



United States Department of the Interior



National Park Service
Blue Ridge Parkway
199 Hemphill Knob Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28803

IN REPLY REFER TO

L7617
PIN 11396

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

VISTA MANAGEMENT WITHIN CAROLINA NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL HABITAT

North Carolina
Blue Ridge Parkway
USDI, National Park Service

INTRODUCTION

The National Park Service (NPS) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) that evaluates the proposed management of vistas within Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel (CNFS) (*Glaucomys sabrinus coloratus*) habitat along the Blue Ridge Parkway (Parkway). This project will provide a long-term management strategy that will best protect and preserve the endangered CNFS while providing for an enjoyable visitor experience of traveling the Parkway.

Vistas including overlooks and roadside vistas were designed along the Parkway to provide long-distance views to the visiting public. The sequence of views through individual sections of the Parkway were carefully planned. Many of these planned vistas had specific points of interest such as a scenic mountain peak, a rock outcrop, waterfall, lake, stream, or farmstead that were showcased as focal points. Designers envisioned the planned scenic vistas to remain open as a window to the scenic beauty as is evident on the original design Parkway Land Use Maps (PLUMs) drawings that show where they were located and how large an area they included.

The need to actively manage vistas through vegetation removal is essential to keeping this recreation opportunity available to future generations. In the past, the Parkway's overlooks and vistas were maintained by NPS employees who would periodically cut down any woody vegetation that was growing up and blocking views. Since 2000, the Parkway has maintained the views by hiring privately owned companies under contracts that call for about 1/3 of the vistas being cleared each year so that each site is cut on a 3-year cycle. These contracts identify several species of ornamental trees and shrubs to be left in the vistas, including such plants as flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), rosebay rhododendron (*Rhododendron maximum*) and flame azalea (*Rhododendron calendulaceum*). Evergreen trees are also retained since they provide visual variety, and fir trees, proposed for Federal listing as an endangered species, are also not removed.

By virtue of the geographical location and placement of the Parkway motor road along the southern Appalachian chain in North Carolina, the habitat for CNFS was traversed. Listed as an endangered species in 1985, some 25 to 30 years after the construction of the Parkway through its habitat, CNFS now receive additional protection through the

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Endangered Species Act and through NPS *Management Policies 2006*, that requires units of the NPS, including the Parkway, to “both proactively conserve listed species and prevent detrimental effects on these species.”

The CNFS can be found in and adjacent to high-elevation spruce-fir forests. The CNFS is adapted to cold boreal conditions and its range has probably been shrinking due to natural warming conditions since the last ice age. Populations are now restricted to isolated areas at high elevations, separated by vast areas of unsuitable habitat. Logging and other activities has also resulted in the reestablishment of deciduous forests favored by the more aggressive southern flying squirrel. Several areas along the Parkway have been identified in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Recovery Plan as Geographic Recovery Areas. In 2007 a decision was made by Parkway management to stop clearing vistas within potential CNFS habitat until an evaluation of impacts to CNFS was made.

The NPS has prepared an EA to look at alternatives for management in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 United States Code 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations 1500 through 1508) for implementing NEPA, and the NPS NEPA compliance guidance handbook (Director’s Order (DO)-12, *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making*). The EA was released on March 27, 2008, for a 55-day agency review and public comment period.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The NPS has selected Alternative C (Develop Desired Future Conditions for Individual Vista Clearings that have Potential to Affect CNFS) as the NPS Preferred Alternative. Under this alternative, the Parkway will develop management guidelines and mitigation objectives utilizing mechanical treatment techniques for each individual vista within potential CNFS habitat. These actions will be aimed at managing the site to allow visitors a view of distant landscapes while maintaining or improving habitat for CNFS. The primary focus will be to manage the vegetation at the vista by removing spruce and other conifer species only as necessary to open up or to maintain the view, while keeping enough trees so squirrels can still glide from one tree to another without having to run across open ground. Additionally, each site will be evaluated to see if mature trees at the vista edges need to be removed or trimmed or if the boundaries of the vista can be modified to reduce the total area cut without impacting the view. Implementation of mitigation measures will both maintain the vista for visitor enjoyment and enhance potential CNFS habitat.

OTHER ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The EA prepared for this project analyzed the NPS Preferred Alternative described above, a No-Action Alternative, and one other action alternative.

Alternative A (No Action)

Under the No-Action Alternative, no further action would be necessary. Under this alternative, the Parkway would continue to actively manage all vistas not considered within potential CNFS habitat. Approximately 167 vistas within potential CNFS habitat would be abandoned from future management actions and allowed to naturally revegetate causing unacceptable impact to the cultural landscape by loss of historic Parkway vistas. The 2007 ban on cutting vistas identified within potential CNFS habitat would continue.

Alternative B (Historic Management Method)

Under Alternative B, the Parkway would continue to manage vegetation within all vistas in potential CNFS habitat by mechanical treatment of trees and shrubbery on a cyclic basis. This method would remove or prune all species of vegetation except those listed by Federal and State agencies and those identified by the Parkway as attractive ornamental and showy species.

Under this alternative, the cyclic maintenance of vistas could have an impact on viable populations of CNFS and other rare plants or animals that prefer late successional forests and the NPS could be out of compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the USFWS CNFS Recovery Plan. Vegetation as it reaches mature heights outside the current vista cutting limits would begin to obscure scenery. Also, this type of cutting is costly, requires many more man hours than is available by park staff, and is an inefficient means of keeping vistas intact.

ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The environmentally preferred alternative is determined by applying the criteria suggested in NEPA, which is guided by the CEQ. The CEQ provides direction that “the environmentally preferable alternative is the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy as expressed in NEPA (Section 101(b)).” The six NEPA goal statements include:

- (1) Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
- (2) Assure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and esthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
- (3) Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health and safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
- (4) Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintain wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity and variety of individual choice;
- (5) Achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life’s amenities; and
- (6) Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

Following environmental analysis, the environmentally preferred alternative is the alternative that causes the least damage to the biological and physical environment or that best protects and enhances the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the site. As evaluated against the CEQ regulations, Alternative C (Develop Desired Future Conditions for Individual Vista Clearings that have Potential to Affect CNFS) is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative.

The No-Action Alternative represents the current management of vistas, would allow the vistas to grow up reducing recreation opportunities (views to visitors) and removing cultural scenes (historic vistas) while improving natural resources (habitat for CNFS). This alternative would not uphold the NPS mandate to administer and protect the Parkway for the enjoyment of historic and cultural resources in a manner that leaves these resources unimpaired, while maintaining the CNFS habitat. Under Alternative B, the cultural and recreational resources would be preserved but there would be a negative impact on the natural resources and specifically on CNFS.

The Environmentally Preferred Alternative is Alternative C because it surpasses the No-Action Alternative and the other action alternative in realizing the full range of national environmental policy goals as stated in §101 of NEPA. Alternative C will provide the highest level of protection of natural and

cultural resources while enhancing the habitat of an endangered species. Alternative C will provide the best overall compromise between management of views by providing a relatively uncompromised recreational resource of viewing southern Appalachian landscapes and protection of an endangered species. Though some viewing areas will be eliminated under Alternative C, several of the vistas that will be eliminated provide a view or contain a view that no longer meet park standards or focuses on a scene which can be viewed from another vantage point, e.g., rock quarries. Many of those vistas that will be modified under Alternative C involve a change in the vegetation footprint that will be managed (e.g., allowing some trees to grow within a prescribed mathematical arrangement) but not fully obscure the viewing area (the distant view will still be visible). Alternative C does not significantly reduce the viewing platform offered to visitors of the park, and thus, does not adversely impact the cultural landscape as would Alternative A. Alternative C will allow for the establishment of conifers and nest trees within the managed area enhancing the view by providing variety and foreground visual features, compared to Alternative B which would cut all woody vegetation within a prescribed vista area. The changes proposed under Alternative C should not reduce visitation to the park or adversely impact local businesses. Finally, habitat for CNFS and other wildlife and vegetation will benefit and be improved under Alternative C.

MITIGATION

For the Preferred Alternative, best management practices and mitigation measures will be used to prevent or minimize potential adverse effects associated with vista cutting. These practices and measures will be incorporated to reduce the magnitude of impacts and ensure that major adverse impacts will not occur. Mitigation measures undertaken during project implementation will include, but will not be limited to, the following:

- Vista management within potential CNFS habitat will occur according to the table found in **Appendix B** in the EA that outlines specific treatments for each vista (**Table B-1**).
- On-going surveys will be conducted for Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species during site visits as part of the vista management work and at other times as deemed necessary to ensure that these species are not present.
- Park resource management staff will identify individual species of vegetation and trees critical to CNFS habitat that should not be cut as noted in **Table B-1**.
- Within vistas containing CNFS habitat, the following modification criteria will be utilized:
 - Do not cut conifers except as identified by park resource management staff.
 - Manage for health of conifers, thin to promote growth of specimens.
 - Distance between conifers shall not be more than 80 percent of the height of the trees (50 foot tall trees shall be no more than 40 feet apart).
 - Retain large birch trees as nest cavity trees in vistas of suitable size.

WHY THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

As defined by 40 CFR 1508.27, significance is determined by examining the following criteria:

Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse and which on balance may be beneficial, but that may still have significant adverse impacts, which require analysis in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

No major adverse or beneficial impacts were identified that will require analysis in an EIS. Resource topics that were addressed in the EA were soils, vegetation, T&E species (CNFS), T&E species (excluding CNFS), wildlife, neotropical migratory birds, cultural landscapes recreational/visual resources, human health and safety, and socioeconomic environment. All other resource topics were dismissed from further evaluation in the document because the associated impacts will be negligible or less.

The Preferred Alternative will have negligible, short- and long-term, localized, direct beneficial impacts on soils proposed for revegetation, and negligible, localized, direct adverse impacts on soils for the remaining disturbed lands. There will be moderate, short- and long-term, localized and regional, direct beneficial impacts on vegetation, from the reduction of perpetual disturbance and the recolonization of the rare red spruce-Fraser fir forest. Impacts on the T&E species (CNFS) will be negligible to moderate, long-term, localized direct and indirect, and beneficial from the establishment of conifers and nest trees. There will be negligible, short- and long-term, indirect beneficial impacts to T&E species (excluding CNFS) due to revegetation. Impacts on wildlife and habitat will be negligible to minor, long-term, direct and beneficial, due to an increase of spruce and birch trees. For birds dependent on spruce-fir and northern hardwood forests, there will be negligible to moderate, long-term, direct beneficial impacts on neotropical migratory birds by the creation of new habitat. Minor, long-term, direct beneficial impacts on the cultural landscape will occur from preserving the scenic quality and cultural landscape. Impacts on recreational/visual resources will be moderate, long-term, direct and beneficial due to an increase in scenic quality of vistas, as well as increased visual variety during all viewing seasons. Human health and safety will have negligible, long-term, beneficial, direct impacts due to driver's improved site distance and better day lighting of the motor road, and minor, short-term, direct adverse impacts to employees and contractors during maintenance activities. Negligible, short-and long-term, direct and indirect beneficial impacts on the socioeconomic environment will occur from employment opportunities for vista clearing contracts and expenditures from workers on the local and regional economy.

Degree of effect on public health and safety.

The NPS selected alternative will have a beneficial impact on overall public health and safety. Vista clearing will provide drivers improved site distance and better day lighting of road pavement for snow melt considerably reducing the risk for auto accidents where ice and snow tend to accumulate along the road.

Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

As discussed in the EA, there are no prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic areas, or ecologically critical areas that will be affected by implementation of the Preferred Alternative.

As described in the EA, the Parkway constitutes a cultural landscape of which vistas are considered to be one of the features that contribute to the overall historic significance of the park. Furthermore, the Parkway's 2005 draft *Historic Resource Study* found that vistas influenced the final alignment, design and layout of the Parkway and are an integral part of the designed landscape. Under the Preferred Alternative,

20 vistas will be closed, 9 vistas will remain unchanged, and the remaining 138 vistas will be retained with vegetation managed differently to protect CNFS. Though a change in shape and size of individual vistas will occur, the view will be minimally impacted and in some instances greatly enhanced or restored; therefore, preserving the cultural landscape. There will not be any impact on eligibility for National Historic Landmark (NHL) designation as the Parkway will still meet the criteria for designation. For purposes of Section 106, the determination of effect will be no adverse effect.

As the EA states, the project areas are not considered to be biologically significant; however, the CNFS, a Federal endangered species, has been identified in the project area and USFWS Recovery Plan has listed these areas as Geographic Recovery Areas.

Degree to which effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.

There were no controversial impacts identified during either preparation of the EA or the public review period. Sixty-eight comments were received from interested parties during this review period. Several comments pointed out that they agree with implementing the Preferred Alternative, two disagreed. Many comments included recommendations for mitigation and some concerns were expressed about impacts on the cultural landscape.

Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are highly uncertain, or involve unique or unknown risks.

There were no highly uncertain or unique or unknown risks identified during preparation of the EA or the public review period.

Degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.

The Preferred Alternative does not establish a precedent for any future actions that may have significant effects, nor does it represent decisions about future considerations. Future NPS actions will be evaluated through additional, project-specific planning processes that incorporate the requirements of NEPA and NPS policies.

Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, impacts.

Impacts of the NPS selected alternative to soils, vegetation, T&E species, wildlife, neotropical migratory birds, cultural landscapes, recreational/visual resources, human health and safety, and socioeconomic environment were identified. As described in the EA, cumulative impacts were determined by combining the impacts of the NPS Preferred Alternative with other present and reasonably foreseeable future actions. The impacts of other present and reasonably foreseeable future actions on resources, in conjunction with the impacts of the NPS Preferred Alternative, will result in both beneficial and adverse cumulative impacts ranging in intensity from negligible to moderate. Therefore, the NPS Selected Alternative will not contribute or result in significant cumulative impacts.

Degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed on National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

As described in the EA, vistas are an integral part of the Parkway's designed landscape. Vistas are considered to be one of the features that contribute to the overall historic significance of the Parkway as described in the park's draft *Historic Resource Study*, December 2005. Furthermore, the draft historic resource study recommends that the Parkway be nominated as a NHL. Under the Preferred Alternative, mechanical treatment techniques for each individual vista within potential CNFS habitat will be utilized based on management guidelines and mitigation objectives. These actions will be aimed at managing the

site to allow visitors a view of distant landscapes while maintaining or improving habitat for CNFS. Some viewing areas will be eliminated; however, these vistas provide a view or contain a view that no longer meet park standards or focuses on a scene which could be viewed from another vantage point, e.g., rock quarries. There will not be any impact on eligibility for NHL designation as the Parkway would still meet the criteria for designation. For purposes of Section 106, the determination of effect would be no adverse effect. The North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office has concurred with this determination.

Degree to which the action may adversely affect a T&E species or its critical habitat.

The USFWS the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) and the North Carolina Natural Heritage Database were consulted regarding potential impacts of the project on natural heritage resources, including rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species. The CNFS will benefit under the Preferred Alternative by the increase in available land and habitat. These findings were confirmed in a response letter from the USFWS dated November 1, 2007. Mitigation measures to ensure protection of this species was provided by the NCWRC in a letter dated October 25, 2007, and have been incorporated in the proposed project.

Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local environmental protection law.

The implementation of the Preferred Alternative violates no Federal, State, or local environmental protection laws.

IMPAIRMENT

In addition to reviewing the list of significance criteria, the NPS has determined that implementation of the Preferred Alternative will not constitute an impairment to the Parkway's resources and values. This conclusion is based on a thorough analysis of the environmental impacts described in the EA, relevant scientific studies, and the professional judgment of the decision-maker guided by the direction in NPS Management Policies 2006. As described in the EA, implementation of the Preferred Alternative will not result in major, adverse impacts to a resource or value whose conservation is (1) necessary to fulfill specific purposes identified in the establishing legislation or proclamation of the Parkway; (2) key to the natural or cultural integrity of the Parkway or to opportunities for enjoyment of the Parkway; or (3) identified as a goal in the Parkway's General Management Plan or other relevant NPS planning documents.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The NPS conducted public scoping for the proposed action in October and November 2007. The Parkway's Superintendent mailed a scoping letter announcing the beginning of the planning process to individuals and organization on the Parkway's planning mailing list. A public notice/news release was published in local newspapers requesting public and agency comments. In addition, the scoping letter was posted and available on the Internet at the park's web site. Through scoping and the public review process, the planning process was conducted in consultation with affected Federal agencies, State and local governments, tribal groups, and interested organizations and individuals.

As a result of the scoping effort, seven scoping comment letters were received. All comments were reviewed and analyzed to determine agency and public concerns. Based on scoping comments, and applicable Federal law, regulations, and executive orders, the NPS determined that an EA, not an EIS, was the appropriate level of compliance for the management of vistas within CNFS habitat. Public scoping comments and issues raised by NPS staff provided input used in the alternative development process and in the analysis presented in the document.

The Environmental Assessment, prepared in accordance with NEPA, CEQ regulations, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and DO #12, was made available for a 55-day public review and comment period beginning March 27, 2008, and closed May 20, 2008. A press release announcing the document's availability was published in local newspapers and on the park website. Copies of the document were sent to certain agencies and interested parties; made available at the Parkway's visitor center; and posted on the internet at the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/>). Twenty-four comment letters were received during this review period.


All comments were reviewed and addressed by the project team. Several comments pointed out that they agree with implementing the Preferred Alternative, while two disagreed. Many comments included recommendations for mitigation and some concerns were expressed about impacts on the cultural landscape. A summary of issues raised and NPS responses to substantive comments are included in Attachments A and B, as well as changes in the text of the EA that were needed.


CONCLUSION

With guidance from NPS Management Policies 2006, natural and cultural resources information, professional judgment, consideration of agency and public comments, the NPS has decided to implement the Preferred Alternative (Alternative C: Develop Desired Future Conditions for Individual Vista Clearings that have Potential to Affect CNFS) to manage vistas in CNFS habitat along the Parkway, thereby protecting and preserving CNFS habitat while providing for an enjoyable visitor experience of viewing scenery while traveling the Parkway.

The Preferred Alternative does not constitute an action that normally requires preparation of an EIS. The Preferred Alternative will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Negative environmental impacts that could occur are negligible or minor and temporary in effect. There are no unmitigated adverse impacts on public health, public safety, threatened or endangered species, sites or districts listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP, or other unique characteristics of the region. No highly uncertain or controversial impacts, unique or unknown risks, significant cumulative effects, or elements of precedence were identified. Implementation of the action will not violate any Federal, State, or local environmental protection laws.

Based on the foregoing, it has been determined that an EIS is not required for this proposed project on NPS lands, and thus, will not be prepared. Implementation may take place immediately after the date of this decision.

Recommended: 
Superintendent, Blue Ridge Parkway 12/8/08
Date

Approved: 
Regional Director, Southeast Regional Office 12-20-08
Date

ATTACHMENT A

Public Comments Content Analysis Report

Code	Description	Number of Comments
AA0001	Alternative A: Opposed to No Action	1
AA0002	Alternative B: In favor of Historic Management Method	4
AA0003	Alternative C: In favor of Preferred Alternative	11
AA0004	Alternative C: Opposed to Preferred Alternative	2
AB0001	Alternative B: Opposed to Historic Mgmt Method	1
AE10000	Affected Environment: Rare Or Unusual Vegetation	1
AE11000	Affected Environment: Species Of Special Concern	4
AE12000	Affected Environment: Wildlife And Wildlife Habitat	4
AE8000	Affected Environment: Visual Quality	3
AE9000	Affected Environment: Vegetation	1
AL3000	Alternatives: Envir. Preferred Alt./NEPA § .101&102	1
AL4000	Alternatives: New Alternatives Or Elements	23
CC1000	Consultation and Coordination: General Comments	16
CR2000	Cultural Resources: Methodology And Assumptions	8
CR4000	Cultural Resources: Impact Of Proposal And Alternatives	8
CR5000	Cultural Resources: Cumulative Impacts	1
MI0001	Mitigations	2
MT1000	Miscellaneous Topics: General Comments	15
PO4000	Park Operations: Impact Of Proposal And Alternatives	3
SE4000	Socioeconomics: Impact Of Proposal And Alternatives	2
SO0001	Soil Resources: Methodology And Assumptions	1
SO0002	Soil Resources: Impact of Proposal and Alternatives	1
TE1000	Threatened And Endangered Species: Guiding Policies, Regs And Laws	2
TE2000	Threatened And Endangered Species: Methodology And Assumptions	5
TE4000	Threatened And Endangered Species: Impact Of Proposal And Alternatives	6
TE5000	Threatened And Endangered Species: Cumulative Impacts	2
VE4000	Visitor Experience: Impact Of Proposal And Alternatives	2
VI0001	Visual Resources: Impact Of Proposal And Alternatives	6
VR2000	Vegetation And Riparian Areas: Methodology And Assumptions	2
VR4000	Vegetation And Riparian Areas: Impact Of Proposal And Alternatives	2
VS2000	Visitor Conflicts And Safety: Methodology And Assumptions	1
WH4000	Wildlife And Wildlife Habitat: Impact Of Proposal And Alternatives	1
WH5000	Wildlife And Wildlife Habitat: Cumulative Impacts	1

Comment Distribution by Status

Status	Number of Comments
Coded	68
Total	68

Correspondence Distribution by Correspondence Type

Type	Number of Correspondences
Other	4
Web Form	7
Letter	11
E-mail	2
Total	24

Correspondence Signature Count by Organization Type

Organization Type	Number of Correspondences
Federal Government	2
NPS Employee	1
Conservation/ Preservation	1
State Government	5
Tribal Government	3
Unaffiliated Individual	12
Total	24

Correspondence Distribution by State

State	Percentage	Number of Correspondences
OK	4.17%	1
TN	4.17%	1
SC	4.17%	1
NY	4.17%	1
MO	4.17%	1
NC	70.83%	17
Total		24

Correspondence Distribution by Country

Country	Percentage	Number of Correspondences
Unspecified	8.33%	2
United States of America	91.67%	22
Total		24

ATTACHMENT B

Environmental Assessment Errata Sheets

Blue Ridge Parkway North Carolina

These errata sheets should be attached to the original environmental assessment to form the complete record of the environmental impact analysis and conservation planning completed for the project. The combination of the EA and these errata, prepared in response to public comments on the EA, form the complete and final record of the Finding of No Significant Impact.

The environmental assessment was available for public review and comment for a 55-day period from March 27 through May 20, 2008. The comments received were analyzed to determine whether any new issues, reasonable alternatives, potential for significant impacts, or mitigation measures were suggested. The public comments received did not identify new issues, alternatives, or mitigation measures, nor did they correct or add substantially to the facts presented in the environmental assessment. Comments in favor of or against the proposed action or alternatives, or comments that only agree or disagree with National Park Service policy are not considered substantive. Substantive comments were received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requesting analysis of recently discovered CNFS habitat not previously evaluated in the EA. Public comments received resulted in clarification of policy, alternatives, or procedures and did not provide substantive information to change the plan's purpose, goals, objectives, selected alternative, and environmental impact analysis.

In the document 8 overlooks or vistas between Milepost 452 and 458 were examined. These vistas and overlooks were re-examined along with an additional 29 vistas between Mileposts 452 and 460. The recent discovery of CNFS in adjacent areas was taken into consideration while making these recommendations.

Changes to the environmental assessment are outlined below. Language that is changed or added is identified by italics. The page number refers to the draft document that was reviewed by the public.

EA Clarifications and Additions

Project Background

Page 2 text reads: The Parkway currently manages over 264 overlooks along its 469-mile length. One hundred thirty-eight vistas and overlooks are in potential Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel habitat and would be considered under the proposed project.

Change made reads: The Parkway currently manages over *900 vistas and* overlooks along its 469-mile length. *One hundred sixty-seven* vistas and overlooks are in potential Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel habitat and would be considered under the proposed project.

Page 2 text reads: MP 350.6 – 366.9 (Mt. Mitchell/Craggy area) -16.3 miles, 42 sites covering 45.5 acres; MP 407.5 – 408.4 (Mt. Pisgah area) - 0.9 mile, 8 sites covering 3.2 acres; MP 417.9 – 433.3 (Graveyard Fields/Richland Balsam area) - 15.4 miles, 49 sites covering 48.2 acres; and MP 445.8 – 458.2 (Waterrock Knob area) - 12.4 miles, 39 sites covering 25.8 acres.

Change made reads: MP 350.6 – 366.9 (Mt. Mitchell/Craggy area) -16.3 miles, 42 sites covering *45.7* acres; MP 407.5 – 408.4 (Mt. Pisgah area) - 0.9 mile, 8 sites covering 3.2 acres; MP 417.9 – 433.3

(Graveyard Fields/Richland Balsam area) - 15.4 miles, 49 sites covering 47.9 acres; and MP 445.8 – 460.1 (Waterrock Knob area) - 12.4 miles, 68 sites covering 51.5 acres.

Page 2 text reads: The Grandfather corridor (MP 300-305) is not considered in the proposed project since the elevation is considered to be too low (maximum of 4,400 feet) with a southern aspect to have suitable habitat and no squirrels were captured during 2005, 2006, or 2007 surveys (Cherry 2007).

Change made reads: The Grandfather corridor (MP 300-305) is not considered in the proposed project since the elevation is considered to be too low (maximum of 4,400 feet) with a southern aspect to have suitable habitat and no squirrels were captured during 2005, 2006, 2007 *and 2008* surveys (Cherry 2008).

Alternatives Considered, Alternative A

Page 10 text reads: Approximately 138 vistas within potential CNFS habitat would be abandoned from future management actions and allowed to naturally revegetate.

Change made reads: Approximately 167 vistas within potential CNFS habitat would be abandoned from future management actions and allowed to naturally revegetate *causing unacceptable impact to the cultural landscape by loss of historic Parkway vistas.*

Page 10 text reads: Potential habitat of the CNFS, and other animals that prefer mid- to late successional habitat, could return to a natural forest successional process adding an additional 122 acres of potential habitat.

Change made reads: Potential habitat of the CNFS, and other animals that prefer mid- to late successional habitat, could return to a natural forest successional process adding an additional *148.2* acres of potential habitat.

Alternatives Considered, Alternative B

Page 10 language added under Disadvantages: *Vegetation as it reaches mature heights outside the current vista cutting limits would begin to obscure scenery.*

This type of cutting is costly, requires many more man hours than is available by park staff, and is an inefficient means of keeping vistas intact. More area is clear cut every third year than is necessary to maintain the view.

Alternatives Considered, Alternative C

Page 11 language removed: Biologists and Landscape Architects in the Resource Planning & Professional Services Division would be responsible for the vista management program within potential CNFS habitat and would determine which trees can be cut at each individual vista and any other mitigation measures that are needed.

Page 11 language added under Advantages: *The current moratorium on cutting flowering shrubs and vistas outside and within CNFS habitat has caused many vistas to be overgrown or degraded. Any vegetation manipulation that would benefit CNFS habitat would also improve a visitor's ability to view scenery.*

Non-CNFS dependent species of vegetation could be removed or trimmed before growth patterns of the vegetation interfere with the open view of the vista.

Visitor's recreation experience of viewing scenery would remain intact or be improved by managing individual vistas in potential habitat to meet the desired future condition intactness by selective spatial and scheduled zone cutting of conifer and deciduous tree species.

