804-221-1090



Bob Boyle
<bboyle111@hotmail.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/25/2009 07:41 PM

I'm planning to attend the MORE Fall Camping Trip, IMBA Virginia Festival and other annual events and it is good wholesome fun. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW.

I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. I hope to bring visitors from other parts of the country to Elliots Knob, Chimney Hollow and Brdige Hollow (Braley Pond) and i'm sure they will be impressed.

Bob Boyle
804-937-9335

Windows Live™ Hotmail®: ...more than just e-mail. [Check it out.](#)



Steve
<leperas@gmail.com>

01/26/2009 06:38 AM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
CC:
Subject: Continued access to GW National Forest mtn bike trails .

Hello,

I'm originally from Harrisonburg VA and my parents still live there. I really enjoy coming back to the Shenandoah Valley and riding my mtn bike in the George Washington National Forest. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in the GW National Forest, and am writing to express my support for continued access to these trails under any new or revised management plans.

Thanks for considering my input,

Steve LePera
105 B Watson Ave
Blacksburg, VA 24060

--



adam ward
<adam_wheels_offroad@yahoo.com>

01/26/2009 08:15 AM
Please respond to
adam_wheels_offroad

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

Good morning-

I would like to take advantage of the public comment period and let you know that I frequently ride in the GW National Forest and am training to attend the Shenandoah Mt 100 event.

Living in northern Virginia, I am glad to have the option for such great riding as the GW forest. I don't really mind the drive, and the opportunity to get out of the suburbs every once and a while.

I definitely enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride; the Shenandoah Mountain Trail (Southern Traverse) is my favorite trail. I would like to have more trails in the GW !

Thank you for your time,

Adam Ward
10211 Raider Lane
Fairfax, VA. 22030-1908



"Rob Berube"
<yeschiro@comcast.net>

01/26/2009 09:12 AM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

To Whom It May Concern;

I attend the IMBA Festival event annually and it is a very good time. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Dowell's Draft and Trimble Mountain are my favorite trails.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rob Berube
YES Chiropractic
8600 Quioccasin Rd., Suite 210
Richmond, VA 23229
(804) 377-3005
www.yeschiropractic.com



Andrew Brautigam
<andrewbrautigam@yahoo.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/26/2009 10:13 AM
Please respond to
andrewbrautigam

I am a West Virginia Resident, and all of the trips I take to Virginia utilize the mountain biking opportunities in the George Washington NF. As an ardent racer, I have traveled to Virginia for races, and plan to do so several times this year. I have visited Harrisonburg just to go riding, as the trails in the Shenendoah 100 are some of my favorite. This year I will attend the Shenendoah 100, and will make several trips to the GW to ride.



Clay Nichols
<Clay@BungalowSoftware.com>
Sent by:
mranalogy@gmail.com

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/26/2009 12:07 PM

Please keep the George Washington National Forest open to bicycles and mountain bikes.

As the former president of our local bicycling association and an avid mountain biker for the last 15 years, I know that it's possible for bikes to use the Forrest trails without damaging them.

And every user of the Forest is supporting the local economy. In these dire times, economical, fossil fuel-free, healthy activities like Mountain Biking should be encouraged, not discouraged. Enabled, not disabled.

--

Clay Nichols
Former President,
New River Valley Bicycling Association

Current President
Speech & Language Software
<http://www.BungalowSoftware.com>
WORK: (540) 951-0623



Jeff
<jkinkopf@gmail.com
>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/26/2009 02:06 PM

I attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival event annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Whetstone Ridge Trail is my favorite trail. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Thanks,
Jeff Kinkopf



Boris Starosta
<boris@starosta.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/26/2009 02:14 PM

To whom it may concern:

Please consider keeping access for cyclists in the George Washington & Jefferson National Forests.

I've just started Mountain Biking and have been to GW park several times. Just yesterday we enjoyed the cold, riding 4h on the Narrowback Ridge trails. From my observations, cycling is no more deleterious to the trails and ecology than the passage of various animals and even pedestrians. In yesterday's ride, while we saw some MTB tire tracks, we saw many more tracks made by horses, including their scat. The passage of a cycle on wheels is inherently, physically less stressful to the trail (the contact of tire to trail is typically continuous and smooth, as opposed to high impact from hooves or boots).

As a rider I always maintain a safe and courteous attitude towards other users of the trails.

Coming from Charlottesville, we also enjoy visiting Roanoke and other points of interest in the Valley, whenever we travel to do an MTB ride.

Thank you very much.

Boris Starosta



"Quinn, Martin"
<QUINN@charlottesville.org>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Bicycle access in the GW and Jefferson Nat'l Forests

01/26/2009 02:23 PM

To whom it may concern,

I attend the Shenandoah Mtn Bike Festival, Superbowl Sunday ride up Reddish Knob and Flagpole, the Shenandoah Mtn 100 backcountry mountain bike race, the Wild Ride, and countless other events annually. I also mountain bike in the GW forest every weekend and if I have a free weekday, you could probably find me in one of the two forests as well.

I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest.

Whetstone Ridge is my favorite trail. I also frequent Braley's Pond, Hankey Ridge, Shenandoah Mtn Trail, Little Mare Mountain, Elliot's Knob, Big Levels, the Massanutten Range, Big Schloss, Reddish Knob, Brandywine trail off into West Virginia, Narrowback Mtn, and many other trails as I continue to discover this awesome forest on two wheels.

I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest. I also believe that bicycling brings millions of tourist dollars to these areas annually and is a critical crutch for the local economies in these tough times. I want to see mountain bikers access to these areas preserved and even expanded where feasible.

Thank you for all that you do in protecting our national forests.

Sincerely,

Marty Quinn, P.E.
Utilities Engineer
City of Charlottesville



Michele Co
<michele.co@gmail.com>

01/26/2009 02:38 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

To whom it may concern:

I wanted to write to request that you consider keeping access for cyclists in the George Washington & Jefferson National Forests.

