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Comments: Access w/Regard to Water Quality and River Use: The proposed shuttle system would be a wonderfully appreciated endeavor. It would reduce parking and road congestion/usage issues which have direct impact on water flow as these surfaces contribute to run off and the overparking impacts roadside degradation for both road stabilization and stream turbidity/sediment. The included proposals for controlled boat access and related improvements are needed, but what controls/enforcement plans are being made to prevent continued overuse.

Wild and Backcountry Areas: These proposals not only fall in unenforceable but remove a primary use from the area. One of the reasons the Red River Gorge is so popular is that it allows back country, unimproved sites and camping. You can hike out, and set up in an area with no other trace of people, away from crowded camp sites with mandated improvements. How will these back country shelters be permitted, how will it be enforced? If a reservation is made, will there be rangers on hand for when someone shows up and their campsite has been claimed by another party? We users support better control, but when that control destroys part of the reason for the usage, it takes more than it gives. Better trail maintenance, patrol for campsites in sensitive areas (cliff faces and tops, erosion areas, in flood zones etc.) are needed for both safety and preservation, but to remove the ability to escape man made facilities, which many of us use the Gorge for, would denude its users of more than the risk imposed to the ecology by those users. There should be better enforcement of those who do not follow proper back country rules and etiquette, but not at the expense of all of us losing our rights to explore and be enthralled by the untouched areas we currently enjoy.

Ecological Preservation: No mention of plans to maintain forest health are listed. Parts of the Gorge have had significant shifts to bio-diversity due to fire suppression and encroachment from neighboring plants. Further, these shifts can create issues with water quality by changing forest floor dynamics, organic deposits, pest infestations and more. Neither is any mention of invasive species monitoring and control mentioned. The state is currently finding large swatches of Japanese Knotweed (*Renoutria japonica*), a plant which thrives and denudes water banks, and spreads vivaciously throughout waterways. Some areas are facing multi-year, multi-million dollar work loads to remove the species, which can cause loss of banks, increased turbidity and sediments, increase temperatures and other changes to stream conditions. And improving user access will increase the risk for this plant (and others like it) entering the corridor. Part of the improvement plan needs to focus on long term ecological control as well as user interface.