Visitor's recreation experience of viewing scenery would remain intact or be improved by managing individual vistas in potential habitat to meet the desired future condition intactness by selective spatial and scheduled zone cutting of conifer and deciduous tree species.

Page 11 language removed under Disadvantages: Increased work load for Park Natural Resources staff and Park Landscape Architect that would be required to monitor and administer the vista contract.

Mitigation Measures

Page 15 text reads: Vista management contracts would include the table found in **Appendix B** that outlines specific treatments for each vista within potential CNFS habitat (**Table B-1**).

Change made reads: Vista management *within potential CNFS habitat would utilize the table found in Appendix B that outlines specific treatments for each vista (Table B-1).*

Page 15 language removed: Vista management contracts within CNFS habitat would be managed by the BLRI Resource Planning & Professional Services Division and awarded through the BLRI Contracting Office.

The BLRI plant Ecologist and/or the Landscape Architect would work with the vista contractor to ensure that mitigation objectives are met during project implementation.

Page 15 text reads: The Park's Plant Ecologist and/or Landscape Architect would identify individual species of vegetation and trees critical to CNFS habitat that should not be cut.

Change made reads: *Park resource management staff would identify individual species of vegetation and trees critical to CNFS habitat that should not be cut as noted in Table B-1.*

Page 15 text reads: Only conifers identified by resource management staff would be cut.

Change made reads: *Do not cut conifers except as identified by park resource management staff.*

Page 15 language removed: Spruce trees would be thinned enough to open view but still allow squirrel movement through vista.

Page 15 language added: Manage for health of conifers, thin to promote growth of specimens.

Page 15 language added: Retain large birch trees as nest cavity trees in vistas of suitable size.

Affected Environment, Recreational/Visual Resources

In the document appropriate language was added to explain the intactness of a vista and several graphics were added to visually show how the desired future condition may appear to the visitor. All of the CNFS vistas were field reviewed and percentage intactness was applied for the current condition and estimated for the desired future condition and this information was added to the impact analysis section to clarify impacts. Additional vegetation management recommendations were generated in conjunction with the CNFS guidelines. The intactness of the desired future condition was then estimated based on the vegetation prescription.

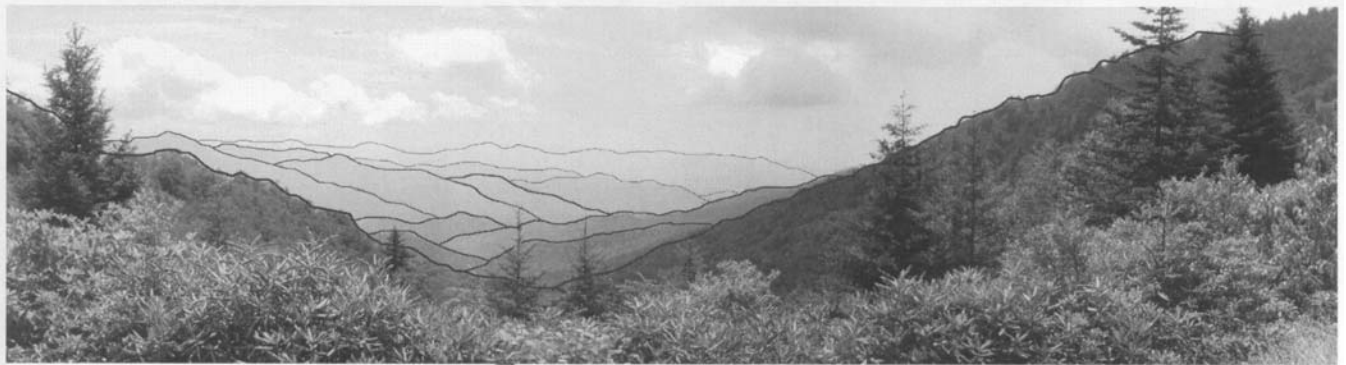
Page 28 language added: *Overlooks and roadside vistas can be described in terms of intactness. A vista that is fully or 100% intact would provide a wide open unimpeded view across a clear cut area to a particular focal point or panoramic scene. A vista that is less than 100% intact can be estimated based on what portion of the panoramic scene may be obscured. A vista from which one cannot see outside of the boundary or does not provide a spatial opening would be considered 0% intact. A vista which is estimated to be 75-100% intact may be considered by some viewers as more scenic as vegetation would*

occur within the managed vista area and provide foreground visual elements that add a depth of field and visual interest to the landscape. Vegetation managed within the vista area would also give park managers the opportunity to frame and focus views where a degradation of the natural landscape has occurred. Intactness was inventoried for all affected vistas. An existing intactness was determined and an estimate was made based on the vegetative management prescription on what the intactness would be at the desired future condition. The average intactness was improved for all alternatives except the No Action Alternative.

Page 28 graphic added:

Figure 2

Vista 90-95% Intact



Human Health and Safety

Page 29 text reads: Potential negative aspects of vista cutting:

Change made reads: *Disadvantages*

Page 29 text reads: Potential positive aspects of vista cutting:

Vista clearings remove trees that could become hazards along the motor road and in pull-outs.

Pull-outs for viewing a vista provide a safe place for visitors to park and recreate.

Change made reads: *Advantages*

Vista clearings remove trees that could become hazards along the motor road and in *overlooks*.

Overlooks for viewing a vista provide a safe place for visitors to park and recreate.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative A

Page 31 text reads: Under this alternative, approximately 138 vistas within potential CNFS habitat would be abandoned from future management actions and allowed to naturally revegetate.

Change made reads: Under this alternative, approximately 167 vistas within potential CNFS habitat would be abandoned from future management actions and allowed to naturally revegetate *causing unacceptable impact to the cultural landscape by loss of historic Parkway vistas.*

Environmental Consequences, Alternative A, Soils

Page 32 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: Under this alternative, vegetation within the 138 vistas identified as suitable for CNFS habitat would continue to grow and mature without management intervention.

Change made reads: Under this alternative, vegetation within the 167 vistas identified as suitable for CNFS habitat would continue to grow and mature without management intervention.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative A, Vegetation

Page 32 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: Under this alternative, approximately 50.1 ha currently maintained as vistas would be removed from active management and allowed to succeed into mature forests.

Change made reads: Under this alternative, approximately *60.0 ha (148.2 acres)* currently maintained as vistas would be removed from active management and allowed to succeed into mature forests.

Page 32 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: It is estimated that this community occurs in approximately 20% (10 ha) of the current vistas being maintained.

Change made reads: It is estimated that this community occurs in approximately 20% (*11 ha or 29.1 acres*) of the current vistas being maintained.

Page 33 under Cumulative Impacts text reads: The creation of the Blue Ridge Parkway resulted in over 4,200 ha (10,000 acres) of potential CNFS habitat (Ulrey, unpub. data) being protected from private development and logging.

Change made reads: The creation of the Blue Ridge Parkway resulted in over 4,200 ha (*10,378 acres*) of potential CNFS habitat (Ulrey, unpub. data) being protected from private development and logging.

Page 33 under Cumulative Impacts text reads: However, the creation of the Parkway motor road resulted in approximately 100 ha (250 acres) of habitat being lost when the road, associated cut banks and fill, overlooks and developed areas were constructed.

Change made reads: However, the creation of the Parkway motor road resulted in approximately *101 ha (250 acres)* of habitat being lost when the road, associated cut banks and fill, overlooks and developed areas were constructed.

Page 33 under Conclusion text reads: Ending maintenance activities at all 138 managed vistas in CNFS habitat would have long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on vegetation resources by allowing for succession to occupy once-natural areas.

Change made reads: Ending maintenance activities at all *167* managed vistas in CNFS habitat would have long-term, *moderate*, beneficial impacts on vegetation resources by allowing for succession to occupy once-natural areas.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative A, Threatened and Endangered Species (CNFS)

Page 33 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: Ending maintenance activities at all 138 vistas and overlooks in CNFS habitat has the potential to cause various impacts to CNFS, with all of these being positive effects.

Change made reads: Ending maintenance activities at all *167* vistas and overlooks in CNFS habitat has the potential to cause various impacts to CNFS, with all of these being positive effects.

Page 33 text reads: Eventually there could be an additional 49 ha (124 acres) containing suitable CNFS habitat for their use.

Change made reads: Eventually there could be an additional *60 ha (148.2 acres)* containing suitable CNFS habitat for their use.

Page 33 text reads: While a 49 ha block of land, or even five 10 ha tracts, could potentially provide habitat for an additional five pairs of squirrels, in reality these vistas are spread over four sections of the Parkway covering over 150 miles.

Change made reads: While a *60 ha* block of land, or even *six* 10 ha tracts, could potentially provide habitat for an additional five pairs of squirrels, in reality these vistas are spread over four sections of the Parkway covering over 150 miles.

Page 34 text reads: Research in Maryland (Bendel and Gates 1987) showed that southern flying squirrels were able to go around clear cuts as large as 4.7 ha and presumably CNFS could do the same.

Change made reads: Research in Maryland (Bendel and Gates 1987) showed that southern flying squirrels were able to go around clear cuts as large as 4.7 ha (*11.6 acres*) and presumably CNFS could do the same.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative A, Threatened and Endangered Species (CNFS)

Page 34 under Cumulative Impacts text reads: While restoring the complete 49 ha as squirrel habitat would be beneficial this would still be a negligible amount of the total habitat in the region.

Change made reads: While restoring the complete 60 ha (*148.2 acres*) as squirrel habitat would be beneficial this would still be a negligible amount of the total habitat in the region.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative A, Neotropical Migratory Birds

Page 37 under Conclusion text reads: This alternative would allow an important vegetation community, the spruce-fir-northern hardwood forests, to become re-established on 124 acres of land along the Parkway.

Change made reads: This alternative would allow an important vegetation community, the spruce-fir-northern hardwood forests, to become re-established on *148* acres of land along the Parkway.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative A, Cultural Landscapes

Page 37 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: Under Alternative A, 27 overlook vistas, 6 vistas adjacent to parking areas and 105 roadside vistas (138 views) along 45 miles of Parkway motor road in four different sections would be removed. This would have a moderate to major impact on the cultural landscape through the four segments of roadway in which these views occur. Though some new overlooks and roadside views could be created and established in non-CNFS habitats, it is not likely that the same number of views could be established. Moreover, they would likely be established in areas of lower elevation where the views would not be as spectacular.

Change made reads: Under Alternative A, 34 overlook vistas, 6 vistas adjacent to parking areas and 127 roadside vistas (*167 vistas*) along 45 miles of Parkway motor road in four different sections would be removed. This would have a moderate to major impact on the cultural landscape through the four segments of roadway in which these *vistas* occur. Though some new roadside views could be created and established in non-CNFS habitats, it is not likely that the same number of *vistas to observe the same scenery* could be established *and long term views would be permanently lost from the overlooks*. *Additionally*, they would likely be established in areas of lower elevation where the views would not be as spectacular.

Page 37 language added to Direct/Indirect Impacts: *The discussion of intactness under the recreational/visual resources section has correlation with impacts to the cultural landscape.*

Page 37 under Cumulative Impacts text reads: Combined with loss of scenic views to land disturbances outside the park, including but not limited to commercial and private development and resource extraction (rock quarries and timbering), the loss of 138 maintained vistas would be a major impact to the cultural landscape.

Change made reads: Combined with loss of scenic views to land disturbances outside the park, including but not limited to commercial and private development and resource extraction (rock quarries and timbering), the loss of *167* maintained vistas would be a major impact to the cultural landscape.

Page 37 under Conclusion text reads: Though the park's management of overlooks and vistas has changed over time through trial and error, the complete loss of more than 138 views would have a long-term, moderate to major negative impact on the cultural landscape.

Change made reads: Though the park's management of overlooks and vistas has changed over time through trial and error, the complete loss of more than 167 vistas would have a long-term, moderate to major negative impact on the cultural landscape.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative A, Recreational/Visual Resources

Page 38 language added to Cumulative Impacts: *It is expected that 167 vistas which under management could approach being 75-100% intact would revert to near 0% intactness.*

Roadside vistas which occur naturally or remain somewhat intact due to steep slopes adjacent to the motor road would also revert to near 0% intact due to vegetation within the first 20 feet of slope not being maintained.

Page 38 graphic added:



Figure 3

Vista 0-5% Intact (Alternative A: No Action)

Environmental Consequences, Alternative A, Recreational/Visual Resources

Page 38 language added under Conclusion: *Over 90% of the current vistas would be lost due to natural forest succession.*

Environmental Consequences, Alternative B, Vegetation

Page 40 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: The 138 vistas being considered in this document have been cleared for approximately the last 50 years.

Change made reads: The 167 vistas being considered in this document have been cleared for approximately the last 50 years.

Page 40 text reads: There are no known occurrences of any of the federally listed or federal species of concern species listed in **Table 3** occurring within the 138 vistas analyzed in this document.

Change made reads: There are no known occurrences of any of the federally listed or federal species of concern species listed in **Table 3** occurring within the 167 vistas analyzed in this document.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative B, Threatened and Endangered Species (CNFS)

Page 41 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: Resuming maintenance of the 138 vistas found along the Blue Ridge Parkway in CNFS habitat would have immediate and long-term, negative effects on CNFS.

Change made reads: Resuming maintenance of the 167 vistas found along the Blue Ridge Parkway in CNFS habitat would have immediate and long-term, negative effects on CNFS.

Page 41 text reads: Loss of these 49 ha of potential habitat could reduce the vigor, reproduction and survival of squirrels at a few scattered sites over the 150 miles of Parkway where these vistas are located.
Change made reads: Loss of these 60 ha (148.2 acres) of potential habitat could reduce the vigor, reproduction and survival of squirrels at a few scattered sites over the 150 miles of Parkway where these vistas are located.