I am a resident of Charlottesville, Virginia, and have been a mountain biker since 2001. I have regularly attended many events held in the George Washington National Forest, including the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival, the Shenandoah Mountain 100 bike race, and the IMBA Virginia Festival, to name only a few. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest.

I really enjoy the trails in the George Washington National Forest, but am particularly fond of Lynn Trail, Dowell's Draft Trail, Elliott's Knob, Bridge Hollow, the Shenandoah Mountain Trail, and Whetstone Ridge.

As a bicycle rider I always maintain a safe and courteous attitude towards other users of the trails and believe that current mountain bike access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in the National Forest.

Sincerely,
Michele Co



Chad Kasell
<ckasell@phoenix-int.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/26/2009 03:02 PM

I attend the annual Bike Events in GWNF and it is a very good time. I ride Whetstone Ridge, Bradley Pond, Elliots Knob, (to name a few) and love them all! I would love to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GWNF as well.

I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle and I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Please keep the trails OPEN to my favorite activity!

Chad Kasell



"Jason Braidich"
<city.services@snet.net>

01/26/2009 03:17 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Keep the trails open

To Whom it May Concern:

I attend the annual Bike Events in GWNF and it is a very good time. I ride Whetstone Ridge, Bradley Pond, Elliots Knob, (to name a few) and love them all! I would also love to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GWNF.

I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle and I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Please keep the trails OPEN to my favorite activity! Thank You, Jay



"Ferraro, David"
<DFerraro@aqua.org>
>

01/26/2009 03:21 PM

To: "comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us"
<comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: GWF biking

Please keep the trails OPEN to my favorite activity!

I ride in the GWF and spend money in the area, please open more trails to Mountain Biking.

Important Notice: This electronic mail transmission may contain confidential or privileged information. As such, if you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender by reply transmission and delete the message without copying or disclosing it.



Carey Hill
<carey.l.hill@gmail.com>
m>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/26/2009 03:33 PM

Good Afternoon!

I have attended at least 3 of Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival events annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Whetstone Ridge Trail is my favorite trail. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Bicycling is a very important part of my life. It helps keep me a healthy active Virginian. I enjoy sharing the trails with my family and friends. Being in nature helps keep me sane in an ever expanding manufactured world. It concerns me greatly that many trails are going to be closed off to mountain bikers. I hope you evaluate the plan so that there are many trails available for now and future generations.

Just this weekend, my mountain biking club just completed some trails locally in Albemarle County at a new park. As much as I enjoy my local trails, the state park trails are just as valuable for mountain biking. And on that note, mountain bikers also contribute greatly to the maintenance of trails and the majority of us follow the rules of the trail and are respectful to hikers, horses and wildlife. Thank you for your consideration.

Carey Hill
Charlottesville Area Mountain Bike Club
Board Member: Secretary



Sue George
<sgeorge@cstone.net
>

01/26/2009 03:54 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Forest Plan Comment: I support continued mountain bike use

To whom it may concern with the George Washington National Forest,

I'm writing to express my support for continued mountain bike use on trails all over the George Washington National Forest. I am an avid mountain biker from Harrisonburg who visits the forest at least once per week to mountain bike. I also attend organized events like the Shenandoah Mountain 100, various festivals based out of the Stokesville, Virginia, area and many rides led by members of the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition. I also regularly participate in trail maintenance to take care of the trails.

In particular, I support the Friends of the Shenandoah agreement that has been proposed.

In general, I would like to see continued mountain bike access on trails to, from and on the Shenandoah Mountain (north and south of 250), Elliot's Knob, Narrowback, Kelley Mountain, Whetstone Ridge, Massanutten Mountain, the Great North Mountain (Big Schloss area), Road Hollow, Bridge Hollow, Braley's Pond, Hankey Mountain - just to name a few.

I do also support land protection, but I only support methods of protection that ALLOW mountain bike use, *with just one exception* ... the Friends of Shenandoah agreement in which mountain bikers have worked closely with Wilderness advocates and other forest users to land protection options that will benefit many established user groups. I do NOT support any other proposed additional Wilderness Areas and ask you to consider managing those areas instead as roadless areas, scenic areas or per other designations that permit continued mountain bike use.

I will not be able to attend the two forest service planning meetings coming up because I have to work on Thursday nights, but please consider my comments in lieu of my attendance.

Thank you for your work making Virginia the best state for mountain biking, and I look forward to continuing to work with you to preserve future mountain bike access.

Sincerely,
Sue George
Shenandoah Yoga (local business), Owner

Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition, Member
International Mountain Bike Association, Member
271 West View Street
Harrisonburg, Virginia
540.746.8468



Matthew Day
<matthewlday@hotmail.com>

01/26/2009 04:00 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

Hello,

I attend the multiple events annually in the George Washington National Forest such as the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival, the IMBA Virginia Festival, and the Shenandoah Mountain 100 and love them all. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest.

I love all the bicycle trails I am allowed to ride in the GW, including all the trails in the Shenandoah Mountain 100, the Shenandoah Mountain Trail (Southern Traverse), Whetstone Ridge Trail (which we maintain with CAMBC), Elliotts Knob, Chimney Hollow and Bridge Hollow (Braley Pond). These trails are very important to me, and I continue to tell people from all over that we have the best trails in the country here in VA. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Thank you,
Matthew Day

Windows Live™: E-mail. Chat. Share. Get more ways to connect. [Check it out.](#)



Stephen De Lisle
<spd2f@virginia.edu>

01/26/2009 04:02 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
CC:
Subject: Bicycle Use

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Stephen De Lisle and I am a 20 year old student. I greatly enjoy and support the National Forest system and frequently use trails in the southern George Washington National Forest for biking and hiking.

