

Planting Site Designs





Slope Revegetation



Description of Location

The slopes with little to no woody vegetation are located in several locations along the highway. The bulk of these sites are located near the Little Laurel Overlook

Design Challenge

These denuded slopes are remnants of the construction of the Highland Scenic Highway. When the slopes were cut and regraded, they were recolonized by grasses and herbaceous vegetation, but woody species have not taken root. These construction remnants are glaringly different than the naturally forested areas along the majority of the highway, and can be seen from nearby towns year round.



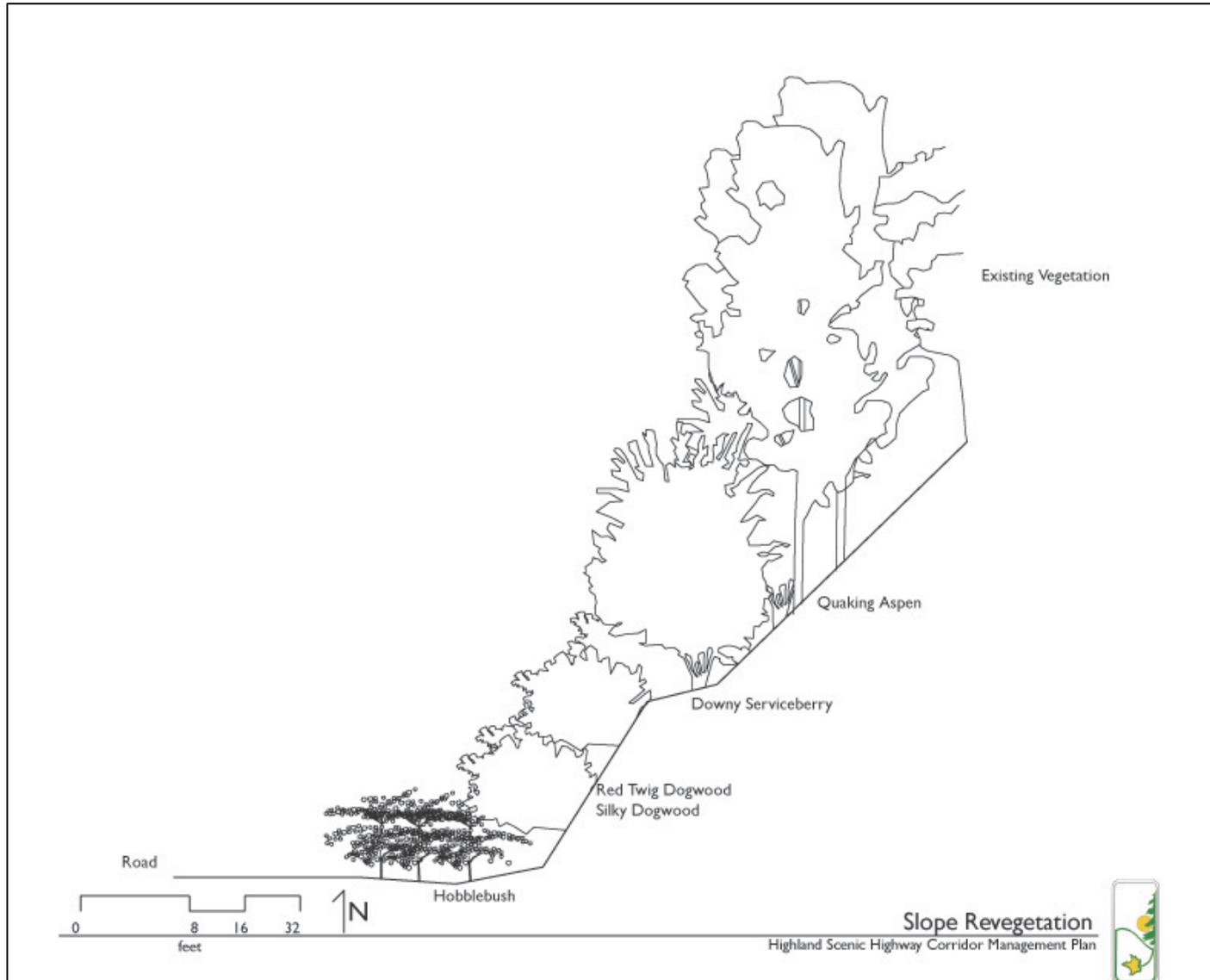
A view of the current site in June 2011



A view of the site in June after installation of the design

Design Solution

Revegetating these slopes will greatly contribute to the aesthetics of the highway, but the cost of planting such a vast area could be an impediment to completion. For this reason, the majority of the species selected for slope revegetation will spread on their own via rhizomes and tip rooting, greatly decreasing the numbers that need to initially be planted. Furthermore, many of these species can be planted as single stems treated with rooting powder, further decreasing the number that need to be purchased. Finally, the root systems of these species will also help to further stabilize and protect slope soils. Service berry is included among the species mix to add continuity between the revegetated slopes and other plantings along the highway.





Slope Revegetation: Plant List

Type	ID	Common Name	Botanical Name	Flowering Season	Flowering Color	Average spread	Average height
