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First name: Lori

Last name: Mirrer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I fully understand the reasons Overmountain Shelter must be taken down.

However, I have not been able to get a direct answer to this: What about building a new shelter on the site?

This time, it would be properly built AS a shelter, thus avoiding the many problems the current structure has had.

If this has not been discussed, why not?

What would it cost to build a new shelter there?

If this idea has been discussed and rejected, I would really like to know when it was discussed and why it was rejected.

I believe a direct answer to this would go a long way to helping the AT's many fans and users to better understand the decisions of the ATC, National Forest Service and other involved entities.

In addition, one of the reasons given for wanting to abandon the Overmountain area for a shelter is that it's too close to a road. That doesn't jive: It's not the only shelter that close to a road.

For example, Rock Gap Shelter in NC is less than a half-mile from a parking area off Standing Indian Campground Road. That's closer than Overmountain is from Roaring Creek Road.

Rock Gap Shelter was taken down last year. And, as we speak, it is being rebuilt on the same site.

Thank you for reading. I look forward to a response.