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First name: Matt

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Organization: WV Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

Title: Board Member

Comments: The WV Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers is generally supportive of this project. We appreciate the watershed-scale approach USFS is taking to managing projects.

Following all BMPs and mitigation procedures is essential to ensuring project success.

Please consider additional measures to protect native and wild trout habitat. Stream shade, erosion control, and the protection of riparian areas is important for aquatic heath.

Please consider revising the approach to age-stand diversity apportionment. While the USFS is only in control of a portion of the acreage in the Upper Cheat Watershed, the wildlife don't care who owns the land. Ensuring that certain age classes are not overrepresented by USFS actions is beneficial.

Furthermore, when considering changing age class structure, please consider cutting more mid-successional habitat and allowing late-successional habitat to continue to age to old growth.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.