Shrub	CA	Silky Dogwood*	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	Mid-May	White/Green	6'	6'
Shrub	CS	Red Stem Dogwood*	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	May/June	White	6'	6'
Shrub	VA	Hobblebush*	<i>Viburnum alnifolium</i>	May/June/July	White	3'	3-6'
Tree	PT	Quaking Aspen*	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	May	Green	20-30-	50-75'
Tree	AA	Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	March/April	White	15'-20'	20'-25'

* These species will spread by rhizomes and root sprouting and can therefore be planted at a lower density than is ultimately desired.

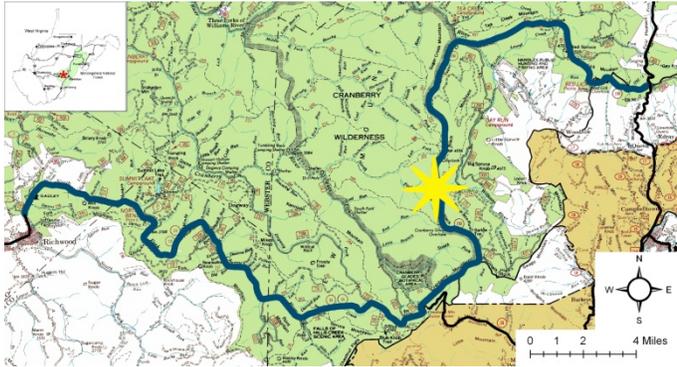
Populus tremuloides should be B&B.

For *Cornus stolonifera* , *Viburnum Alnifolium* , and *Cornus amomum* , individual stems can be planted after developing roots

In conjunction with the planting of tree and shrub species, the area should be seeded with Canada Wild Rye and Bottle Brush Grass.



Geologic Interpretive Site



Description of Location

The new geologic interpretation site is located on the I50 portion of the highway between the Cranberry Glades Overlook and the Big Spruce Overlook. The site is currently an asphalt bump out to the west of the highway, overlooking a field of loose stone. These stones have historically attracted attention, including the annual erection of makeshift monuments in the decade after the highway was constructed.

Design Challenge

The original intent for the asphalt bump out is not clear, but at this point it feels misplaced along the highway. Either a use should be determined for the bump out, or it should be ripped and allowed to regenerate naturally.