Page 41 under Cumulative Impacts text reads: While maintaining the entire 49 ha of vistas and overlooks as clearings could be harmful, clearing the vistas and overlooks as proposed under this alternative would probably have only a minor impact on CNFS in the region and on Parkway lands.
Change made reads: While maintaining the entire 60 ha (148.2 acres) of vistas and overlooks as clearings could be harmful, clearing the vistas and overlooks as proposed under this alternative would probably have only a minor impact on CNFS in the region and on Parkway lands.

Page 42 under Conclusion text reads: This alternative would continue maintaining the 49 ha of clearings as an early successional ecosystem, with scattered fir trees, preventing it from being used by CNFS as nesting or foraging habitat.
Change made reads: This alternative would continue maintaining the 60 ha of clearings as an early successional ecosystem, with scattered fir trees, preventing it from being used by CNFS as nesting or foraging habitat.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative B, Threatened and Endangered Species (Indiana Bat)

Page 43 under Cumulative Impacts text reads: This increase would be much more than the 49 ha that would be lost under this alternative.

Change made reads: This increase would be much more than the 60 ha (148.2 acres) that would be lost under this alternative.

Page 43 under Conclusion text reads: Positive impacts outside of the overlooks and vistas would be much greater than the negative impacts occurring in the 49 ha covered under the proposed project.
Change made reads: Positive impacts outside of the overlooks and vistas would be much greater than the negative impacts occurring in the 60 ha (148.2 acres) covered under the proposed project.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative B, Wildlife

Page 43 under Cumulative Impacts text reads: While the loss of these 138 vistas as potential spruce-fir forests could impact a few animals, the total acreage is a very small part of the habitat found in the southern Appalachians and on Blue Ridge Parkway lands.

Change made reads: While the loss of these 167 vistas as potential spruce-fir forests could impact a few animals, the total acreage is a very small part of the habitat found in the southern Appalachians and on Blue Ridge Parkway lands.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative B, Cultural Landscapes

Page 45 language added under Conclusion: *The discussion of intactness under the recreational/visual resources section has a direct correlation with impacts to the cultural landscape.*

Environmental Consequences, Alternative B, Recreational/Visual Resources

Page 45 language added to Direct/Indirect Impacts: *The current vista clearing contract identifies several species of conifers and ornamental trees and shrubs to be left in the vistas, including flowering dogwood, rhododendron, laurel, and flame azalea. The exclusion of cutting or thinning these types of vegetation over time has reduced or eliminated the intactness of approximately 25% of vistas. To maintain all vistas at 90-100% intactness, a review of these exclusions would be necessary at each vista. In addition,*

approximately 20% of vistas have lost intactness due to trees at the current vista clearing limits growing too tall, thus blocking valley views. To maintain the historic view, it would be necessary to cut or prune some tall tree species every 40 to 50 years as these trees at the vista edge mature and obscure the view. Currently vistas average 60% intactness due to the moratorium on cutting vistas and excluding conifers and flowering trees and shrubs.

Page 45 language added to Cumulative Impacts: *It is not suggested that all vistas be maintained at 100% intact. Complete intactness requires that all vistas be clear cut of vegetation which would create a distinctive edge with little variety of species or accent flowering plants.*

Page 45 graphic added:

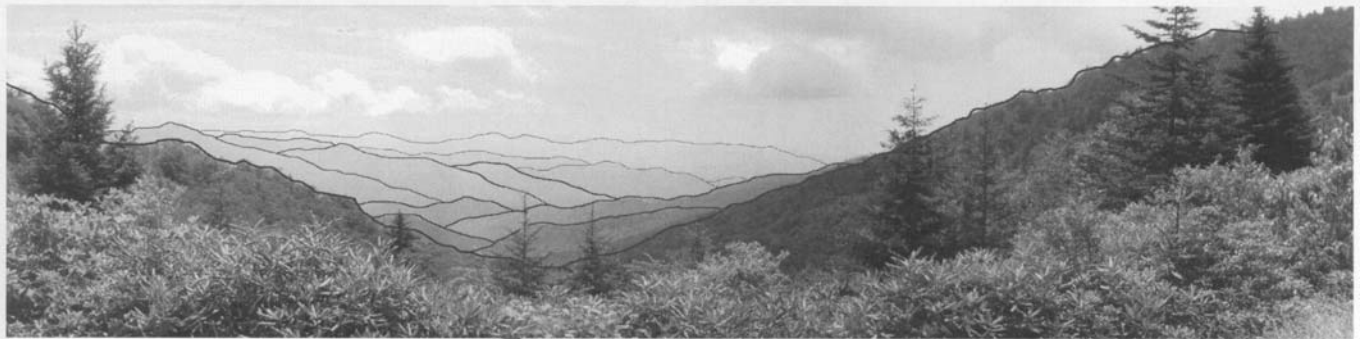


Figure 4

Vista 90-95% Intact (Alternative B: Historic Management Method)

Page 45 language removed under Conclusion: Modifications to the vista cutting contract including on-site contract observation would be necessary to modify vista shapes to screen undesirable views of residential development and mining operations, thus, maintaining visitor satisfaction.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative C

Page 47 text reads: Actions under this alternative for the 138 vistas and overlooks identified as being in potential CNFS habitat would result in six (6) sites continuing to be maintained as cleared vistas, seventeen (17) sites being removed from the vista program and allowed to completely revegetate, and the remaining 115 sites would have modified management while still being maintained as vistas or overlooks.

Change made reads: Actions under this alternative for the 167 vistas and overlooks identified as being in potential CNFS habitat would result in *nine (9)* sites continuing to be maintained as cleared vistas, *twenty (20)* sites being removed from the vista program and allowed to completely revegetate, and the remaining 138 sites would have modified management while still being maintained as vistas or overlooks.

Page 47 text reads: Of this last category 35 vistas would be permanently reduced in size with the area removed being allowed to revegetate. All of the 115 sites would allow red spruce to grow on the site for CNFS benefit, but would be thinned to open the view and promote healthy growth to the remaining stock while still allowing squirrel movement through the vista.

Change made reads: Of this last category 38 vistas would be permanently reduced in size with the area removed being allowed to revegetate. All of the 138 sites would allow red spruce to grow on the site for CNFS benefit, but would be thinned to open the view and promote healthy growth to the remaining stock while still allowing squirrel movement through the vista.

Page 47 text reads: Birch would be allowed to grow unimpeded in all 115 sites, as would any tree that has a cavity that would be suitable for nesting.

Change made reads: Birch would be allowed to grow unimpeded in all 138 sites, as would any tree that has a cavity that would be suitable for nesting.

Page 47 language added: *Tall mature trees at some vista edges would be trimmed or removed to provide valley views that over time have become obliterated. Dependent on recommendations by the park's plant ecologist, some tall trees that are not CNFS dependent species may be selectively managed for cavity trees. The chart in **Appendix D** summarizes the proposed changes in vista management under Alternative C.*

Environmental Consequences, Alternative C, Threatened and Endangered Species (CNFS)

Page 48 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: Seventeen sites were identified as being suitable CNFS habitat but were either so overgrown with large trees that it would be impractical to restore as a vista, were located in areas where there were several other vistas nearby, or did not offer unique views, thus these sites were identified for removal from the vista program.

Change made reads: *Twenty* sites were identified as being suitable CNFS habitat but were either so overgrown with large trees that it would be impractical to restore as a vista, were located in areas where there were several other vistas nearby, or did not offer unique views, thus these sites were identified for removal from the vista program.

Page 49 text reads: The remaining 115 sites have been identified as suitable CNFS habitat and would be managed as vistas but with a different standard than the rest of the Parkway's vistas.

Change made reads: The remaining 138 sites have been identified as suitable CNFS habitat and would be managed as vistas but with a different standard than the rest of the Parkway's vistas.

Page 49 text reads: Management of these 115 sites would focus on retaining vegetation that benefit CNFS, primarily red spruce, Fraser fir and yellow birch.

Change made reads: Management of these 138 sites would focus on retaining vegetation that benefit CNFS, primarily red spruce, Fraser fir and yellow birch.

Page 49 text reads: Large birch would be left on the site to provide nesting cavities.

Change made reads: *Select* large birch would be left on *or adjacent to* the vista to provide nesting cavities.

Page 49 under Conclusion text reads: Under Alternative C, there would be in excess of 122 acres of Parkway vistas being made available to Carolina Northern Flying Squirrels.

Change made reads: Under Alternative C, there would be in excess of 125 acres of Parkway vistas being made available to Carolina Northern Flying Squirrels.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative C, Cultural Landscapes

Page 51 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: By establishing a desired future condition in each of the 27 overlooks, 6 parking areas and 105 roadside vistas, the scenic quality and cultural landscape could be maintained, though changed from wholesale removal of vegetation.

Change made reads: By establishing a desired future condition *for each of the overlooks and roadside vistas*, the scenic quality and cultural landscape could be maintained, though changed from wholesale removal of vegetation.

Page 51 text reads: The impact of removing 17 vistas from the viewshed program, and reducing 35 others in size, would be negligible.

Change made reads: The impact of removing 20 vistas from the viewshed program, and reducing 38 others in size, would be negligible.

Page 51 language added: *The discussion of intactness under the recreational/visual resources section has a direct correlation with impacts to the cultural landscape.*

Page 51 under Cumulative Impacts text reads: Under Alternative C, 6 of the vistas would be left as they are while 17 other vistas would be closed. The remaining 105 vistas would be retained, but vegetation would be managed differently.

Change made reads: Under Alternative C, *nine* of the vistas would be left as they are while 20 other vistas would be closed. The remaining 138 vistas would be retained, but vegetation would be managed differently.

Page 52 under Conclusion text reads: Alternative C would preserve the cultural landscape by retaining 124 vistas and managing them in a way to protect CNFS.

Change made reads: Alternative C would preserve the cultural landscape by retaining 138 vistas and managing them in a way to protect CNFS.

Environmental Consequences, Alternative C, Recreational/Visual Resources

Page 52 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: Implementation of this alternative would maintain and enhance both potential CNFS habitat and the visitor's recreation experience.

Change made reads: Implementation of *Alternative C* would maintain and enhance both potential CNFS habitat and the visitor's recreation experience *of viewing scenery*.

Page 52 under Direct/Indirect Impacts text reads: Specific desired future conditions developed at each vista would allow the Park to direct a visitor's view and screen undesirable land uses and developments while providing potential CNFS habitat.

Change made reads: Specific desired future conditions developed at each vista would allow *park management, through selective vegetation removal*, to direct a visitor's view and screen undesirable land uses and development while providing potential CNFS habitat.

Page 52 language added: *The inclusion of conifer species and den trees within the vista would provide visual variety and foreground landscape elements not found in a typically clear cut vista. Clumping and grouping of rhododendron and laurel with spruce-firs and other conifers would provide visual variety and cover for squirrel movement along the ground. As conifers mature they would be thinned to maintain the 80% height to spacing ratio. Typically, all woody vegetation except some spruce-fir and groupings of rhododendrons would be removed within the first 20 feet of the vista.*

Tall mature trees at some vista edges would be trimmed or removed to provide valley views that over time have become obliterated. Dependent on recommendations by the park's plant ecologist, some tall trees that are not CNFS dependent species may be selectively managed for cavity nesting trees.

Page 52 language added under Cumulative Impacts: *The current vista clearing contract identifies several species of conifers and ornamental trees and shrubs to be left in the vistas, including flowering dogwood, rhododendron, laurel, and flame azalea. The exclusion of cutting or thinning these types of vegetation over time has reduced or eliminated the intactness of approximately 25% of vistas. To maintain a visitor's ability to view scenery, a review of these exclusions would be necessary at each vista. In addition, approximately 20% of vistas have lost intactness due to trees at the current vista clearing limits growing too tall, thus, blocking valley views. To maintain the historic view it would be necessary to cut, prune or create cavity tree candidates for some tall tree species every 40 to 50 years as these trees at the vista edge mature and obscure the view. Currently vistas average 60% intactness due to the moratorium*

on cutting vistas and excluding conifers and flowering trees and shrubs. It is expected that if cutting were to commence as outlined for each vista in **Appendix B** that an average intactness of 86% could be obtained.

Page 52 graphic added:



Figure 5

Vista 85% Intact (Alternative C: Preferred Alternative)

Page 52 language removed under Conclusion: Alternative C would not significantly reduce the viewing platform offered to visitors of the Park, and, thus, would preserve and enhance the recreation and visual resources. Long-term changes would be minor in scope and would provide beneficial impacts to visitors.

Page 52 language added under Conclusion: *Cumulative impacts would be positive under Alternative C. Implementation of mitigation measures outlined in **Appendix B** would benefit CNFS and visitors would be able to view scenery much the same as they have done since the Blue Ridge Parkway was opened. More variety of plant species would be found within the vistas providing an increase in visual variety during all viewing seasons. Cutting of tall mature trees (45-50 year cycles) without expanding the vista would have the potential to create cavity nesting trees and would restore valley views.*

Appendix B, Vegetation Analysis for Potential Northern Flying Squirrel Habitat

Page 76 text reads: A combination of Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis and field verification was used to identify a total of 138 vistas (124 acres) between Parkway Mileposts 350 and 459.

Change made reads: A combination of Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis and field verification was used to identify a total of 167 vistas (148.2 acres) between Parkway Mileposts 350 and 460.

Page 76 text reads: Of those 10,419 acres, 124 acres (1.2%) were currently being maintained on a cyclic basis under the vista management program.

Change made reads: Of those 10,419 acres, 148 acres (1.2%) were currently being maintained on a cyclic basis under the vista management program.

Page 76 text reads: Conifers would not be cut except as identified by Resource Management. Spruce would be thinned enough to open view but still allow squirrel movement through vista. Distance between conifers would not be more than 80% of the height of the trees (50' tall trees should be no more than 40' apart).

