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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My husband and I live in this area of Avery County and we understand that the Big Red Barn shelter at the intersection of Overmountain Victory Trail and Appalachian Trail is no longer safe for use, however it is imperative that the locust posts and wood from the barn be reused to build another shelter at that same location. This is not just about the AT hikers, this is about the Overmountain Victory Trail and its historic significance of being the highest point of the American Revolutionary War. My husband hiked the AT and understands that shelters near roads often have other users not just through hikers, and in this situation that is certainly true. It is a six mile hike on the Overmountain Trail from Hampton Creek to the Yellow Mountain Gap and having to hike another two miles to a shelter is not feasible for all users. We live nearby and frequently take hikes up there and to nearby Yellow Mountain and have seen lots of users enjoying the view but have never seen trash or damage to the natural area. Please consider the history and local enthusiasts that enjoy the area, not just AT hikers.