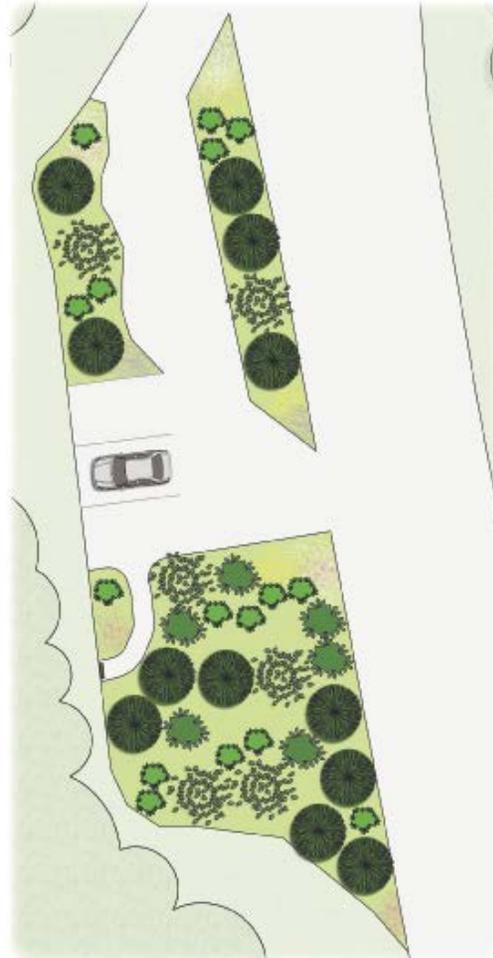
A view of the current site in June



A view of the site in June after installation of the design

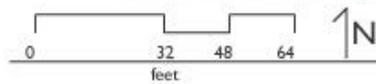
Design Solution

Given the interest in the site over the past several decades, and the emphasis on natural history at the Big Spruce Overlook site, this site seems well suited for additional interpretation or discussion of historic logging practices, fire, and lasting ecological effects. The current asphalt pad will be reduced by about one half by new planting beds. Species will reflect the native flora of the area, with an emphasis on red spruce accented by serviceberry, rhododendron, and mountain laurel. Native wildflowers at the corners of each planting bed allow for visibility from a vehicle but minimize mowing maintenance. A short trail leads from three parking spaces to an overlook of the field of loose stone. An interpretive sign here describes the geological history of the site.



Legend

-  Existing Tree Cover
-  Red Spruce
-  Serviceberry
-  Rhododendron
-  Mountain Laurel
-  Proposed Interpretive Sign
-  Asphalt Road
-  Wildflower Mix
-  Existing Grass



Geologic Interpretive Site
Highland Scenic Highway Corridor Management Plan





Geological Interpretive Site: Plant List

Type	Common Name	Botanical Name	Quantity	Condition	Flowering Season	Flowering Color	Average spread	Average height
Perennial*	Bigleaf Aster	<i>Aster macrophyllis</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Pink/Violet/Purple	3-4'	3'-4'
Perennial*	Goldenrod	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Yellow	2'-6'	1'-2'
Perennial*	Blue Vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	N/A	Seed	September/October	Blue	1-2'	3-5'
Perennial*	Blazing Star	<i>Liatis spicata</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Pink	2-4'	2-4'
Perennial*	Bluebells	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	N/A	Seed	April/May	Pink/Blue	1-2'	1-2'
Perennial*	Goat's Rue	<i>Tephrosia virginiana</i>	N/A	Seed	June/July/August	Yellow/White/Purple	1-2'	1'
Tree	Red Spruce	<i>Picea rubens</i>	12	B&B	n/a	n/a	10'	60'-80'
Tree	Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	6	B&B	March/April	White	15'-20'	20'-25'
Shrub	Mountain Laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	16	Container	Late May/Early June	Pink, Fades to White	5'-12'	5'-12'
Shrub	Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>	5	Container	Late June	Pink or White	10'	8'-15'
* Perennial species should be planted in spring from locally collected, cold-stratified seed. If seeds for specified species are not available, other native seed may be substituted.								
If perennial seed does not take, may need to substitute with small container plants.								



Williams River Road Intersection



Description of Location

The Williams River Road Intersection is located to the west of the Little Laurel Overlook on the 150 portion of the scenic highway. The site is the southeastern quadrant of the intersection.