Change made reads: *Do not cut conifers except as identified by park resource management staff. Distance between conifers should not be more than 80% of the height of the trees (50' tall trees should be no more than 40' apart).*

Page 76 language removed: *Spruce would be thinned enough to open view but still allow squirrel movement through vista.*

Page 76 language added: *Retain large birch trees as nest cavity trees in vistas of suitable size. Manage for health of conifers, thin to promote growth of specimens.*

The listing describing the proposed changes under Alternative C on pages 77-78 was moved to Appendix D, Summary of Proposed Changes in Vista Management under Alternative C and updated to reflect the additional locations analyzed.

Appendix D

Summary of Proposed Changes in Vista Management under Alternative C

All Sections Combined

MP 350 - 460 (At Present 167 vistas, 148.235 acres, Proposed under Alternative C 147 vistas, 120.135 acres)

Vistas not changed	
Number of vistas	9
Acres	4.520
Vistas with changes in vegetation management	
Total number of vistas	138
Beginning acres	133.547
Vistas kept the same size	100
Vistas made smaller	38
Acres left in vistas with vegetation management	115.615
Acres removed when vista made smaller	17.932
Vistas removed from program	
Number of vistas	20
Acres	10.168

Section 1

MP 350 - 367 Mt. Mitchell area (At Present 42 Vistas, 45.699 acres, Proposed under Alternative C 39 vistas, 37.011 acres)

Vistas not changed	
Number of vistas	5
Acres	1.536
Vistas with changes in vegetation management	
Total number of vistas	34
Beginning acres	40.995
Vistas kept the same size	20
Vistas made smaller	14
Acres left in vistas with vegetation management	35.588
Acres removed when vista made smaller	5.407

Vistas removed from program	
Number of vistas	3
Acres	3.168

Section 2

MP 407 – 409 Mt. Pisgah area (At Present 8 Vistas, 3.167 acres, Proposed under Alternative C 6 vistas, 2.781 acres)

Vistas not changed	
Number of vistas	0
Acres	0
Vistas with changes in vegetation management	
Total number of vistas	6
Beginning acres	2.781
Vistas kept the same size	6
Vistas made smaller	0
Acres left in vistas with vegetation management	2.781
Acres removed when vista made smaller	0
Vistas removed from program	
Number of vistas	2
Acres	0.386

Section 3

MP 418 - 434 Great Balsam area (At Present 49 vistas, 47.918 acres, Proposed under Alternative C 45 vistas, 34.810 acres)

Vistas not changed	
Number of vistas	0
Acres	0
Vistas with changes in vegetation management	
Total number of vistas	45
Beginning acres	45.898
Vistas kept the same size	26
Vistas made smaller	19
Acres left in vistas with vegetation management	34.810
Acres removed when vista made smaller	11.088
Vistas removed from program	
Number of vistas	4
Acres	2.020

Section 4

MP 446 - 460 Plott Balsam/Waterrock Knob (At Present 68 vistas, 51.451 acres, Proposed under Alternative C 57 vistas, 45.420 acres)

Vistas not changed	
Number of vistas	4
Acres	2.984
Vistas with changes in vegetation management	
Total number of vistas	53
Acres under new vegetation management	43.873
Vistas kept the same size	48

Vistas made smaller	5
Acres left in vistas with vegetation management	42.436
Acres removed when vista made smaller	1.437
Vistas removed from program	
Number of vistas	11
Acres	4.494

Table B-1 was modified to more clearly explain the methodology used for intactness. The table is almost identical to the one on page 80, with the exception of the Current % and DFC% columns.

Page 80, Table B-1. Columns added for Intactness: *Current % (current percentage) and DFC % (desired future condition percentage).*

Table B-1. Site Specific Recommendations for Vistas within Potential CNFS Habitat

Vista ID #	MP	Size (Ac)	Vegetation Notes	Squirrel Activity	Notes & Recommendations	Intactness		Action			
						Current %	DFC %	Retain vista for view by cutting trees	Modify Vista		Remove from vista program
									By changing veg. mgmt	By changing size	
541	350.6 PwL	1.511	Hemlocks around vistas with very few below. No spruce or fir.	One line along vista but no captures.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. OK to thin hemlocks as they die or when spruce become taller. Favor retaining spruce over hemlock.	80 Depth may be outside boundary. Explore edge cutting.	70 Spruce should not block vista.		X		
542	350.6 PwL	1.592	Hemlocks in and around vista, but few below. No spruce or fir.	One line along vista but no captures.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. OK to thin hemlocks as they die or when spruce become taller. Favor retaining spruce over hemlock.	5 Large trees at edge of boundary, may not be able to cut.	75 If large trees can be cut at vista edge.		X		
544	351.3 PwL	1.403	Scattered hemlocks and some spruce in and around vista.	One line about 1/2 mile northeast but no captures.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. OK to thin hemlocks as they die or when spruce become taller. Favor retaining spruce over hemlock.	0 Cut not to edge of boundary. May not be able to cut.	0-60 Cannot see out. Drop if large trees cannot be cut at vista edge.		X		

546	351.6 PwL	1.424	Scattered conifers in and around vistas. Not high quality habitat.	One line about 1 mile east but no captures.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. OK to thin hemlocks as they die or when spruce become taller. Favor retaining spruce over hemlock.	60 Cut not to edge of boundary. May not be able to cut.	75 Cannot see out. Drop if large trees cannot be cut at vista edge.		X		
547	352.4 PwR	1.512	Vista is open with several 10' hemlocks. Medium sized hemlocks all around vista. Very few spruce.	Nearest lines are more than 1 mile away. No squirrels caught in those lines.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. OK to thin hemlocks as they die or when spruce become taller. Favor retaining spruce over hemlock.	100	95 No change if spruce in lower 2/3 of vista.		X		
548	354.7 PwR	1.179	Vista grown up with large spruce and hardwood trees. Lots of good habitat all around vista.	Only 1 box in four lines within ½ mile had a squirrel.	Removal recommended by BRP Landscape Architect Will Orr. Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X

549	354.8 PwR	1.633	Vista mostly gone. Lots of spruce trees, most at least medium height with many larger trees. Good habitat all around.	Only 1 box in four lines within ½ mile had a squirrel.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	10	70 Remove large deciduous trees. Reduce evergreens. Shorten vista.		X	X (Reduce to 0.5 acres)	
550	355.1 PwR	0.513	Many spruce including some medium large trees. Lots of good habitat all around.	Only 1 box in four lines within ½ mile had a squirrel.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	75	85 Remove large deciduous trees at bottom edge of vista.		X		
551	355.3 PwR	0.669	Good habitat all around and in vista.	Squirrels caught in box 0.2 mile north, but not in two lines to the east.	Ridge Junction Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Vista is 150' deep. Remove bottom 1/3 of vista.	90	95		X	X (Reduce to 0.4 acres)	
552	355.4 PwL	1.672	Few medium sized spruce. Generally open. Good habitat all around.	Squirrels caught in box 0.2 mile north but not in two lines to the east.	Remove the northern half of the vista from program. Cut vegetation in south half within 20' of parkway and thin spruce as they grow up. Leave at least one large birch for den tree.	55 1 st half of vista has no view.	70 2 nd half of vista. Manage. Remove deciduous trees, establish conifer at bottom edge of vista.		X	X (Reduce to 0.8 acres)	

553	355.5 PwL	1.414	Just a couple spruce trees in the vista.	Squirrels caught in one box in line adjacent to vista.	Removal recommended by BRP Landscape Architect Will Orr. Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X
554	356.0 PwL	0.964	Few spruce in vista. Good habitat all around.	Squirrels caught in several boxes 1/4 mile to the north and south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Vista is deep (140') and should be made shallower (100').	90	90 Manage non-CNFS dependent vegetation.		X	X (Reduce to 0.7 acres)	
555	356.2 PwL	2.164	Few spruce in vista, generally small with some medium sized. Lots of good habitat all around, though not as good as within 2 miles west of here.	Squirrels caught in several boxes 1/4 mile to the north and south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 2 -3 large birch trees for den trees. Bring bottom of vista up a little and still maintain view. Change depth from 110' to about 90' at deepest point.	90	90 Can reduce depth and retain view. Thin spruce and large trees in front 1/2 of vista.		X	X (Reduce to 2.0 acres)	
556	356.3 PwL	0.464	Large vista. Lots of spruce in vista (most small or medium size) and all around vista.	Squirrels caught in several boxes 1/3 mile to east.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	75 Good example of DFC.	90 Thin spruce to maintain 80% ratio.		X		

557	356.4 PwL	1.380	Large vista. Lots of spruce in vista (most small or medium size) and all around vista.	Squirrels caught in several boxes 1/3 mile to east.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	75 Good example of DFC after thin spruce.	80 Thin spruce to maintain 80% ratio.		X		
558	356.6 PwL	0.874	Lots of large spruce with many smaller trees. Good habitat all around vista.	Squirrels caught in several boxes 1/2 mile to east.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	25 Remove non-CNFS hardwoods.	55 Thin spruce to maintain 80% ratio.		X		
559	356.9 PwL	2.945	Many spruce, including medium/small sizes. Large spruce at bottom of vista. Good habitat above, not so good (lack of spruce) below.	Squirrels caught in 1 box about 1/3 mile to west but not in lines 1/3 mile north and south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 3 - 4 large birch trees for den trees. Reduce size of vista by not cutting spruce at bottom 25' of vista.	75	75 North 1/2 thin spruce to maintain 80% ratio. Thin Rhododendron.		X	X (Reduce to 2.5 acres)	

560	357.1 PwL	0.415	Repair of road slide in middle of vista so there is an open area with no veg. Vista has a lot of spruce with most at least med. size and many, especially at the edges, very large. Vista is surrounded with good spruce and CNFS habitat.	Squirrels caught in one box about ¼ mile to west but not in lines 1/3 mile north and south.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	85	85 Manage non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation at edges and throughout vista.		X		
561	357.7 PwL	2.393	Very thick with all sizes of spruce, including very large. Good squirrel habitat.	Squirrels caught in box less than 1/10 mile north.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 3 - 4 large birch trees for den trees.	0 Most all of vista lost.	20 Remove or top tall deciduous trees at vista edge.		X		
562	357.9 PwL	3.094	Very long, fairly shallow vista. Lots of spruce in vista and all around vista.	Squirrels caught in one box about ¼ mile to east.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 3 - 4 large birch trees for den trees.	80	90 Southern ½ vista manage non-CNFS vegetation.		X		

563	358.1 PwL	2.541	Very large vista. Lots of spruce in vista (most small or medium size), above vista and far below vista. No spruce immediately below vista.	Squirrels caught in one box about ¼ mile to east.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Do not thin much at lower end of vista. Leave 2 - 4 large birch trees for den trees.	90	90 DFC will affect 15% vista. Thin conifers to 80% ratio.		X	
564	358.3 PwL	0.281	Lots of spruce in vista, generally small with some about 30' tall. Surrounded by good habitat. Narrow and fairly shallow vista.	Squirrels caught about ½ mile east, 1 mile north and ½ mile south.	Vista is very small with good habitat all around. Maintain in vista management program at present size and shape.	65	85 Thin conifers to 80% ratio.	X		
565	358.4 PwL	0.222	Small spruce along edge of parkway. Surrounded by good habitat.	Squirrels caught about ½ mile east, 1 mile north and ½ mile south.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Very shallow and very steep vista. Vista is less than 50' deep and can be bypassed by squirrels.	40	75		X	

566	358.5 PwL	0.348	Fairly solid row of 20' – 30' spruce in vista though the spruce in and below the vista are larger, with some at least 60'. Good spruce and birch all around the vista.	Squirrels caught about ½ mile east 1 mile north and ½ mile south.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Fairly shallow vista.	90	90		X		
567	358.9 PwL	0.727	Scattered row of 20' – 40' spruce in vista. Good spruce and birch all around the vista.	Squirrels caught in lines about 1 mile both northwest and south.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Relatively small vista in large patch of good habitat. Reduce the depth by about one third.	80	90 Remove non-CNFS hardwood. Thin conifers to 80% ratio.		X	X (Reduce to 0.6 acres)	
568	359.4 PwL	1.406	Solid row of 20' – 30' spruce in vista. Good spruce and birch all around the vista.	Three lines with squirrels within 0.4 mile to the north and west.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Relatively small vista in large patch of good habitat. Reduce depth by 1/3.	80	90 Remove non-CNFS hardwood. Thin conifers to 80% ratio.		X	X (Reduce to 1.0 acres)	

569	359.5 PwL	0.439	Solid row of 20' – 30' spruce in vista. Good spruce and birch all around the vista.	Three lines with squirrels within 0.4 mile to the north and west.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Relatively small vista in large patch of good habitat. Reduce the depth by about 1/3.	5	70		X	X (Reduce to 0.3 acres)	
570	359.9 PwR	0.524	Solid row of 20' – 30' spruce in vista. Good spruce and birch all around the vista.	Three lines with squirrels within 0.3 mile.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Relatively small vista in large patch of good habitat. Reduce depth by 1/3.	30	60		X	X (Reduce to 0.4 acres)	
571	360.1 PwR	0.498	Solid row of 20' – 30' spruce in vista. Good spruce and birch all around the vista.	Three lines with squirrels within 0.3 mile.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Relatively small vista in large patch of good habitat. Reduce the depth by about one third.	50	75		X	X (Reduce to 0.3 acres)	
572	360.6 PwR	0.653	Spruce in vista and around/below vista. A lot of birch. Homogenous habitat all around.	Three lines within ½ mile with squirrels.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	80	90 Remove non-CNFS hardwood.		X		