I understand that there is a forest plan revision taking place and I hope that bicycling is included in these plans. I, as well as many others of varying age groups and socioeconomic classes, enjoy traveling to the region to enjoy its beauty by bike. Many events, such as the Shenandoah Mountain 100, Fall Foliage Festival and Shenandoah Mountain Bike festival draw high volumes of visitors and serve to highlight the George Washington National Forest as one of the best in the country.

Thanks for your time,
Stephen De Lisle



"Runnals, Michael
(MS)"
<mike.runnals@ngc.c
om>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/26/2009 04:27 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am a professional mountain bike racer and a full-time Defense Software Engineer for Northrop Grumman. I frequently train on the trails in and around the George Washington National Forest. I race in the Shenandoah Mountain 100 event annually. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. The Shenandoah Mountain Trail (Southern Traverse) is my favorite trail. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Sincerely,
Michael Lindley Runnals

Michael Runnals
Senior Software Engineer
Northrop Grumman Information Systems
12350 Jefferson Ave
Newport News, VA 23602

USACycling.org Pro-level Mountain Bike Racer, license number: 197243



"John Heywood"
<jheywood@ibulient.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: "Comment on George Washington Plan Revision"

01/26/2009 04:30 PM

I am writing to express my desire to see continued access for bicycles in the GW National Forest. I have been riding in the GWNF for the past 9 years and consider it a real treasure for the regions cyclists. My favorite trail is from Camp Roosevelt up to Kennedy Peak and I have done trail work days in the forest to ensure that the trails are continue to be in good conditions for all users.

Thanks,

John Heywood
Washington DC
202.965.5307



"David Stackhouse"
<davidstackhouse@verizon.net>

01/26/2009 04:33 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

Dear Park Planners,

I currently am in the midst of purchasing a home in Charlottesville, VA. I have been a resident of Sanford, Maine where I have lived for over 25 years. I am a US citizen, aged 60 with 5 children and 3 grandchildren. I am also an avid mountain bicycle rider. Mountain biking contributes to health and well being for everyone involved in the activity. My intent to move my residence to Charlottesville is somewhat influenced by the access to trails and parks in the Virginia area, including George Washington National Forest. I have been a mountain biker for approximately 15 years. During this time I have seen first hand that bicycles cause no irreparable harm to trails for hiking and other mixed use, that hikers and other trail enthusiasts mix well with bicyclists, and that mountain bikers in general are a dedicated and responsible portion of the population. Mountain bikers are in fact avid volunteers and generally positively influence trail maintenance and development wherever we ride.

I attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival event annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Elliotts Knob, Chimney Hollow and Bridge Hollow (Braley Pond) are my favorite trails in GW park.

I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest. I also encourage park planners to consider expanding trail access for bicycles through mutual efforts with IMBA (International Mountain Bike Association - www.imba.com), and CAMBC (Charlottesville Area Mountain Bike Club - www.cambc.org). I am a member in both of these organizations. We mountain bikers really appreciate our opportunities to ride trails in our National Forests. In these days of environmental degradation and residential sprawl, the use of National Forest trails is an increasingly important opportunity for us to get out in nature and remain involved in this very healthy and popular activity.

Please cast my vote for open bicycle access to all trails in the George Washington National Park.
Thank you,

David Stackhouse
786-B Main St
Sanford, ME 04073



Zach Rogers
<rogers.zach@gmail.com>

01/26/2009 04:43 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

Hello,

I'd like to take an opportunity to provide my input on the current management plan being revised for George Washington National Forest.

This past year, I was presented with a wonderful job opportunity. The company, and position offered were both great, but accepting the position would require that my wife & I relocate to Northern Virginia. One of the many factors that we considered when deciding to move to Virginia was the availability of outdoor recreation, including cycling, hiking, camping, and generally enjoying the outdoors. The reasonably close proximity of George Washington National Forest and the wonderful mountain bike trails there was specifically one of the deciding factors that helped bring us to Virginia. Of course, there were many other factors that played into our decision, but being able to easily enjoy a weekend away from home mountain biking in nationally recognized trails, helped us weigh the "pros" a bit more heavily than the "cons".

Moving, settling into our new home, and both of us settling into our new jobs has meant that we have only yet been able to explore a small portion of what George Washington National Forest has to offer, but we're both looking forward to not only a few more quite weekends away together this year, but also being able to participate in this years Shenandoah Mountain 100 as well as the Fall Foliage Bike Festival in Staunton.

As you work on revising the current management plan, please keep people like my wife and I in mind. Please make maintaining, and even expanding, the current bicycle trails inside of George Washington National Forest one of your priorities.

Sincerely,

Zach & Shannon Rogers
Haymarket, VA



"Woody Elliott"
<woodyelliott@cycleva.com>

01/26/2009 05:28 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc: <greg@proforma-gis.com>, "Kimberly Perry"
<captainkimberly@yahoo.com>, "Wayne E Goodman"
<WAYNE.E.GOODMAN@usa.dupont.com>, "Metro Williams"
<tswimba@gmail.com>

Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

To whom it may concern,

I am a avid mountain biker and enjoy the trails that the George Washington National Forest offers us. Many events, such as The Shenandoah Mountain 100 and IMBA MTB Festival, are held in the vicinity that I and many of my friends participate. The George Washington National Forest offers many of us a place to enjoy and explore the great outdoors that seems to be dwindling everyday.

Please allow us to continue enjoying what the George Washington National Forest offers!

Sincerely

Woody Elliott
Director - Virginia Off Road Series
Dirty Series of Events llc
www.VirginiaOffRoadSeries.com





Terry Ashby
<terryashby@hotmail.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/26/2009 07:05 PM

Hello,

I attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival event annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Elliotts Knob, Chimney Hollow and Bridge Hollow (Braley Pond) are my favorite trails.