Design Challenge

In the original Highland Scenic Highway Plan, completed in 1980, the Williams River Road Intersection was originally intended to be planted with serviceberry and dogwood; this part of the plan was not implemented. Today, the intersection is a large grassy area that is in danger of encroachment by invasive honeysuckle. The area also occasionally experiences resource damage in the form of off-road vehicles.



A view of the current site in June 2011



A view of the site in June after installation of the design

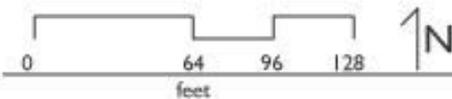
Design Solution

The design goal for this site was to minimize resource damage while maintaining safe, open views at intersections. Tall, single stem trees with interesting bark, including black cherry, yellow birch, and tulip poplar, provide dappled shade to the site and block off-road vehicles. Trios of serviceberry, witch hazel and mountain ash provide variation and slow the encroachment of honeysuckle. Beneath the trees and around the edges of the site, a low-growing, shade-loving mix of wildflowers bloom from early spring through fall should be planted.



Legend

-  Existing Tree Cover
-  Black Cherry
-  Yellow Birch
-  Tulip Poplar
-  Serviceberry
-  Mountain Ash
-  Witch Hazel
-  Asphalt Road
-  Wildflower Mix
-  Williams River
-  Existing grass





Williams River Road Intersection: Plant List

Type	Common Name	Botanical Name	Quantity	Condition	Flowering Season	Flowering Color	Average spread	Average height
Perennial*	Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	N/A	Seed	April/June	Green	1'	1.5-3'
Perennial*	Carolina Spring Beauty	<i>Claytonia caroliniana</i>	N/A	Seed	March/April/May	White/Pink	6"	3-6"
Perennial*	Squirrel Corn	<i>Dicentra canadensis</i>	N/A	Seed	April/May	Pale Pink	1.5-2'	6-12"
Perennial*	Cutleaf Toothworts	<i>Dentaria laciniata</i>	N/A	Seed	March and April	White/Pink	1'	6"
Perennial*	Dwarf Larkspur	<i>Delphinium tricorne</i>	N/A	Seed	Mid-Spring	Dark Blue/Lavendar	6"	1.5'-2'
Perennial*	Trout Lily	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>	N/A	Seed	March/April/May	Yellow	1'	6-12"
Perennial*	Closed Gentian	<i>Gentiana clausa</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September/October	Dark Blue/Lavendar	1.5-2'	2'
Perennial*	Wild Geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	N/A	Seed	April/June	Pink/Purple	2'	2'
Perennial*	Wild Blue Phlox	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	N/A	Seed	March/April/May	Blue/Lavendar/White	1'	8"-18"
Perennial*	Trillium	<i>Trillium spp.</i>	N/A	Seed	April/May/June	White/Pink/Purple/Red	6-12"	1-1.5'
Tree	Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	6	B&B	March/April	White	15'-20'	20'-25'
Tree	Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus americana</i>	3	B&B	May/June	White	15'	20'-40'
Tree	Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	3	B&B	October/November	Yellow	15'	15'
Tree	Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	7	B&B	May	Yellow	30'	100'
Tree	Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	4	B&B	May	White	35-50'	60-90'
Tree	Yellow Birch	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	5	B&B	April/May	Reddish Green	40'	90'
* Perennial species should be planted in spring from locally collected, cold-stratified seed. If seeds for specified species are not available, other native seed may be substituted.								
If perennial seed does not take, may need to substitute with small container plants.								



Little Laurel Overlook



Description of Location

Little Laurel Overlook is located on the northern most section of the Scenic Highway on I-50. The site is to the south of the road.

Design Challenge

The grassy island at the entrance to the Little Laurel Overlook is not a strong representation of the diverse plants of the Monongahela National Forest. These entrances are places where people stop and linger, and could be used as opportunities to showcase native flora. Furthermore, the lack of barriers on this grassy island is leading to resource damage as a result of off-road vehicles.