573	360.7 PwR	0.487	Couple spruce in vista. Lots of birch.	Three lines within ½ mile with squirrels.	Supposed to be 150' but appears to be a narrow vista and easy for CNFS to move around vista. Maintain in vista management program at present shape and size (though smaller than what is in park database), which is about 50' deep.	95	95	X			
574	361.2 PwL	0.184	Only a couple spruce nearby. Lots of birch.	CNFS caught in lines about 1 mile to north.	Glassmine Falls Overlook - Small vista, easy for CNFS to go around it. Maintain in vista management program at present size and shape.	95	95	X			
575	361.2 PwL	0.158	No spruce nearby. Lots of birch. Sharp drop off. Very small vista.	CNFS caught in lines about 1 mile to north.	Upper Glassmine Falls OL - Small vista and easy for CNFS to go around it. Maintain in vista management program at present size and shape.	100	100	X			
576	361.2 PwR	0.426	Hardwood forest, very few conifers nearby. Shallow vista.	CNFS caught in lines about 1 mile to north.	Small vista and easy for CNFS to go around it. Maintain in vista management program at present size and shape.	20	85 Thin and remove non-CNFS vegetation.	X			
577	361.6 PwR	1.195	Several spruce in vista. Wide homogenous forest with birch around entire vista.	Nearest lines about 1-1/4 miles north and south. CNFS caught at both.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce as grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Very steep vista that could be reduced by about ½ in depth to about 60' deep.	100	100		X	X (Reduce to 0.6 acres)	

578	361.8 PwR	1.271	Some 40' tall birch with very few spruce or hemlocks in vista and nearby. Surrounded by homogenous hardwood habitat.	Nearest lines about 1-1/4 miles north and south. CNFS at both.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Steep slope. Reduce depth of vista about 30' (from 105' down to 75') and still not affect view.	100	100		X	X (Reduce to 1.0 acres)	
579	362.1 PwR	1.128	Hard to tell where the vista is. Solid 40' tall birch trees. Very few scattered spruce trees. Solid habitat all around.	Nearest squirrel box more than one mile to south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	100	100		X		
580	362.8 PwR	1.13	Very few scattered spruce above vista and just a couple below. Abundant birch. Homogenous habitat all around.	Squirrel in one box in line about 0.5 mile to south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	100	100		X		

581	363.1 PwR	1.5	Scattered spruce trees along parkway above vista and in distance below parkway. Very steep. Trees in this area are fairly small (about 30' tall) due to harsh conditions.	Squirrel in one box in line about .2 mile to southwest	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Reduce depth of vista from 150' to about 100' to allow trees to grow up at base of vista.	99	99		X	X (Reduce to 1.1 acres)	
582	363.4 PwL	0.331	Small patch of spruce about 150m to north, otherwise homogenous hardwood habitat all around vista. No spruce across parkway.	Squirrel in one box in line about ¼ mile to the west.	Greybeard Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	100	100		X		
583	363.9 PwR	0.46	Birch abundant. Vista looks the same as non-vista area on PwL. No conifers. Homogenous habitat all around.	Squirrel in one box in line down slope, 1/4 mile away.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	97	97		X		

589	366.9 PwL	0.575	No spruce, fir, hemlocks. Abundant birch.	Squirrels in 4 of 6 lines nearby, both north and south.	Removal recommended by BRP Landscape Architect Will Orr. Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X
664	407.5 PwR	0.484	Scattered hemlocks in vista. Spruce nearby. Fair habitat all around.	Squirrels caught in line adjacent to vista, box about 1/3 mile southwest.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	30-40 Back-ground views	80 Remove non-CNFS vegetation and clumps of Rhododendron .		X		
665	407.7 PwR	0.236	Vista consists of large hardwood trees and some hemlocks. Good habitat below and fair above.	Squirrels caught in box about 0.1 mile southwest.	Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X
667	407.7 PwR	0.699	Very few spruce trees with some hemlock in and around vista. Mainly hardwoods and Rhododendron - Fair habitat all around.	Squirrels caught in line below vista, box about ¼ mile away.	Buck Springs Gap Overlook (North) - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	80	80-90 Trim Rhododendron - leave clumped groupings to showcase flowers.		X		

669	PwL	0.453	Very few spruce trees with some hemlock in and around vista. Mainly hardwoods and Rhododendron - Fair habitat all around.	Squirrels caught in box in line ¼ mile southwest.	Mt. Pisgah Parking Area - Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	50-60	75-85 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation. Remove several large oaks as directed.		X		
670	407.8 PwR	0.713	Very few spruce and hemlocks in vista but overall vista is relatively open. Many conifers around vista. Good habitat all around vista.	Squirrel caught in box next to vista and box less than ¼ mile to south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	50-60	80 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation. Manage Rhododendron in clumped groupings for flowers.		X		
671	407.8 PwR	0.150	Spruce and hemlocks in vista. Large trees, both hardwood and conifers, in vista. Good habitat all around.	Squirrel caught in two boxes next to vista.	Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up. Very good habitat with large trees.	0	0 Remove from vista program, clean out deciduous vegetation from Rhododendron - showcase flowers.				X

672	408.3 PwR	0.227	Couple spruce but no birch in vista. Many large hardwoods in vista. Fair habitat all around vista.	Squirrels caught inbox ¼ mile to north and two boxes ½ mile to north.	No Name Overlook - Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	0	60-70 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation and several large oaks and locusts as directed.		X		
673	408.4 PwR	0.205	Very few spruce but no birch in vista. Fair habitat all around vista.	Squirrels caught inbox ¼ mile to north and two boxes ½ mile to north.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	80	85-95 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation. Manage Rhododendron in clumped groupings for flowers.		X		
710	417.9 PwL	1.081	Scattered spruce. Poor habitat all around.	Nearest line about 4 miles to west.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	60-70	90 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation and several large locusts at vista edge. Manage Rhododendron in clumped groupings for flowers.		X		

715	419.1 PwR	1.157	Few scattered spruce in vista. Poor habitat all around.	Nearest lines about 3 miles to west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Area is also used by Northern Saw-whet Owls.	100	100 At some point (it might be years) spruce may block some of the view.		X		
716	419.6 PwL	0.383	Few scattered spruce in vista. Poor habitat all around.	Nearest lines about 3 miles to west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	65	85 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation and several large oaks. Manage Rhododendron in clumped groupings for flowers.		X		
717	419.6 PwR	0.856	Few scattered spruce in vista. Poor habitat all around.	Nearest lines about 3 miles to west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	90	95 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation and several large oaks. Manage Rhododendron in clumped groupings for flowers.		X		

718	419.8 PwR	0.714	Very few spruce. Mainly Rhododendron with some hardwood, including birch. Fair habitat above, poor below.	Nearest lines about 2 miles west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	50-60	85 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation.		X	
719	420.3 PwL	0.416	Spruce, including mix of small and large trees, in vista. Good habitat all around.	Nearest lines about 2 miles west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	40-50	85 Thin laurel and Rhododendron. Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around Spruce-fir.		X	
720	420.4 PwL	0.555	Very deep and steep vista. Scattered spruce and fir within vista. Good habitat all around.	Nearest lines about 2 miles west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Bring bottom up from 110' to about 50'.	70	80-85 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio.		X	X (Reduce to 0.3 acres)

721	420.5 PwL	1.748	Scattered spruce throughout vista and along upper edge. Very steep. Good habitat all around.	Nearest lines about 2 miles west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	90	95 Remove foreground vegetation next to wall. Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio.		X		
722	420.7 PwL	1.017	Most of the vista is a boulder field with little vegetation, though there are a few conifers. Spruce and fir along parkway road shoulder. Good habitat all around. Steep and deep vista.	Nearest lines about 2 miles west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Bring bottom of vista up from 150' to 75', though boulder field may prevent colonization by vegetation.	N ½ 95 S ½ 40	95 Thin laurel and Rhododendron . Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir.		X	X (Reduce to 0.5 acres)	
723	420.8 PwL	0.823	Vista has scattered spruce and hemlocks both along parkway shoulder and in vista. Many large trees. Good habitat all around.	Nearest lines about 2 miles west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Vista is 140' and very steep. Reduce to about 75'.	50-60	80-90 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio at top of vista.		X	X (Reduce to 0.5 acres)	

724	421.1 PwL	0.744	Very steep slope. Fir, spruce and hemlocks in vista and along road shoulder. Good habitat above and fair below.	Nearest lines about 1.5 miles west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Bring bottom of vista up about 1/3.	65-70	85-95 Manage Rhododendron in clumped groupings for flowers.		X	X (Reduce to 0.5 acres)	
725	421.4 PwL	0.497	Few scattered spruce within vista. Good to fair habitat all around.	Nearest lines about 1 mile west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	80	90 Manage Rhododendron in clumped groupings for flowers.		X		
726	421.7 PwL	0.218	Except for small patch directly below overlook, vista is grown up with large hardwood and conifers. Few spruce in vista below overlook. Good habitat all around.	Three lines within 1/2 mile west. Several squirrels caught.	Fetterbush Overlook - Only maintain vista directly below the overlook resulting in a vista about 60' wide by 50' deep. OK to remove spruce and fir in compressed vista but any where else remove only enough trees to open view while allowing squirrel movement.	70	95 Remove large trees at bottom edge of vista. Remove non-CNFS deciduous vegetation.		X	X (Reduce to 0.1 acres)	

727	421.9 PwL	1.689	Spruce along parkway shoulder with some within vista. Very steep with boulder field in middle of vista. Rock face on uphill side of parkway that blocks squirrel movement across parkway. Good habitat all around.	Three lines within 1/2 mile west. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Vista listed as 200' at deepest. Bring up to 100' and can still maintain view.	75	90 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio at top of vista. Remove and trim Rhododendron .		X	X (Reduce to 1.0 acres)	
728	422.3 PwL	0.596	Scattered spruce, including some large ones, especially along upper edge of vista and few scattered within vista.	Three lines within 1/2 mile west. Several squirrels caught.	Devil's Courthouse Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	85	85		X		

729	422.3 PwR	0.29	Vista is solid with spruce and fir. Good habitat all around.	Not included in list of 124 vistas. Three lines within ½ mile west. Several squirrels caught.	Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up. Good habitat within and around vista.	0	0				X
730	423.5 PwL	0.612	Spruce and fir growing up edges with smaller trees in middle vista. Good habitat all around. Overlook and parkway create barrier to squirrel movement.	Three lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Courthouse Valley OL (North) - Leave large trees at Courthouse Valley Overlook on both north and south sides. OK to thin spruce trees below overlook and in center of vista as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	95	95		X	X (Reduce to 0.4 acres)	
731	423.6 PwL	0.964	Vista grown up with spruce and hardwoods. Good habitat all around. Vista and parkway create barrier to squirrel movement.	Three lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Courthouse Valley OL (South) - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Maintain open view through middle of vista but maintain sides of vista as they are with large spruce.	10	75 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation and manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio.		X	X (Reduce to 0.5 acres)	

732	424.4 PwL	1.382	Solid patch of 20' conifers in center of vista directly below overlook. Fair to good habitat all around.	Two lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Herrin Knob Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	N ½ 0 S ½ 90	N ½ 75 S ½ 90 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation and manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio.		X		
733	424.6 PwL	~1.4	Vista creates a barrier to squirrel movement across parkway. Scattered spruce and fir throughout vista. Boulder fields in much of vista. Fair habitat above parkway, good habitat elsewhere.	Two lines within 1.5 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Allow spruce to grow up in the middle of the vista to allow a place for squirrels to cross parkway, effectively creating two vistas. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	95-100	95-100 Manage Rhododendron in clumped groupings for flowers within 1 st 20 feet.		X	X (Reduce to 0.4 acres)	
734	424.8 PwL	0.484	Few conifers, including three large trees at overlook, in vista. Steep slope. Good habitat all around.	Two lines within 2 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Wolf Mountain OL - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave large trees near the OL. Leave 1 or 2 birch trees for den trees.	95	95		X		

735	425.0 PwL	0.840	Scattered conifers, mainly along upper edge of vista. Boulder fields in much of vista. Very steep. Good habitat all around.	Two lines within 2 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. According to database the vista is supposed to be only 50' deep. In many places closer to 100', in part due to boulder fields.	70-80	100 Manage Rhododendron in clumped groupings for flowers within 1 st 20 feet open valley view.		X		
736	425.2 PwL	1.012	Large boulder field in vista. Scattered spruce and fir along shoulder of parkway, very few in vista. Good habitat all around.	Two lines within 2 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Shown as 50' deep in database but with boulder field it is actually much deeper. Maintain as 50' deep only.	95	95		X	X (Reduce to 0.7 acres)	
737	425.4 PwL	0.277	Scattered large spruce in and around vista. Good habitat all around.	Two lines within 1 mile northwest-several squirrels caught.	Rough Butt Bald Overlook - Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	65	85 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation and manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio.		X		

738	426.5 PwL	0.876	Many spruce 20' to 30' tall along upper portion of vista, mainly at southern end. Good habitat all around.	Two lines within 1/4 mile and several more within 2 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees in middle and northern parts of vista as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave spruce patch at southern end. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	10	65 Remove non-CNFS dependent deciduous vegetation and manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio.		X		
739	426.7 PwR	1.517	Some large spruce in the south end of vista and around vista. View is open on the north end. Good to fair habitat all around.	Two lines within 1/4 mile and several more within 2 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Southern half of vista is only about 50' deep, gets deeper at north end. Remove southern 200' from vista and let it grow up into forest. Keep northern 200' open, thinning conifers as they block view.	70	85-90 Remove large trees at bottom edge vista. Thin or remove Non-CNFS dependent vegetation.		X	X (Reduce to 0.75 acres)	
740	427.6 PwL	0.161	Vista filled with spruce and other large trees. Good habitat all around.	Several lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Bear Pen Gap Overlook - Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up. Good habitat within and around vista. Other vistas nearby make this very small one unnecessary.	0	0				X

