

**From:** [Tom Finholt](mailto:Tom.Finholt)  
**To:** [comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us)  
**Subject:** Comment for GWNF Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 09, 2011 7:32:00 PM

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Aug 9, 2011

George Washington Forest Service

Dear Forest Service,

Dear Forest Service

Please consider the following comments while you develop and approve a final plan for the George Washington National Forest plan.

Plan for climate change by protecting core wilderness areas, reducing forest fragmentation and decreasing and eliminating non-climate stresses such as logging, road building and oil and gas leasing. I support the ban on horizontal natural gas drilling proposed in Alternative G and other alternatives, and would like all hydrofracking banned on the Forest.

Protect all areas identified in the Virginia's Mountain Treasures publication to the degree possible by designating them as unsuitable for timber harvest, new road building, and surface-occupying oil and gas drilling

Protect all roadless areas. The Forest Service should identify all qualified roadless areas and protect all roadless areas, whether previously inventoried or recently identified, consistent with the provisions of the 2001 Roadless Rule.

Designate More Wilderness Areas. Only 4% of the George Washington National Forest is permanently protected Wilderness, far less than the national average of 18% . More wilderness (and national scenic area) acreage should be recommended

Protect all existing Old Growth forest. . Of particular importance are the sizeable old growth tracts at Peters Mountain North and Frozen Knob areas identified by the Virginia Division of Natural Heritage. These areas should be designated as being unsuitable for logging and roadbuilding and protected as research natural areas or special areas (old growth protection)

No Natural Gas Development and Hydrofracking. The full cycle of natural gas development and hydraulic fracking (or hydrofracking) brings roads, pipelines, and noise to national forest lands. There should be no natural gas development or hydrofracking in the forest.

As you know, the George Washington National Forest is the largest collection of federal lands in the greater Chesapeake Bay watershed. It is not only incredibly important for the health of our planet but is also a treasured destination for many in Virginia and the surrounding region.

To protect this treasured forest. Please choose alternatives C or F.

Both alternative C & alternative F do a far better job at protecting roadless areas, protecting special biological areas, protecting old growth, protecting water quality, and providing large backcountry area experiences that are very rare in the eastern US. The Forest Service should pick Alternative C, Alternative F or a modified version of either that is consistent with the Friends of Shenandoah Mountain proposal

Go to <http://vasierraclub.org/2011/06/george-washington-national-forest/> to find out more.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tom Finholt  
212 Timber Wind Dr  
Wildwood, MO 63011-1961  
(636) 458-3521

**From:** [Mel.Randall](mailto:Mel.Randall)  
**To:** [comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us)  
**Subject:** Comment for GWNF Plan  
**Date:** Thursday, August 04, 2011 4:32:00 AM

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Aug 4, 2011

George Washington Forest Service

Dear Forest Service,

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Please consider the following comments while you develop and approve a final plan for the George Washington National Forest plan.

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Go to <http://vasierraclub.org/2011/06/george-washington-national-forest/> to find out more.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mel Randall  
11731 Sunshine Ter  
Studio City, CA 91604-3842  
(818) 761-4414

**From:** [AnneCasey](#)  
**To:** [comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us)  
**Subject:** George Washington National Forest  
**Date:** Friday, July 22, 2011 7:08:00 PM

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Dear Representatives:

I wish to convey my opposition to Alternative G for the George Washington National Forest. I am vehemently opposed to any old growth logging and the lack of protection of the VA Natural Heritage program. As a taxpayer and one who feel that access to this forest helps to maintain a higher quality of life for those who live in this urban area, I ask you to consider the alternative recommendations posed by the the Sierra Club. This is a modified Alternative C that is is consistent with the Friends of Shenandoah Mountain proposal:

- 1.) Plan for climate change by protecting core wilderness areas, reducing forest fragmentation and decreasing and eliminating non-climate stresses such as logging, road building and oil and gas leasing.
- 2.) Protect all areas identified in the Virginia's Mountain Treasures publication to the degree possible by designating them as unsuitable for timber harvest, new road building, and surface-occupying oil and gas drilling
- 3.) Protect all roadless areas, whether previously inventoried or recently identified, consistent with the provisions of the 2001 Roadless Rule
- 4.) Protect all existing Old Growth forest

The first choice among existing alternatives is Alternative C, the conservation alternative, modified so that it is consistent with the Friends of Shenandoah Mountain proposal. Alternative C addresses the four priorities above in a way that is far superior to the other existing alternatives.

Thank you for your consideration.

Anne Casey  
[annecasey@earthlink.net](mailto:annecasey@earthlink.net)  
Charlottesville, VA

**From:** [tcecere49@cox.net](mailto:tcecere49@cox.net)  
**To:** [FS-comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson](#)  
**Subject:** from Roanoke, VA  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 11, 2011 8:36:08 PM

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The George Washington & Jefferson National Forests are among our greatest treasures & blessings in the State of Virginia.

