

Incorporating Comments Received on the Notice of Intent into Developing the Uwharrie Revised Proposed Plan and Alternatives

Concern: Several inaccuracies, inconsistencies, and omissions in the on-line Preliminary Draft were pointed out by the [North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission \(NCWRC\)](#). [See NOI comments received from Bryant, Shari L.]

Response: These will be clarified or corrected.

Concern: The NCWRC suggested modification of a few of the Goals/Desired Conditions, Objectives, Standards and Guidelines. [See NOI comments received from Bryant, Shari L.]

Response: We anticipate some of the suggested modifications would be incorporated into the Draft Revised Plan. Further discussion on some points is likely needed.

Concern: The Off Highway Vehicle community is proposing that the revised plan should recognize that “Full-size OHVs” are one of the valid recreation uses.

Response: The Preliminary Draft recognizes the OHV system and we could include recognition of full-size OHV opportunities on the OHV trail system in the Draft Revised Plan language.

Concern: The equestrian community is concerned with the proposal to limit horses to a designated trail system. [See NOI comments received from UTRA]

Response: We will clarify that such a designated system is not constrained by what is currently designated. There can be additions, deletions, reroutes, and other modifications in the future. Also, in addition to the proposal to limit horses to a designated system, we would consider an alternative to keep equestrian access open as it is under the existing plan and analyze the comparative effects in the Environmental Impact Statement.

Concern: The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (Natural Heritage branch) is concerned that some potential high quality longleaf pine sites are included in the lands suitable for timber production under the National Forest Management Act, and that this might result in some unnecessary thinning of the stands. [See NOI comments received from Schafale, Michael]

Response: The Draft Revised Plan would have a “Longleaf Pine Management Area” delineated on the plan map that would have associated guidance. In this management area vegetation management activities on longleaf pine sites would be for the purpose of maintain or restoring the longleaf pine community. Classifying these areas as “suitable for timber production” allows certain appropriated funds to be spent on longleaf

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