A view of the current site in June 2011



A view of the site in June after installation of the design

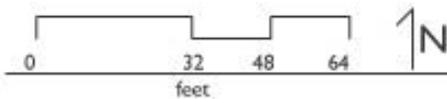
Design Solution

The entrances to each of the scenic highway overlooks serve as an opportunity to highlight shifts in vegetation as elevation changes. The Big Spruce Overlook is dominated by red spruce; the Little Laurel Overlook is an opportunity to showcase the natural transition away from red spruce at lower elevations. Three red spruce anchor the plan, but are flanked by flowering trees and shrubs including serviceberry, mountain ash, rhododendron, and mountain laurel. These woody plants also serve to discourage off-road vehicles. Sun loving wildflowers replace the remainder of the grass, minimizing maintenance and allowing a clear view of the entrance sign from either direction on the highway.



Legend

-  Existing Tree Cover
-  Red Spruce
-  Serviceberry
-  Rhododendron
-  Mountain Laurel
-  Mountain Ash
-  Existing Entrance Sign
-  Existing Building
-  Asphalt Road
-  Wildflower Mix
-  Existing Grass





Little Laurel Overlook: Plant List

Type	Common Name	Botanical Name	Quantity	Condition	Flowering Season	Flowering Color	Average spread	Average height
Perennial*	Bigleaf Aster	<i>Aster macrophyllis</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Pink/Violet/Purple	3-4'	3'-4'
Perennial*	Goldenrod	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Yellow	2'-6'	1'-2'
Perennial*	Blue Vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	N/A	Seed	September/October	Blue	1-2'	3-5'
Perennial*	Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Pink	2-4'	2-4'
Perennial*	Bluebells	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	N/A	Seed	April/May	Pink/Blue	1-2'	1-2'
Perennial*	Goat's Rue	<i>Tephrosia virginiana</i>	N/A	Seed	June/July/August	Yellow/White/Purple	1-2'	1'
Tree	Red Spruce	<i>Picea rubens</i>	3	B&B	n/a	n/a	10'	60'-80'
Tree	Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	2	B&B	March/April	White	15'-20'	20'-25'
Tree	Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus americana</i>	3	B&B	May/June	White	15'	20'-40'
Shrub	Mountain Laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	8	Container	Late May/Early June	Pink, Fades to White	5'-12'	5'-12'
Shrub	Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>	4	Container	Late June	Pink or White	10'	8'-15'

* Perennial species should be planted in spring from locally collected, cold-stratified seed. If seeds for specified species are not available, other native seed may be substituted.
 If perennial seed does not take, may need to substitute with small container plants.



Friel Run Intersection



Description of Location

The Friel Run Intersection is located at the intersection of I-75 and FR-184 between the Little Laurel Overlook at the Red Lick Overlook. The site is to the northeast of the intersection.

Design Challenge

This routinely sustains resource damage from off-road vehicles. Vehicles need to be prevented from entering the site without blocking the views for turning vehicles.



