



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

April 21, 2022

USDA Forest Service
ATTN: Melissa Robinson
401 Oakwood Drive
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Re: 61907, Bentonville Boat Landing Parking Area

Dear Ms. Robinson:

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage (DCR) has searched its Biotics Data System for occurrences of natural heritage resources from the area outlined on the submitted map. Natural heritage resources are defined as the habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, unique or exemplary natural communities, and significant geologic formations.

This project is situated on karst-forming carbonate rock and can be characterized by sinkholes, caves, disappearing streams, and large springs. The Virginia DCR, Division of Natural Heritage karst staff screened this project against the Virginia Speleological Survey (VSS) database, the Virginia Department of Energy (VDE) sinkhole coverage, and other karst layers for documented sensitive karst features.

It is possible that cave features, especially shelter caves could be found along the river in the general vicinity of this project. If any cave is located during this project please avoid it and contact Wil Orndorff, the Virginia DCR Division of Natural Heritage Karst Protection Coordinator (wil.orndorff@dcr.virginia.gov) to help reduce any impact to karst features.

Under a Memorandum of Agreement established between the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) and the DCR, DCR represents VDACS in comments regarding potential impacts on state-listed threatened and endangered plant and insect species. The current activity will not affect any documented state-listed plants or insects.

There are no State Natural Area Preserves under DCR's jurisdiction in the project vicinity.

New and updated information is continually added to Biotics. Please re-submit a completed order form and project map for an update on this natural heritage information if the scope of the project changes and/or six months has passed before it is utilized.

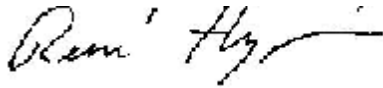
A fee of \$90.00 has been assessed for the service of providing this information. Please find attached an invoice for that amount. Please return one copy of the invoice along with your remittance made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia, DCR Finance, 600 East Main Street, 24th Floor, Richmond, VA 23219. Payment is due within thirty

days of the invoice date. Please note late payment may result in the suspension of project review service for future projects.

The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR) maintains a database of wildlife locations, including threatened and endangered species, trout streams, and anadromous fish waters that may contain information not documented in this letter. Their database may be accessed from <http://vafwis.org/fwis/> or contact Amy Martin at 804-367-2211 or amy.martin@dwr.virginia.gov.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 804-371-2708. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "René Hypes", with a stylized flourish at the end.

S. René Hypes
Natural Heritage Project Review Coordinator

Cc: Wil Orndorff, DCR-Karst