



USDA Forest Service
ATTN: Gregg Slezak, Deputy District Ranger
401 Oakwood Drive
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Re: Comments on Mad Lick Resiliency and Restoration Project

Dear Gregg:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Mad Lick Resiliency and Restoration Project.

We are writing on behalf of Friends of Shenandoah Mountain (FOSM), a coalition of over 400 organizations and businesses who support federal designation of the Shenandoah Mountain National Scenic Area (SMNSA). The SMNSA proposal is the result of years of collaboration and compromise among GWNF forest stakeholders representing timber production, wildlife management, recreation, and preservation interests.

As you may know, The Shenandoah Mountain Act was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Virginia's Senators Kaine and Warner in 2022 and was reintroduced in 2023. It is now in the 2024 Senate Farm Bill.

Upon reviewing the Mad Lick Project, we noticed that regeneration, intermediate, and forest stand improvement activities are planned within the boundaries of the SMNSA in the Braley Pond area, as shown in the [official legislative map](#) developed by the Forest Service, May 24, 2023.

We believe overlapping the project area with the SMNSA must be an oversight. Would you please pull back the Mad Lick Project area so that it does not include any land in the proposed SMNSA.

Thank you.

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