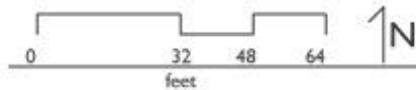
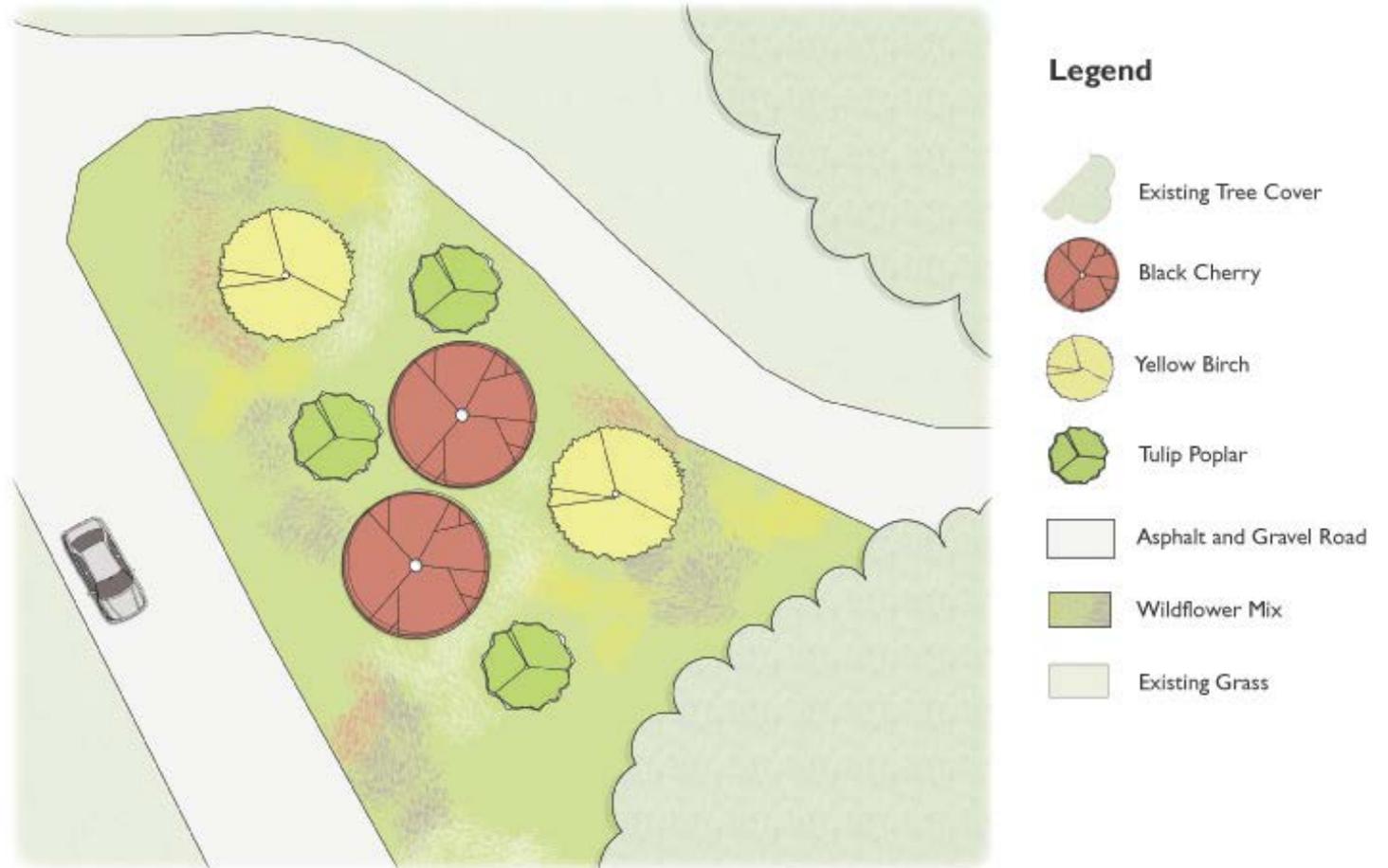
A view of the current site in June



A view of the site in June after the installation of the design

Design Solution

Similar to the Williams River Road Intersection, tall, single stem trees with interesting bark are used to discourage off-road vehicles while simultaneously allowing for clear views for vehicles on both I-75 and FR-184. The design is also low maintenance.