I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Thanks,
Terry



David Zuk
<dave.zuk@gmail.com>
m>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Keep GW open to Mountain biking

01/26/2009 07:29 PM

Dear Sir or Madame,

I attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival, the MORE Fall Camping Trip, the IMBA Virginia Festival, and the Shenandoah Mountain 100 events annually and always have a great time. I am amazed at the level of volunteering that goes into those events and the trail maintenance in general. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I have three kids that are up and coming mountain bikers all in their own and I would love for the GW forest to stay an option for them to enjoy when they get older. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Please keep us mountain bikers in mind. Thank you.

Sincerely,
David Zuk
MORE Member
TFK PG County ride coordinator



Veloist@aol.com

01/26/2009 08:16 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: (no subject)

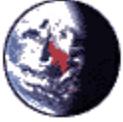
Hello,

Would you be so kind and keep all trails in the Virginia National Forests, etc. open to bicycling. Bicycling is a most popular and clean family activity. Having access to many trails is extremely important. In our area, we are actively trying to get more trails. The least that could be done is to keep the trails we have.

Thank you for your consideration.

C Teeuwen

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. [See yours in just 2 easy steps!](#)



Molly Anthon
<molly.anthon@asti-usa.com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc: winchester wheelmen <wwlist@topica.com>
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/27/2009 06:29 AM

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a frequent user of the George Washington National Forest (at least 5 times per month) I would greatly appreciate it if mountain bike users were given greater consideration in your revision of the forest plan. I enjoy riding in the Big Schloss and Duncan Hollow areas, as well as the Southern Traverse in the Harrisonburg area, although my husband and I have ridden and done trail maintenance on almost every trail in the Lee District. We have been riding, hiking, fishing and hunting in the Lee District since 1985. I feel the mountain bike community has proved itself to be a considerate, giving and active user group and the reduction of trails available for our use will be disappointing to say the least. I cannot think of anything better than riding up to the Big Schloss on a brilliant Virginia afternoon in the Fall admiring the leaves changing and feeling the cool air. I also love the feeling of accomplishment after spending the day cutting out deadfall and digging waterbars knowing the next time we ride or hike the trail it will be in better shape. (Ok call me crazy). The GW is my backyard and I take pride in it. All of it.

I would also anticipate that with a reduced number of available trails to mountain bikers this could concentrate our riding to smaller and smaller area potentially causing user conflict. I would also suggest that other user groups, like hunters and fishermen regularly use mountain bikes as forms of transportation in participating in their sports. Mountain bikes are also used in a support capacity in many running races in the GW. Would these uses also be eliminated in the designated areas in the revision plan?

I understand the need for wildlife management areas and the creation of wildlife corridors, but mountain bikers, like hiking groups and equestrian groups can co-exist within this type management area and deserve the right to use all of the George Washington National Forest just as they have for the last 20+ years.

Molly Anthon
(member Winchester Wheelmen)
610 Old Fort Road
Winchester, VA 22601



Matthew Wikswo
<wikswo@cstone.net
>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: please ensure mountain bike rights and access!!!

01/27/2009 07:08 AM

To whom it may concern within the George Washington National Forest:

I'm writing to express my support for continued mountain bike use on trails all over the George Washington National Forest. I am an avid mountain biker from Harrisonburg who visits the forest at least once per week to mountain bike. I also attend organized events like the Shenandoah Mountain 100, various festivals based out of the Stokesville, Virginia, area and many rides led by members of the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition. I also regularly participate in trail maintenance to take care of the trails.

In particular, **I support the proposed Friends of the Shenandoah agreement.**

In general, I would like to see continued mountain bike access on trails to, from and on the Shenandoah Mountain (north and south of 250), Elliot's Knob, Narrowback, Kelley Mountain, Whetstone Ridge, Massanutten Mountain, the Great North Mountain (Big Schloss area), Road Hollow, Bridge Hollow, Braley's Pond, Hankey Mountain - just to name a few.

I do support land protection, but only methods of protection that ALLOW mountain bike use, *with just one exception* ... the Friends of Shenandoah agreement, in which mountain bikers have worked closely with Wilderness advocates and other forest users to land protection options that will benefit many established user groups. I do NOT support any other proposed additional Wilderness Areas and ask you to consider managing those areas instead as roadless areas, scenic areas or per other designations that permit continued mountain bike use.

I will not be able to attend the two impending forest service planning meetings because of work commitments, but please consider my comments in lieu of my attendance.

Thank you for your work to help make Virginia the best state for mountain biking, and I look forward to continuing to work with you to preserve future mountain bike access.

Best,

Matthew Wikswo

--

Matthew Wikswo
271 West View Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
434-242-3693 (c)
928-832-3467 (fax)
wikswo@cstone.net



Wayne E Goodman
<WAYNE.E.GOODMAN
@usa.dupont.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/27/2009 08:45 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am a avid mountain biker and enjoy the trails that the George Washington National Forest offers us. Many events, such as The Shenandoah Mountain 100 and IMBA MTB Festival, are held in the vicinity that I and many of my friends participate. The George Washington National Forest offers many of us a place to enjoy and explore the great outdoors that seems to be dwindling everyday.

Please allow us to continue enjoying what the George Washington National Forest offers!

Sincerely

Wayne Goodman

This communication is for use by the intended recipient and contains information that may be Privileged, confidential or copyrighted under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby formally notified that any use, copying or distribution of this e-mail, in whole or in part, is strictly prohibited. Please notify the sender by return e-mail and delete this e-mail from your system. Unless explicitly and conspicuously designated as "E-Contract Intended", this e-mail does not constitute a contract offer, a contract amendment, or an acceptance of a contract offer. This e-mail does not constitute a consent to the use of sender's contact information for direct marketing purposes or for transfers of data to third parties.

