Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/11/2021 7:03:11 PM
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Title:
Comments: The Pedlar Reservoir is the primary water supply for the City of Lynchburg and portions of Amherst, Bedford, and Campbell Counties serving over 100,000 people. As such it is imperative that the quality of the source water be protected to the fullest extent possible. Additionally, sediment from run-off of logged areas has the potential to impact the capacity of the reservoir as well as the quality. The Virginia General Assembly just passed a resolution the safe, affordable drinking water is a human right. The Pedlar reservoir is essential to us providing fulfilling this goal. As such we offer the following comments/concerns:

We have concerns about the clear cutting of area 41 adjacent to the Pedlar Reservoir. Steep slopes and close proximity to the reservoir increase the risk of sediment laden runoff entering the reservoir. All precautions should be taken to ensure that this does not happen. It is our preference that this area not be clear cut but select cut instead.

Haul roads, staging areas, etc. should have adequate erosion control and be properly maintained. Adequate buffers along streams should be maintained and extra precautions should be taken at any stream crossings.

Appropriate buffers should be maintained between logging operations and all streams and the reservoir.

Work shall not be performed within the Pedlar Reservoir property without authorization from the City of Lynchburg.

Erosion and sediment controls should be thoroughly inspected after rainstorms and any damage or breach corrected immediately.

The scheduling of the harvesting of the various areas should be such that the amount of disturbed area is kept to a minimum at any given time.

The Forest Service should be in regular contact with the City of Lynchburg Department of Water Resources on a regular basis to provide updates and address any concerns we may have as the project moves forward.

The Forest Service should develop a remediation plan should excessive sediment enter the reservoir as a result of the logging or controlled burning operation.

Should excessive erosion occur, logging operations should stop until appropriate corrective action is taken.