741	427.8 PwR	0.335	Many spruce growing in vista including several > 40' tall and smaller trees in a thicket in middle of vista. Good habitat all around.	Several lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Spot Knob Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	65	75 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation. Thin conifers to 80% ratio.		X		
742	427.8 PwL	0.647	Boulder field in middle of vista with no vegetation. Scattered spruce along road shoulder and within vista. Good habitat all around vista.	Several lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	40	80 Remove non-CNFS dependent vegetation. Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir.		X		
743	428.0 PwL	0.515	Scattered spruce in vista with many of them greater than 30' tall. Steep slopes. Good habitat all around vista.	Several lines within 2 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Caney Fork Overlook - Allow thinning below overlook to keep view open. Let spruce grow up in rest of vista and thin for filtered view while still allowing squirrel movement.	75	75		X		

744	428.3 PwL	1.267	Spruce thicket along roadside at north end of vista and along edges. Good to fair habitat all around. Fairly steep slope in vista.	Several lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Bring vista up in the center of the vista to make vista 50' deep rather than 100'.	N ½ 90 S ½ 40-50	85-95 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation. Thin conifers to 80% ratio.		X	X (Reduce to 0.8 acres)	
745	428.5 PwR	0.418	Lower half of vista is a thicket of 10' to 30' conifers with top half blackberries. Good habitat all around.	Several lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Beartrap Gap Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	95	95		X		
746	428.6 PwL	1.173	Scattered spruce along road and in vista. Good habitat all around. Boulder field in central portion of vista. Steep vista.	Several lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Steep slope would allow vista bottom to be brought up making a shallower vista and reducing size by about one-third.	50-60	90 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation. Highlight boulders. Manage laurel and Rhododendron in clumps.		X	X (Reduce to 0.7 acres)	

747	429.8 PwR	1.232	Many medium sized spruce and fir along roadside with many trees scattered throughout vista. Good habitat all around.	Three lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Thin or remove Rhododendron along roadside.	10-20	80 Thin conifers to 80% ratio. Leave one tall spruce and thin smaller conifers to promote healthy growth.		X		
748	430.0 PwR	2.431	Spruce, a few up to 40' tall, and fir along road shoulder and in vista. Good habitat all around. Steep drop off. Rock face on PwL.	Three lines within 1 mile. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Vista is a barrier to movement with rock face on uphill side of parkway. Bring bottom of vista up about halfway to reduce size of vista while still maintaining view.	N ½ 40-50 S ½ 80-100	N ½ 75-85 S ½ 90-100 N ½ Repeat above.		X	X (Reduce to 1.2 acres)	
749	430.1 PwR	0.933	Spruce and fir in vista, especially along top edge. Good habitat all around. Rock face on parkway.	Three lines within 1.5 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Bring up bottom of vista about halfway at lowest point to make maximum depth 50'.	100	95 Ok to reduce depth of vista. Review to ensure tall trees don't obscure valley.		X	X (Reduce to 0.6 acres)	

750	430.2 PwR	1.086	Very steep talus slope in much of vista. Few small firs in between rocks/along road shoulder. Good habitat all around. Tall rock face on PwL.	Three lines within 1.5 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	85	95 Thin spruce-fir to 80% ratio at top edge of vista. Thin to single conifer to promote large tree growth.		X		
751	430.4 PwR	0.798	Solid row of spruce along road and at top of vista. Good habitat all around, though the overlook and vista present a large barrier to movement.	Three lines within 1.5 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees, especially along road edge as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	0	75 Thin spruce-fir to 80% ratio at top edge of vista. Thin to single conifer to promote large tree growth.		X		
752	430.7 PwL	3.226	Old bald? Spruce at south & north ends with very few in center. Good to fair habitat around. Bald and overlook combined makes a large barrier.	Three lines within 1.75 miles. Several squirrels caught.	Cowee Mountain Overlook - Let spruce come in on the north (300') and south (200') ends with thinning to keep view open in the middle.	100	100		X	X (Reduce to 1.5 acres)	

753	431.0 PwR	1.052	Spruce in vista and below. Good habitat all around but vista/OL make barrier to movement across parkway at this site.	One line within 1 mile with squirrel in one box.	Haywood Jackson Overlook - OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	90	95 Thin spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Leave single spaced conifers to promote large tree growth.		X		
754	431.2 PwL	1.154	Good habitat in vista and all around.	One line within 1 mile with squirrel in one box.	Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up. Vista is barrier to squirrel movement. Plenty of other good views in area.	95	0				X
755	431.4 PwL	1.360	Scattered spruce in vista with large opening directly below overlook. Good habitat all around.	One line within 1 mile with squirrel in one box.	Richland Balsam Overlook - Maintain view to southeast by thinning spruce. Leave the rest of the vista alone and let spruce grow up.	90	90		X	X (Reduce to 0.7 acres)	
756	431.6 PwL	1.564	Scattered large spruce in vista with row of small conifers along shoulder. Good habitat all around.	One line within 1.5 miles with squirrel in one box.	OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Allow birch to enter vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	40-50	75-85 Thin spruce-fir to 80% ratio at top edge of vista. Thin to single conifer to promote large tree growth.		X		

757	431.9 PwL	0.415	Many spruce and fir, including medium and large sizes, in vista. Good habitat all around.	One line within 1.5 miles with squirrel in one box.	Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up. Good habitat all around. Good views nearby at other vistas	65	85				X
758	432.1 PwL	2.960	Steep slope with many spruce and fir in vista. Several trees 20' to 30' tall. Food habitat all around.	One line within 1.5 miles with squirrel in one box.	OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Allow birch to enter vista and leave 2 or 3 large birch trees for den trees. Southern half of vista is deep enough to bring bottom of vista up about 50' without losing view. For the northern half maintain tree line at bottom of vista where it is. Leave spruce clump at northern end.	70-80	85-95 Remove non-CNFS dependent hardwood vegetation. Thin conifers to 80% ratio.		X	X (Reduce to 2.0 acres)	
759	432.7 PwL	0.401	Just a couple conifers in vista. Good habitat all around.	One line within 2 miles with squirrel in one box.	Lone Bald Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	85	95 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation and trees at bottom edge of vista to open view.		X		

760	432.7 PwR	1.337	Row of large trees (spruce & hardwoods) about 40' below shoulder at south end and about 100' at north end of vista. Also a row along shoulder at north end. Small firs in vista. Good habitat around.	One line within 2 miles with squirrel in one box.	Decrease depth from 125' to about 40' where the large spruce trees begin at south end of vista and about 10' at north end. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	60-70	90 Remove non-CNFS hardwood deciduous vegetation and tall trees at vista edge.		X	X (Reduce to 1.0 acres)	
761	433.0 PwR	0.904	Fairly thick 10' to 30' tall spruce in vista with solid wall blocking most of the view. Good habitat above and to sides with fair habitat below.	One line within 2 miles with squirrel in one box.	OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	0	75 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir.		X		
762	433.3 PwL	0.401	Scattered spruce within vista. 'Fair habitat all around.	One line within 3 miles with squirrel in one box.	Roy Taylor Forest Overlook – Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	65	85 Remove non-CNFS hardwood deciduous vegetation and tall trees at vista edge.		X		

811	446.8 PwL	0.522	Only a couple spruce nearby. Vista is open surrounded by hardwood forest.	Nearest line 1.5 miles northwest with squirrels in 2 boxes.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	65	75 Reduce depth by 50%. Clump Rhododendron at 1 st 20 feet to showcase flowers.		X	X (Reduce to .25 acres)	
812	446.8 PwR	0.283	Waterfall view. Few spruce and hemlocks. Poor habitat all around.	Nearest line 1.5 miles northwest with squirrels in 2 boxes.	Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X
818	448.2 PwL	1.227	Three spruce in vista. Fair habitat around vista.	Line with squirrels about 1 mile north.	Scott Creek Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	50-60	90-95 Remove non-CNFS hardwood deciduous vegetation. Manage vegetation annually in 1 st 20 feet.		X		
819	448.5 PwL	1.813	Scattered spruce within vista. Fair habitat all around.	Line with squirrels about 3/4 mile north.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	0	75-85 Remove non-CNFS hardwood deciduous vegetation and tall trees at vista edge.		X		

820	448.7 PwL	0.973	Row of spruce and Rhododendron along parkway shoulder at upper end of vista with just a few below. Fairly narrow vista with fair habitat around.	Line with squirrels about 1/3 mile north and 1 mile west.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Remove Rhododendron and thin spruce along parkway to open view.	30-40	85 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation. Manage Rhododendron in clumps to showcase flowers.		X		
821	448.8 PwL	0.58	Row of spruce and Rhododendron along parkway shoulder at upper end of vista with just a few below.	Line with squirrels about 1/3 mile north and 1 mile west.	Fork Ridge Overlook - OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Allow spruce at south end to grow up.	0	80 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation. Manage Rhododendron in clumps to showcase flowers.		X		
822	449.0 PwL	0.449	Thick patch of spruce at overlook with scattered spruce at south end.	Line with squirrels next to vista with another 1 mile west.	Fork Ridge Overlook - OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Allow spruce at south end to grow up.	75	85 Remove non-CNFS dependent hardwood vegetation. Thin conifers to 80% ratio.		X		

823	449.1 PwL	0.654	Scattered spruce throughout vista with fair habitat all around.	Line with squirrels next to vista with another 1 mile west.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	65	90		X		
824	449.2 PwL	0.41	Scattered spruce just below parkway with virtually none in lower part of vista. Fair habitat above and below vista.	Line with squirrels ¼ mile east and 1 mile west.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	70	90 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir.		X		
825	449.3 PwL	0.2	No spruce in vista or across parkway.	Line with squirrels ¼ mile east and 1 mile west.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	40	90 Manage 1 st 20-30 feet. OK to reduce depth of vista. Monitor height of trees at lower vista edge to maintain views.		X		

826	449.4 PwL	1.348	Row of scattered spruce just below parkway with virtually none in lower part of vista. Fair habitat above and below vista.	Lines with squirrels about ½ mile southeast and southwest	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	65-75	90 Manage 1 st 20-30 feet of vegetation and spruce-fir to 80% ratio.		X	
827	449.6 PwL	0.793	Spruce and some Rhododendron along upper edge of vista with a few in the rest of the vista. Fair habitat all around.	Lines with squirrels about ½ mile southeast and southwest	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	55	90 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir.		X	
828	449.8 PwL	0.369	Solid row of spruce and Rhododendron along road shoulder. Boulder field down middle of vista with few spruce trees and little other vegetation. Very steep vista. Good to fair habitat.	Lines with squirrels about 1/3 mile southwest and 1 mile east.	OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Bring bottom of the vista up about halfway. Remove Rhododendron along road shoulder.	60	75-85 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir.		X	X (Reduce to 0.2 acres)

829	450.0 PwL	0.573	Scattered spruce, including large trees, in vista and many spruce and good habitat all around. Rhododendron and spruce along parkway for much of vista.	Lines with squirrels about ¼ mile southwest and 1 mile east.	OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Remove Rhododendron along road shoulder and thin spruce to open view.	75	85 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir.		X		
830	450.1 PwL	0.424	Vista is covered by a boulder field with no vegetation except for row of spruce and Rhododendron along parkway shoulder. Good habitat around vista.	Line with squirrels within ¼ mile to southwest.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch trees for den trees. Remove Rhododendron and thin spruce along parkway to open view.	95	95 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir.		X		

831	450.2 PwL	2.647	Scattered spruce throughout vista, but virtually none directly below overlook. Fair habitat all around.	Line with squirrels within ¼ to south.	Yellow Face Overlook - Allow spruce to grow up within vista at both ends. Retain enough spruce to allow squirrel movement through vista. Directly below overlook allow maintenance of view by removing spruce close to the overlook while thinning spruce farther down slope. Let birch enter vista and allow 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	95	100 Remove tall non-CNFS vegetation at edge of vista in S ½.		X	
832	450.6 PwL	0.878	Scattered spruce throughout vista with fair habitat all around.	Lines with squirrels about ½ to southeast and west.	Allow spruce or birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	75	85-90 Manage spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir in 1 st 20 feet of vista.		X	
833	450.8 PwL	0.759	Scattered spruce throughout vista with fair habitat all around. Much of the vegetation is low and with the steep slope is not blocking the view.	Lines with squirrels about ½ mile north and 1 mile southwest. Line with no squirrels nearby to south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	65-75	90 Manage spruce-fir 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir in 1 st 20 feet of vista. Remove tall deciduous vegetation to focus view.		X	

834	450.9 PwL	0.472	Few scattered spruce throughout vista. Good to fair habitat all around vista.	Lines with squirrels about ½ mile north and southwest. Line with no squirrels adjacent to east.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	70	90 Manage spruce-fir 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir in 1 st 20 feet.		X	
835	451.0 PwL	0.8	Very few spruce, most 10' to 30' tall. Good to fair habitat all around except for parkway above.	Lines with squirrels about ½ mile north and southwest. Line with no squirrels adjacent to northeast.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	65	90 Manage spruce-fir 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir in 1 st 20 feet of vista. Remove tall deciduous vegetation.		X	
836	451.2 PwL	0.627	Scattered large spruce throughout vista. Good habitat all around. Natural views along parkway to the north with low vegetation that provides good views.	Lines with squirrels adjacent to the south and within ½ mile north.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	95	95 Manage spruce-fir 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir in 1 st 20 feet of vista.		X	