Francais Deutsch Italiano Espanol Portugues Japanese Chinese Korean

http://www.DuPont.com/corp/email_disclaimer.html



Richard Pence
<rap1905@yahoo.com>
m>

01/27/2009 09:49 AM
Please respond to
rap1905

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Protecting and Perserving Mountain Biking in GWNF

I would like to see the George Washington National Forest continue to allow mountain bikers access to trails within the National Forest. I attend events and ride many mountain biking trails within the Forest. These events and trails include:

Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival

IMBA Virginia Festival

Shenandoah Mountain 100

Fall Foliage Bike Festival in Staunton

Shenandoah Mountain Trail (Southern Traverse)

Whetstone Ridge Trail

Elliotts Knob, Chimney Hollow and Bridge Hollow (Braley Pond)

all the trails in the Shenandoah Mountain 100

all the trails around the Big Schloss

Massanutten Mountain Trail - Elizabeth Furnace

It is an enjoyable part of my life to be able to use these trails in the National Forest for recreation. It would be great to have more trails that are easy to ride in the George Washington National Forest . It is my favorite place to ride my mountain bike and to enjoy the the forest. I believe that the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection within the National Forest, and I always do my best to protect and preserve the forest during my activities.

Thanks for hearing my concerns!

Richard Pence
Charlottesville, VA.



"Chris Holloway"
<cholloway@town.ashland.va.us>

01/27/2009 10:22 AM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

To whom it may concern,

I make many trips throughout the year to George Washington National Forest for mountain biking and camping. I have plans for my daughter to ride there as well in the future. I would like to have more trails of all skill levels to ride in the GW. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest. I think a reduction in access for bicycles would be a loss for the park system as many cyclist volunteer their time to help maintain trails. Also, there would be a loss for the surrounding communities that benefit from cyclists visiting the retail and food businesses.

Thank you,

Christopher Holloway
Project Manager
Town of Ashland
804-798-9219

cholloway@town.ashland.va.us



Chip Atkins
<pibbys@mac.com>

01/27/2009 10:29 AM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
CC:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

USFS,

I attend a number of events in the George Washington National Forest annually, such as the IMBA Virginia Festival and the Shenandoah Mountain 100 every year and enjoy these events immensely. The beauty of this forest is amazing and I particularly enjoy getting to the places less-traveled by way of mountain bike. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GWNF similar to those used for the Shenandoah Mountain 100. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest. I also believe that mountain bike groups like the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA), Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition, (SVBC), Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts (MORE) and the Virginia Bicycling Federation (VBF) are good people who care about the GW and wish for good, thoughtful and fair stewardship of the forest.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.
Best regards,
Chip Atkins, owner

Pibby's Bicycle Repair
731 W. Marshall St.
Richmond, Virginia 23220

804 622-4778 phone
804 622-4779 fax
pibbys at mac dot com
www.pibbys.com

Tuesday - Saturday
10 am - 6 pm



"JAMES BURRIS"
<james26b@hotmail.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Forest Plan

01/27/2009 10:31 AM

Hello,

I have heard a few comments bouncing around about the changes in the forest plan in the area. I own and operate the bike shop in Staunton and of course get out to GWNF to ride MTB's and also get out regularly to hike in the area.

I have seen a few comments that the Crawford Knob area may be changed in the future. I wanted to get in a comment that I know for a fact that Myself, Staunton cyclists, and members of CAMBC (Charlottesville Area Mountain Bike Club) regularly ride Chimney Hollow trail across Crawford's Knob from the Elliot's Knob side usually. I actually usually end almost all of my rides in the area whether I am riding around Brayleys, SMT, or Dowells with doing the loop through Deerfield up 688 and over Crawford Knob to come down Chimney Hollow.

Crawford Knob is in fact the closest area to Staunton in GWNF so I see it as an area with huge potential as a recreation area in itself. I have heard that the area of the Crawford Mountain Trail North of Crawford Knob Trail area may be removed from the system because of lack of access at the bottom. We need this to be re-routed around the private property and re-opened. This can be connected to FR. 300 and that if a loop trail was built to connect the bottom of Chimney Hollow to create a loop trail I feel this area would be even more accessible and useable by more people. Crawford Mountain Trail South of Chimney Hollow may need to be relocated because the existing fire-break route is not a desirable grade to alot of users except for the strongest users in the area.

I once hiked with a GPS from RT688 around Crawford Knob traversing a constant elevation which took me completely around the mountain on a level hike which brought me back to the gravel road across the gap from where I had started. I see this as a potential beginner friendly area where a trail can completely traverse the huge area without huge changes in elevation. This is a recreation potential I feel the area is missing. I hear all the time of people driving considerable distances to ride their MTBs on undulating beginner to intermediate friendly trails when we have a wealth of trails right in our backyard in GWNF that are superb for advanced riders, but usually leave begginer and Intermediate riders wanting slightly easier terrain.

I hope my comments on the area help somewhat, I ovbisously would hate to loose an area that is already enjoyed by many people and that I feel could be enjoyed by many more.

Thanks,

James Burris
Black Dog Bikes
Staunton, VA



Jenny Whedbee
<jwhedbee@biotage.com>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: GW National Forest Mtn Bike trails

01/27/2009 10:50 AM

I attend the IMBA Virginia Festival event annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. I love all of the trails in the Shenandoah Mountain 100 . I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest. I fully Support Bicycle Access In George Washington National Forest.

Jennifer Whedbee
Charlottesville VA



Joel Street
<joelstreet@hotmail.com>

01/27/2009 10:51 AM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

I attend the MORE Fall Camping Trip event annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW.

I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Elliotts Knob, Chimney Hollow and Bridge Hollow are my favorite trails.

