Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/12/2022 7:52:00 PM
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Comments: 1.We recognize the thoughtful preparation of this scoping letter and appreciate the opportunity to comment.

2.The scoping notice says these areas will be avoided:

2C2 Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers,
1A Designated Wilderness,
1B Recommended Wilderness.

We recommend to expand this list to include:

Potential Wilderness Areas
Inventoried Roadless Areas
Special Biological Areas
Recommended National Scenic Area (Shenandoah Mountain NSA)

3.We request that measures be taken to minimize temporary impacts to trailheads, campgrounds, picnic areas, scenic overlooks, and parking areas.

4.Please explain what process will be defined to monitor ongoing maintenance and repair/service activities after initial installation.

5.We recommend that the FS announce on their web site a schedule of work areas and road or trail closures.

6.Recommend that this scoping letter be more strictly defined to be restricted to road right-of-ways. Due to the unique nature of utility right-of-ways and usually difficult and/or sensitive terrain, fiber optic installations in utility right-of-ways should be individually reviewed and assessed in accordance with a specific NEPA process.

7.On page 4, there is mention of ground disturbing actitivies in previously disturbed road and trail right-of-ways. The intention for trails may be that only crossings are allowed, but it is not clear. Recommend that this be clarified to emphasize that trail right-of-ways may not be used to install fiber. Alternatively, it appears that the word "trail" should be replaced with "utility" to be consistent with the rest of the document.