Friel Run Intersection: Plant List

Type	Common Name	Botanical Name	Quantity	Condition	Flowering Season	Flowering Color	Average spread	Average height
Perennial*	Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	N/A	Seed	April/June	Green	1'	1.5-3'
Perennial*	Carolina Spring Beauty	<i>Claytonia caroliniana</i>	N/A	Seed	March/April/May	White/Pink	6"	3-6"
Perennial*	Squirrel Corn	<i>Dicentra canadensis</i>	N/A	Seed	April/May	Pale Pink	1.5-2'	6-12"
Perennial*	Cutleaf Toothworts	<i>Dentaria laciniata</i>	N/A	Seed	March and April	White/Pink	1'	6"
Perennial*	Dwarf Larkspur	<i>Delphinium tricorne</i>	N/A	Seed	Mid-Spring	Dark Blue/Lavendar	6"	1.5'-2'
Perennial*	Trout Lily	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>	N/A	Seed	March/April/May	Yellow	1'	6-12"
Perennial*	Closed Gentian	<i>Gentiana clausa</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September/October	Dark Blue/Lavendar	1.5-2'	2'
Perennial*	Wild Geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	N/A	Seed	April/June	Pink/Purple	2'	2'
Perennial*	Wild Blue Phlox	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	N/A	Seed	March/April/May	Blue/Lavendar/White	1'	8"-18"
Perennial*	Trillium	<i>Trillium spp.</i>	N/A	Seed	April/May/June	White/Pink/Purple/Red	6-12"	1-1.5'
Tree	Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>			May	Yellow	30'	100'
Tree	Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>			May	White	35-50'	60-90'
Tree	Yellow Birch	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>			April/May	Reddish Green	40'	90'
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If perennial seed does not take, may need to substitute with small container plants.								



Red Lick Overlook



Description of Location

The Red Lick Overlook is located on the 150 portion of the scenic highway near the intersection with 219. The site is to the south of the road.

Design Challenge

In the original Highland Scenic Highway Plan, the island in the parking lot at Red Lick Overlook was meant to be planted with 30 randomly spaced trees, including red spruce, American beech, and mountain ash. This design never came to fruition. The island is well barricaded from resource damage by posts and boulders, but the lack of vegetation is aesthetically displeasing.



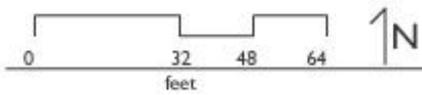
A view of the current site in June

Design Solution

This whole island is contained within the parking lot of the Red Lick Overlook; it lacks the danger of being bordered on one side by 150. Because of this protection, this island is an ideal location to highlight some of the wildflowers and woody vegetation that are common in the area. At this elevation, red spruce has nearly disappeared from the native flora, so this island will be dominated by small woody trees to balance the existing trees on site. A walking path will bring visitors into the garden so they can interact with and observe the plants more closely.



A view of the site in June after installation of the design



Red Lick Overlook
Highland Scenic Highway Corridor Management Plan





Red Lick Overlook: Plant List

Type	Common Name	Botanical Name	Quantity	Condition	Flowering Season	Flowering Color	Average spread	Average height
Perennial*	Bigleaf Aster	<i>Aster macrophyllis</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Pink/Violet/Purple	3-4'	3'-4'
Perennial*	Goldenrod	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Yellow	2'-6'	1'-2'
Perennial*	Joe Pye Weed	<i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Purple	3-5'	4-6'
Perennial*	Ironweed	<i>Veronia noveboracensis</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Purple	3-5'	4-8'
Perennial*	Blue Vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	N/A	Seed	September/October	Blue	1-2'	3-5'
Perennial*	Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	N/A	Seed	August/September	Pink	2-4'	2-4'
Perennial*	Bluebells	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	N/A	Seed	April/May	Pink/Blue	1-2'	1-2'
Perennial*	Goat's Rue	<i>Tephrosia virginiana</i>	N/A	Seed	June/July/August	Yellow/White/Purple	1-2'	1'
Tree	Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	3	B&B	March/April	White	15'-20'	20'-25'
Tree	Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus americana</i>	3	B&B	May/June	White	15'	20'-40'
Tree	Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	3	B&B	October/November	Yellow	15'	15'
Shrub	Mountain Laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	15	Container	Late May/Early June	Pink, Fades to White	5'-12'	5'-12'
Shrub	Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>	4	Container	Late June	Pink or White	10'	8'-15'

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