I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Joel Street

Windows Live™: E-mail. Chat. Share. Get more ways to connect. [Check it out.](#)



"Mark Russell"
<MarkR@FisherAutoP
arts.com>

01/27/2009 11:28 AM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Staunton Virginia and an avid mountain biker. I thoroughly enjoy the trails offered in the George Washington National Forest. I attend multiple events held in the National Forest and volunteer at the Shenandoah Mountain 100. I am also the President of Queen City Cycling Club in Staunton and have become a vocal advocate in developing local biking opportunities, bringing visitors to the valley to enjoy the area's roads and trails. I count a number of trails as my "go-to" areas to mountain bike, specifically the Stokesville area, Whetstone Ridge, Sherando and the trails around Braley Pond.

I feel that bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Thank you,

Mark L. Russell
Federated Auto Parts, Inc.

540 885-8901 x1224
markr@federatedautoparts.com

Confidentiality Note: The information contained in this email and document(s) attached are for the exclusive use of the addressee and may contain confidential, privileged and non-disclosable information. If the recipient of this email is not the addressee, such recipient is strictly prohibited from reading, photocopying, distributing or otherwise using this email or its contents in any way.



utz4@verizon.net

01/27/2009 12:01 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
CC:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

To whom it may concern,

I attend the MORE Fall Camping Trip event annually and it is a very good time. I make several trips each year out to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bike in the George Washington National Forest. My favorite trail is the Shenandoah Mountain Trail (Southern Traverse). I really enjoy the rugged terrain and wildness of the Nat. forrest and would like to see continued bicycle access or even more. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Sincerely,

Steve Utz



"Mabry, Scott"
<Scott.Mabry@mms.gov>

01/27/2009 12:40 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Bicycle Access to the George Washington National Forest

I am commenting to ensure the continued consideration of bicyclist access by the managers of the George Washington National Forest (GWNF) during the proposed revamping of the forest management plan. I consider the GWNF to be one of the greatest natural and recreational treasures in our area. I also understand the challenges the managers of the area must face in balancing preservation and accessibility.

As a cyclist I use the GWNF often with Crawford Knob and Elizabeth Furnace being two of my favorite areas. I also believe the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival, MORE Fall Camping Trip, IMBA Virginia Festival, Shenandoah Mountain 100, and the Fall Foliage Bike Festival in Staunton to be great events, and would hate to see the events jeopardized by changes to the GWNF management plan which could limit bicyclist access to the GWNF.

I believe that all of the current bicycle access within the GWNF is compatible with resource and watershed protection and do not believe additional protection designations are warranted. As a group cyclist are frequent visitors to the GWNF and understand and accept the stewardship responsibility they have as users of the land. I ask that you please keep in consideration bicycle access as you move forward with changes to the forest management plan.

Thank You
Scott Mabry



Will McQuate
<willmcquate@gmail.
com>

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Cycling George Washington National Forest

01/27/2009 01:05 PM

I ride in the Shenandoah Mountain 100 every year, and it is one of the best races in the country. I enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. The Shenandoah Mountain Trail, Bridge Hollow, and Massanutten are my favorite trails. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Thank You

Will McQuate



"Quinn, Martin"
<QUINN@charlottesvi
lle.org>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Mountain biker access in the GW and Jefferson Nat'l forests

01/27/2009 01:08 PM

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing in support of maintaining and improving mountain biker's access to the incredible system of trails in the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests. I am the club liaison for all things National Forest for the Charlottesville Area Mountain Bike Club (CAMBC) and my comments reflect those wishes of CAMBC.

I attend the Shenandoah Mtn Bike Festival, Superbowl Sunday ride up Reddish Knob and Flagpole Knob, the Shenandoah Mtn 100 backcountry mountain bike race, the Wild Ride, and countless other events annually. I also mountain bike in the GW or Jefferson forests every weekend - and if I have a free weekday, you'd know where to find me.

The Crawford Knob trails are some of my favorites and are the closest big-mountain, backcountry-experience type trails to mountain bikers in Staunton. Crawford Mountain Trail North of Crawford Knob Trail has been removed from the system because of lack of access at the bottom. We need this to be re-routed around the private property and re-opened. This can be connected to FR. 300 (Old Parkersburg Turnpike). This is a critical connection that creates a loop trail with the Chimney Hollow trail that comes out on 250. Crawford Mountain Trail South of Chimney Hollow needs to be relocated because the existing fire-break route is not a desirable grade. This trail system is heavily used by bicyclists from the Charlottesville Area Mountain Bike Club.

Thank you for all that you do in protecting our national forests.
Sincerely,

Marty Quinn, P.E.
Utilities Engineer
City of Charlottesville



Paul G
<pgtips100@hotmail.com>

01/27/2009 01:32 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

Dear Sir/Madam

I have been and continue to be a regular mountain bike rider in the beautiful George Washington National Forest. My friends and I have enjoyed some of the best mountain biking on the East coast for many years and we don't want to lose any trails to Wilderness designation. In fact I am advocating for more trails to be available to us.

My favourite trails are in and around Elisabeth Furnace, Kennedy Peak, Camp Rosevelt, Big Schloss, Reddish Knob and Flag pole. I've competed in the Shenandoah 100 race that regularly attracts 500 riders who also enjoy the GWNF trails. I have yet to ride the Whetstone Ridge trails but they are on my list for this year. I've had some amazing epic adventure rides in these areas and regularly stop off at local restuarants on the way back to Washington. The melting pot in Front royal is a favorite.

Thank you for taking the time to read my e-mail and please keep the trails we have available to mountain bikers and if we can open up some more trails that would be fantastic.

Kind Regards.