Therefore, we wish to do everything in our power to protect these forests for many many generations ahead and for the future of our own species as well as that of other animal & plant species.

We are hopeful therefore that the Forest Service will plan on Alternative C since it BY FAR addresses four major concerns:

We are asking the Forest Service to:

- 1.) Plan for climate change by protecting core wilderness areas, reducing forest fragmentation and decreasing and eliminating non-climate stresses such as logging, road building and oil and gas leasing.
- 2.) Protect all areas identified in the Virginia's Mountain Treasures publication to the degree possible by designating them as unsuitable for timber harvest, new road building, and surface-occupying oil and gas drilling
- 3.) Protect all roadless areas, whether previously inventoried or recently identified, consistent with the provisions of the 2001 Roadless Rule
- 4.) Protect all existing Old Growth forest

Don't let the wishes of a few for fast profit affect the air, water, space, and biodiversity that we millions need to live & thrive.

Alternative C is our choice for the betterment of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Thank you,

Cheryl & Tom Cecere  
Roanoke, VA 24018

**From:** [ERIC MAGRUM](#)  
**To:** [FS-comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson](#)  
**Subject:** Alternative C  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 05, 2011 8:30:26 PM

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Dear Supervisor Hyzer:

Please consider the following comments while you develop and approve a final plan for the George Washington National Forest plan. &#8232;

As you know, the George Washington National Forest is one of the most important collections of federal lands in the greater Chesapeake Bay watershed. It is not only incredibly important for the health of our planet but is also a treasured destination for many in Virginia and the surrounding region.

I applaud you for the ban on horizontal natural gas drilling proposed in Alternative G (the agency's preferred alternative) and other alternatives, and would like all hydrofracking banned on the Forest.

In addition, I support the stronger forest-wide riparian standards in Alternative G that were developed as part of the Fish and Mussel Conservation Plan. &#8232;&#8232;

Alternative C (the Conservation Alternative) is a well-crafted alternative proposed by Virginia citizens. Alternative C should have gotten the thorough analysis and attention that it deserves, but so far has not. I ask you to incorporate the following aspects of Alternative C into the final plan, regardless of which alternative is chosen.

Please plan for climate change by protecting core wilderness areas, reducing forest fragmentation and decreasing and eliminating non-climate stresses such as logging, road building and oil and gas leasing.

Protect all areas identified in the Virginia's Mountain Treasures publication to the degree possible by designating them as unsuitable for timber harvest, new road building, and surface-occupying oil and gas drilling&#8232;&#8232;

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Designate More Wilderness Areas. Only 4% of the George Washington National Forest is permanently protected Wilderness, far less than the national average of 18%. More wilderness (and national scenic area) acreage should be recommended&#8232;&#8232;

Protect all existing Old Growth forest. Of particular importance are the sizeable old growth tracts at Peters Mountain North and Frozen Knob areas identified by the Virginia Division of Natural Heritage. All old growth areas should be designated as being unsuitable for logging and roadbuilding and protected as special areas (old growth protection)&#8232;&#8232;or as research natural areas.

No Natural Gas Leasing and Hydrofracking. The full cycle of natural gas development and hydraulic fracking (or hydrofracking) brings roads, pipelines, and noise to national forest lands and disrupts groundwater. There should be no hydrofracking or federal natural gas leasing in the forest. Strong protective measures should be applied to ensure that privately-owned mineral developments do not destroy other values on the Forest.

I support the Friends of Shenandoah Mountain proposal ([www.friendsofshenandoahmountain.org/](http://www.friendsofshenandoahmountain.org/)), which would protect roadless areas in the Shenandoah Mountain, Big Levels, and Laurel Fork areas under a combination of designations, including recommended wilderness and recommended national scenic area designation.

Sincerely yours,  
Eric Magrum



**From:** [Elena Day](#)  
**To:** [FS-comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson](#)  
**Subject:** GW Forest  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 05, 2011 5:34:44 PM

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I did not write this but I endorse it wholeheartedly. Elena Day, 151 Buckingham Circle, Charlottesville, VA 22903

To Maureen Hyzer, Forest Supervisor, and Planning Staff  
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests  
5162 Valleypointe Parkway  
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Supervisor Hyzer:

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Sincerely yours,

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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Sherman Bamford  
Forests Committee Chair, Virginia Chapter - Sierra Club  
PO Box 3102  
Roanoke, Va. 24015-1102  
(540) 343-6359  
bamford2@verizon.net

**From:** [Darren Pace](#)  
**To:** [FS-comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson](#)  
**Subject:** my comments for the GWNF plan  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 05, 2011 1:59:28 PM

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

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Sincerely yours,

Darren Pace  
750 Belmont Ave  
Charlottesville, VA 2290