

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/29/2021 4:00:00 AM

First name: Shelly

Last name: Crites

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Mr. John Morgan, District Ranger

Cheat Potomac Ranger District

2499 North Fork Highway

Petersburg, WV 26847

Concerning: Upper Cheat River Project

Dear Mr. Morgan,

Thank you for this opportunity to comment of the Upper Cheat River Project. The intent of the USFS plan is to undermine conventional logging in West Virginia. The management plan as presented is not effectively managing our productive forest lands and I am concerned if this narrow scope continues, we will end up like those poor folks out west who are watching their homes, communities and livelihoods go up in smoke because of bad forestry practices.

Our forest is a thriving productive marketplace that can create and sustain wildlife, capture carbon all the while benefitting the economy. This plan does not consider the impact on creating jobs in WV. At a time when we are losing population because of employment and opportunity, we should be looking at all the ways we can sustain families and businesses in WV. NO ONE loves the forest more than those who depend on it for their livelihood. Helicopter logging....really? Other local states have wonderful management plans that consider the environment as well as growing the economy. At some point, the federal dollars are going to run out and where will we be?

Please revise the proposed plan to more aggressively and realistically harvest our forest using conventional methods with our local loggers. WE have an abundant resource, let's use it to help West Virginia!

Sincerely,

Shelly Corley Crites