Paul Guttridge
202 390 8392

Hotmail® goes where you go. On a PC, on the Web, on your phone. [See how.](#)



"Jason Trust"
<jtrust@ctpartners.com>

01/27/2009 02:44 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Biking in GW National Forest

To Whom it May Concern,

I am commenting to ensure the continued consideration of bicyclist access within George Washington National Forest (GWNF) during the proposed revamping of the forest management plan. I consider the GWNF to be one of the greatest natural and recreational treasures in our area. I also understand the challenges the managers of the area must face in balancing preservation and accessibility.

As a cyclist I use the GWNF often with Crawford Knob and Elizabeth Furnace being two of my favorite areas. I also believe the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival, MORE Fall Camping Trip, IMBA Virginia Festival, Shenandoah Mountain 100, and the Fall Foliage Bike Festival in Staunton to be great events, and would hate to see the events jeopardized by changes to the GWNF management plan which could limit bicyclist access to the GWNF.

I believe that all of the current bicycle access within the GWNF is compatible with resource and watershed protection and do not believe additional protection designations are warranted. As a group cyclist are frequent visitors to the GWNF and understand and accept the stewardship responsibility they have as users of the land. I ask that you please keep in consideration bicycle access as you move forward with changes to the forest management plan.

Thank You
Jason Trust



"Ali Ingram"
<aingram@prtlaw.com>
m>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/27/2009 03:49 PM

To Members of the GW Revision Plan Committee:

Having attended and with plans to attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival, Shenandoah Mountain 100, Massanutten Hoo-Ha & Shenandoah Valley Fall Foliage Festival, I am extremely hopeful that you will reconsider any actions to limit trail access for mountain bikers. As a member of the Virginia Beach Vanderkitten Cycling Club, I hope to be a part of these events staged in the Shenandoah Mountain & Valley areas in the upcoming year. Our team specifically promotes women in cycling which includes the category of mountain biking. We advocate and support the sport of biking in general because we recognize all that it has to offer especially in places as beautiful as the GWNF. Having the opportunity to ride on Narrow Back, Dowell's Draft, Southern Traverse & Wolf's Ridge, to name only a few within GW's stellar trail system, has been and continues to be a privilege for all who visit and live in the area.

I believe that the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in the National Forest. Moreover, at the SMB Festival, I learned about all of the good work and hard effort put forward by the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Company and Shenandoah Mountain Touring to maintain the multitude of trails and respect the surroundings that contain them. Their involvement and encouragement of other cyclists to give back is a prime example of why access should not be restricted; it is fundamental to the preservation of the environment & promotion of personal responsibility. In my opinion, it would be a great loss to the forest as well as the community if access is reduced leaving those who have such an affinity for that setting with so much less with which to work.

Please accept this email as our request to continue current access within the GWNF to cyclists near and far so that all can enjoy the beauty and help to preserve it. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ali Ingram on behalf of the

Vanderkitten Cycling Club



"Webber, Joel"
<Joel.Webber@contro
l-dynamics.com>

01/27/2009 04:30 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Concerns about Bicycle Access In George Washington National
Forest

Hello,

I'm writing to voice my concern about limiting bicycle (un-motorized) traffic in the GW National Forest.

I'm an avid cyclist, nature lover, father, and overall fan of getting outdoors, especially in the vast expanse of the GW National Forest. Locally, I'm involved with trail maintenance of mountain bike trails in central VA as well as the VP of the Friends of Pocahontas State Park.

Please do not limit bicycle access to this region.

Regards,
Joel Webber



matt marcus
<marcuscycle@yahoo.com>

01/27/2009 04:42 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: "Comment on George Washington Plan Revision"

From: Matt Marcus
Vice President, West Virginia Mountain Bike Association
International Mountain Bike Association
Mid-Atlantic(VA,WV,MD,DC)Regional Leadership Council Member
P.O. Box 91
Davis, WV 26260
(304) 642-2702

To: George Washington National Forest Planning Team

Thanks for considering public input during this phase of the Management Plan.

I have been riding mountain bikes in the GWNF since 1984 when I lived in DC. I traveled, visited friends in Harrisonburg and became familiar with the extensive trail system from Front Royal to the south and west. I am still actively riding mountain bikes and continue to ride casually and participate in special events, like the Shenandoah 100 and the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival, in the GWNF region. In 2008 I took part in the Virginia State Championship Mountain Bike Series which featured races in both the Jefferson and GW and casual rides and tours near Harrisonburg and Staunton.

The trails in the GW need to be kept open to bicycles for important economic, social, environmental and community health reasons. Once these trails are closed to bicycles, mechanized trail maintenance and special events (because of the unscientifically based and antiquated Wilderness regulations), they will become less of a tourism draw, will receive less effective trail maintenance with less volunteers, will contribute less to community health, will not be used for special events which boost sustainable rural economic development, will increase costs in restrictive signage and law enforcement and increase

unnecessary user conflict and create criminals.

If areas are designated as Wilderness, I would like to see cherry-stemming of trails and boundary adjustments to move trails out of Wilderness or considerations of alternate Congressional designations for permanent protection. Please contact me for any further comments or clarifications.

Thanks for your consideration,
Matt Marcus



"bobeno"
<bobeno@hughes.net
>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: GW Nat'l Forest and bicycles

01/27/2009 05:20 PM

I am an avid mountain biker and greatly enjoy the opportunities afforded in the GWNF. There are wonderful trails to ride, some terrific races, and group activities to be enjoyed. It would be a shame for areas of this public land to be closed off to riders simply because you don't hear from us. Please consider this one voice of many thousands that is against any trail closures in the GWNF and a proponent of even more responsibly-built trails for enjoyment by all ages and skill levels. PLEASE do not consider closing ANY bike trails. There is plenty of room for everyone.

Thank you,

Bob Eno
(804) 263-1885
bobeno@hughes.net

"..if you love Me, keep My commandments." Jesus Christ



james shepherd
<shep432@hotmail.com>

01/27/2009 09:45 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

George Washington Plan Revision
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

To whom it may concern,

I attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival, MORE Fall Camping Trip, IMBA Virginia Festival, Shenandoah Mountain 100, and the Fall Foliage Bike Festival in Staunton events annually and they are a very good time. I would like to have more trails of all levels of difficulty to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Shenandoah Mountain Trail (Southern Traverse), Whetstone Ridge Trail, Elliotts Knob, Chimney Hollow and Bridge Hollow (Braley Pond), the trails in the Shenandoah Mountain 100, all the trails around the Big Schloss, and Massanutten Mountain Trail - Elizabeth Furnace are my favorite trails. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

Thank you for your attention to this necessary and beautiful natural resource.

Local MTN Bike rider - Andrew Shepherd

Hotmail® goes where you go. On a PC, on the Web, on your phone. [See how.](#)



"BarbGary"
<barbgary@cox.net>

01/27/2009 10:45 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc: "Chris Scott" <chris@mountaintouring.com>,
<barbc147@aol.com>

Subject: Comments for GW Revision Plan Comment

To Members of the GW Revision Plan Committee:

Having attended the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival, Shenandoah Mountain 100 & Massanutten Hoo-Ha, I realize that I've only experienced a fraction of what the George Washington National Forest has to offer. That is why I am extremely hopeful that you will reconsider any plans to limit trail access for mountain bikers. As a member of the Virginia Beach Vanderkitten Cycling Club, I hope to be a part of several events staged in the Shenandoah Mountain & Valley areas in the upcoming year. Our team specifically promotes women in cycling which includes the category of mountain biking. We advocate and support the sport of biking in general because we recognize all that it has to offer especially in places as beautiful as the GWNF. Riding on Narrow Back, Dowell's Draft, Southern Traverse & Wolf's Ridge, to name only a few within GW's stellar trail system, is a privilege for all who have visited.

I believe that the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in the National Forest. Moreover, at the SMB Festival, I learned about all of the good work and hard effort put forward by the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Company and Shenandoah Mountain Touring to maintain the multitude of trails and respect the surroundings that contain them. Their involvement and encouragement of other cyclists to give back is a prime example of why access should not be restricted; it is fundamental to the preservation of the environment & promotion of personal responsibility. In my opinion, it would be a great loss to the forest as well as the community if access is reduced leaving those who have such an affinity for that setting with so much less with which to work.

Please accept this email as our request to continue current access within the GWNF to cyclists near and far so that all can enjoy the beauty and help to preserve it. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ali Ingram on behalf of the
Vanderkitten Cycling Club

=



"David Hook"
<davehook@comcast.net>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/27/2009 11:32 PM

I attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival event annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Massanutten Mountain Trail - Elizabeth Furnace is my favorite trail. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

I hope you decide to expand mountain bike access to more areas of this national treasure for all to enjoy!!!

David Hook
davehook@comcast.net



"Chris Hook"
<chris.a.hook@comcast.net>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/27/2009 11:36 PM

I attend the Shenandoah Mountain Bike Festival event annually and it is a very good time. I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I really enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. Massanutten Mountain Trail - Elizabeth Furnace is my favorite trail. I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest.

I hope you decide to expand mountain bike access to more areas of this national treasure for all to enjoy!!!

Chris Hook
chris.a.hook@comcast.net



Contact
GpsTrailSource
<gpstrailsource@gmail.com>
il.com

01/27/2009 11:53 PM

To: comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us
cc:

Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of continued and expanded access to trails for hikers, mountain biker and equestrian users. I only access the trails by hiking and mountain biking, but its a large area and there is plenty of room for everyone to enjoy themselves while respecting the other trail users.

I attend the many local and regional events associated with mountain biking and spend many hours each year riding in GWNF. One of our favorite loops is Elizabeth Furnace, which we have mapped and posted on our web site GpsTrailSource.com [Elizabeth Furnace](#)

Please Expand access for mountain biking within GWNF!!!! Thank you for your time and consideration.

GpsTrailSource.com



"Thomas Gillespie"
<tgillesp@richmond.k
12.va.us>

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

01/27/2009 01:49 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I attend the Shenandoah Mountain 100 annually and it is an extremely good time (I have started & finished 6-times). I would like to have more trails that are easy to ride in the GW. I highly enjoy coming to the Shenandoah Valley to ride my bicycle in the George Washington National Forest. All the trails in the Shenandoah Mountain 100 are my favorite trail (this is but a few). I believe that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in my National Forest. I am also confident that most and or all of the bicycling clubs and associations (IMBA & MORE) will continues to provide support and cooperation through volunteerism; and adhering to the IMBA bylaws.

I dearly love these forest trails; and the National Park Forest my sanctuary.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thomas Gillespie
Richmond, VA
Member of:
Altius Cycling Team
IMBA
M.O.R.E



Keith Fieldhammer
<fieldhammer@hotmail.com>

01/28/2009 05:05 PM

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comment on George Washington Plan Revision

Hello,

I am a resident of Swoope, Virginia and work in Staunton, Virginia. I enjoy riding my bicycle both on the road and on trails. I'm currently spending a few hours every weekend working with some local residents on building new trails in Montgomery Hall park in Staunton. I also greatly enjoy riding in the George Washington National Forest. Some of my favorite trails are in the Sherando Lake and Braley Pond areas. I especially enjoy the Chimney Hollow trail. I feel that there is much more to discover and would like to see more trails that are accessible to bicyclists of all abilities. I'm very concerned about preserving the environment and feel that mountain biking is an activity that has minimal impact, and I feel that all of the current bicycle access is compatible with resource and watershed protection in the George Washington National Forest.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,

Keith Fieldhammer
292 Abbington Road
Swoope, VA 24479
fieldhammer@hotmail.com

Windows Live™ Hotmail®: ...more than just e-mail. [Check it out.](#)