837	451.2 PwR	0.307	Scattered spruce, most 10' to 30' tall. Good habitat all around except for parking lot adjacent above and parkway below.	Lines with squirrels about ½ mile north and southwest. Line with no squirrels adjacent to northeast.	Browning Knob - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	75	90 Remove and trim non-CNFS vegetation. Thin and shape large oak in center.		X NPS to complete tree work
838	451.2 PwR	1.235	Scattered spruce, most 10' to 30' tall. Good habitat all around except for parking lot above and parkway below.	Lines with squirrels about 1/4 mile north and ½ mile southwest. Line with no squirrels ¼ mile east.	First Parking Area at Top - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	95	95 Remove and trim non-CNFS vegetation. Manage specimen trees to focus views.		X NPS to complete tree work
839	451.2 PwR	0.167	Abundant spruce, with thick patches, in vista and good habitat all around except for parking lots.	Lines with squirrels about 1/4 mile north and ½ mile SW. Line with no squirrels ¼ mile east.	Third Parking Area - OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	70	90 Thin spruce-fir to 80% ratio at top edge of vista. Thin to single conifer to promote large tree growth.		X NPS to complete tree work

840	451.2 PwR	0.185	Abundant spruce, with thick patches, in vista and good habitat all around except for parking lots.	Lines with squirrels about 1/4 mile north and 1/2 mile southwest. Line with no squirrels 1/4 mile east.	Fourth Parking Area - OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	20	80 Thin spruce-fir to 80% ratio at top edge of vista. Thin to single conifer to promote large tree growth.		X NPS to complete tree work		
841	451.2 PwR	~0.1	Laurel with three spruce. Good habitat all around except for parking lot immediately below.	Lines with squirrels about 1/2 mile north and 1/4 mile southwest. Line with no squirrels 1/2 mile northeast.	Between Third and Fourth Parking Areas - Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up to create additional CNFS habitat.	0	0				X
842	451.3 PwL	0.228	Vista has many spruce and little of the view remains. Good habitat all around.	Lines with squirrels about 1/2 mile north and 1/4 mile southwest. Line with no squirrels 1/2 mile northeast.	Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up to create additional CNFS habitat.	0	0				X

843	451.3 PwL	0.288	Many spruce along edge of parkway, very few in rest of vista. Good habitat all around.	Lines with squirrels about 1/2 mile north and 1/4 mile southwest. Line w/no squirrels 1/2 mile northeast.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	40-50	85 Thin many spruce-fir to 80% ratio. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir in 1 st 20 feet of vista.		X		
844	451.5 PwL	0.290	Many spruce in vista including several over 40' and many 10'-20' along edge of parkway. Good habitat all around.	Lines with squirrels about 1/4 mile northeast and 1/2 mile south. Line with no squirrels 1/2 mile east.	OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista.	30-40	85 Same as above		X		
845	451.7 PwL	1.827	Very few spruce trees in vista and immediately below vista. Otherwise, good habitat all around. Few trees blocking view.	Lines with squirrels about 1/2 mile east and 1/2 mile south. Line with no squirrels 3/4 mile southeast.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	N 1/2 10 S 1/2 65	90 Remove non-CNFS deciduous vegetation. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir 1 st 20 feet of vista.		X		

846	451.9 PwL	0.333	Lots of spruce in vista and good habitat all around	Lines with squirrels about 1/4 mile east and 1/2 mile southeast.	Good CNFS habitat. Several vistas close by before and after this one make this one unnecessary. Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X
847	452.1 PwL	0.580	Lots of spruce in vista and good habitat all around. Some birch around vista.	Lines with squirrels adjacent to vista and 1/4 mile northeast.	Cranberry Ridge Overlook - On sides of vista OK to thin spruce to maintain view. Directly below vista remove spruce to maintain view.	80	90 Thin spruce-fir to 80% ratio at top edge of vista. Thin to single conifer to promote large tree growth.		X		
848	452.2 PwL	0.663	Row of 30' spruce along parkway with good habitat all around vista. Birch all around vista.	Lines with squirrels adjacent to vista and 1/4 mile northeast.	Good CNFS habitat. Several vistas before and after this one make this one unnecessary. Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X
849	452.3 PwL	0.774	Lots of 20' to 30' spruce in vista. Good habitat all around with lots of spruce and birch.	Lines with squirrels adjacent to vista and 1/4 mile south.	Woolyback Overlook - Allow birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	75	90 Thin spruce-fir to 80% ratio at top edge of vista. Thin to single conifer to promote large tree growth.		X		

850	452.5 PwL	0.405	Small vista (looks less than 0.4 acres) with fairly solid spruce. Good habitat all around.	Lines with squirrels adjacent to vista and ½ mile south.	Very small vista with good habitat all around. Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X
851	452.7 PwL	1.034	Line of spruce along parkway shoulder with interspersed Rhododendron -Good habitat all around though few spruce below.	Lines with squirrels within 1 mile south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Remove Rhododendron along road to open view. Favor cutting Rhododendron instead of spruce.	0	75 Remove non-CNFS deciduous vegetation. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir 1 st 20 feet of vista.		X		
852	452.8 PwL	0.728	Few spruce and birch in vista but lots of good habitat all around vista. Many Rhododendrons along road that are beginning to block the view.	Lines with squirrels within 1 mile south.	OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Thin or remove Rhododendron to open view. Cut Rhododendron before cutting any spruce to open view.	40	85 Remove non-CNFS deciduous vegetation. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir 1 st 20 feet of vista.		X		

853	452.9 PwL	0.600	Good habitat in vista and all around. View being blocked by row of spruce, fir and Rhododendron along edge of parkway.	Lines with squirrels within 1 mile south.	OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Thin or remove Rhododendron to open view. Cut Rhododendron before cutting any spruce to open view.	45	85-90 Remove non-CNFS deciduous vegetation. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir 1 st 20 feet of vista.		X		
854	453.2 PwL	0.585	Dying hemlocks and a few spruce trees in vista. A few birch and beech around edges.	Lines with squirrels within 1 mile south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	65	85 Remove non-CNFS deciduous vegetation and large trees at edges of vista.		X		
855	453.3 PwL	0.656	Large spruce at north end. Dying hemlock in vista and lots of dead hemlocks nearby. Birch along edges.	Lines with squirrels within 1 mile south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree. Could bring bottom of vista up about 30' without impacting view.	70	85 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation 1st 20 feet of vista and large trees at vista edges.		X	X (Reduce to 0.5 acres)	
856	453.35 PwL	0.278	Small vista at north end of overlook. Birch along edges of vista.	Lines with squirrels within 1 mile south.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. OK to remove birch in vista.	50	85 Remove non-CNFS deciduous vegetation.		X		

857	453.4 PwL	1.072	No view from overlook. Laurel and azalea in vista along road shoulder. Birch along edges. Spruce nearby at overlook but not in vista.	Lines with squirrels within 1 mile south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	20	90 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation 1st 20 feet of vista and large trees at vista edges.		X		
858	453.7 PwL	0.442	Small spruce at north end. Laurel and azalea along roadway. Nice view.	Lines with squirrels within 1 mile south.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	85	95 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation 1st 20 feet of vista.		X		
859	453.8 PwL	0.365	One 30' hemlock along road. View is on inside of curve and not very visible to traffic.	Lines with squirrels within 1 mile south.	Allow spruce to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Allow southern 75' of vista to grow up. Will not affect view.	10	75 Remove tall non-CNFS hardwood vegetation as directed and 1st 20 feet at front of vista.		X	X (Reduce to 0.2 acres)	
860	454.1 PwL	0.813	No birch, beech or spruce.	Lines with squirrels within 1.5 miles south.	Maintain in vista management program at present size and shape.	10	90 Remove tall non-CNFS hardwood vegetation as directed and 1st 20 feet at front of vista.	X			

861	454.4 PwL	0.761	Two dead hemlocks. Mainly locust and cherry in and around vista.	Lines with squirrels within 1.5 miles south.	Thunderstruck Ridge Overlook - Maintain in vista management program at present size and shape.	30	90 Remove tall non-CNFS hardwood vegetation as directed and 1st 20 feet at front of vista.	X			
862	454.5 PwL	1.9	Many 20'-40' hemlocks and one 40' spruce. Lots of mountain laurel and Rhododendron along the parkway.	Nearest squirrel records from about 3 miles away, though there are not boxes set nearby.	Leave spruce in vista and allow other spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 2 large birch trees for den trees.	0	90 Remove non-CNFS deciduous vegetation. Clump Rhododendron around spruce-fir 1 st 20 feet of vista.		X		
863	455.0 PwL	0.81	No view remains due to thick vegetation. Vista is on inside of curve and not easily viewed. Birch nearby and two large hemlocks in vista.	Nearest squirrel records from about 23 miles away, though there are not boxes set nearby.	Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X

864	455.1 PwL	0.513	Hemlocks scattered throughout vista. Hemlocks nearby are all dying. Lots of Mountain Laurel along parkway.	Nearest squirrel records from about 2 miles north and 2+ miles south, though there are not boxes set nearby.	Rename to Fed Cove Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	30	0					X
865	456.2 PwR	0.13	No vista at this site.	Nearest squirrel records from about 1.5 miles west and 3 miles south, though there are not boxes set nearby.	Jonathan Creek Overlook - Vista is no longer there. Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0					X
866	456.9 PwR	0.73	Poor view at this site. Several dead hemlocks with some large birch on edges of vista.	Nearest squirrel records from about 1 mile west and 3 miles south.	Remove dead hemlocks. Remove tall trees at vista edge. Focus view to mountain.	0	85					X

867	457.9 PwL	3.175	Couple of large hemlocks in vista with spruce just outside to the south.	Squirrels found about ¼ mile west and nests about 1/3 mile north.	Plott Balsam Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 2 - 3 birch trees for den trees. Allow vegetation at 100' of north end to grow up. This would have little effect on the view.	40-50	85 Remove tall non-CNFS hardwood vegetation as directed at vista edge and 1st 20 feet at front of vista. Clump Rhododendron with spruce-fir.		X	X (Reduce to 2.5 acres)	
868	458.2 PwL	0.34	Three spruce (20'-30') in vista. Birch at north corner. Otherwise maple and oak. Nice view but partially blocked.	Squirrels found 1/4 mile south and nests found 1/3 mile north and ½ mile northwest.	Wolf Laurel Gap - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	10	65-75 Remove tall non-CNFS hardwood vegetation at edges and center as directed and 1st 20 feet at front of vista.		X		
869	458.2 PwR	0.399	MP 0.4 Heintooga Rd. Vista is grown up with no view remaining.	Squirrels found ½ mile south and nests found ¼ mile and 1 mile west.	Heintooga Spur Road. Vista is not there. Remove vista from program and let vegetation grow up.	0	0				X

870	458.2 PwL	0.728	MP 0.9 Heintooga Rd. About six spruce in vista. Lots of birch nearby. View is primarily while driving south.	Squirrels found ½ mile south and nests found ¼ mile east and ½ mile west.	Heintooga Spur Road Mollie Gap - View is while driving towards parkway. Allow 100' at the west end of vista to grow up (west of large spruce). Allow other spruce trees to grow up. OK to thin if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree as den tree.	10	65 Remove tall non-CNFS hardwood vegetation as directed at bottom edge of vista.		X		
871	458.2 PwR	0.638	MP 1.36 Heintooga Rd. No spruce or birch. Few beech. Very nice view.	Squirrels found 1 mile south and nests found ½ mile south and ½ mile southwest.	Heintooga Spur Road. Mile High Overlook - Maintain in vista management program at present size and shape.	100	100	X			
872	458.2 PwR	0.41	MP 1.42 Heintooga Rd. Mainly oak and cherry. No spruce or birch. Nice view.	Squirrels found 1 mile south and nests found ½ mile south and ½ mile southwest.	Heintooga Spur Road - Maintain in vista management program- NPS staff will cut occasional large trees along bottom of edge of vista to maintain view while not enlarging vista.	10	95 Remove tall non-CNFS hardwood vegetation as directed at bottom of vista edge.		X		

873	458.2 PwR	0.772	MP 1.5 Heintooga Rd. One small birch at shoulder, otherwise locust, cherry and oak. Nice view.	Squirrels found 1mile south and nests found ½ mile south and ½ mile southwest.	Heintooga Spur Road - Maintain in vista management program at present size and shape.	90	90	X	
874	458.2 PwR	0.319	MP 2.0 Heintooga Rd. Mainly oak and maple. Nice view.	Squirrels found 1mile southwest and nests found ½ mile and 1 mile west.	Heintooga Spur Road. Lake Junaluska Overlook - Maintain in vista management program. NPS staff will cut occasional large trees along bottom of edge of vista to maintain view while not enlarging vista.	0	95 Remove tall non- CNFS hardwood vegetation as directed and at bottom edge of vista.		X
878	458.4 PwL	0.751	Single hemlock in middle of vista. Nice view.	Squirrels found 1/4 mile south and nests found ½ mile northwest and north.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	70	95 Remove non- CNFS hardwood vegetation at edges and center as directed and 1st 20 feet at front of vista.		X

879	458.6 PwL	1.065	Canopy cut. All large trees in the vista are oaks with one 20' hemlock and birch at north end.	Squirrels found 1/3 mile south and nests found 1/2 mile northwest and northeast.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees. Allow birch to replace oaks as the primary canopy tree. NPS to selectively cut.	20	85 Remove Non-CNFS hardwood vegetation at edges and center as directed. Limb and thin other large trees selectively.		X NPS to cut Vista, not part of contract	
880	458.7P PwL	0.5	50' hemlock in middle of vista. Large birch in vista.	Squirrels found 1/3 mile south and nests found 1/2 mile northwest and northeast.	Leave hemlock as long as it lives. Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave large birch as den tree.	65-75	95 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation 1st 20 feet at front of vista.		X	
881	458.9 PwL	0.917	No conifers except for two small hemlocks along parkway. Very nice view.	Squirrels found 1/2 mile southeast. Squirrel nest about 1/3 mile north.	Lickstone Ridge Overlook – Maintain in vista management program. NPS staff will cut occasional large trees along bottom of edge of vista to maintain view while not enlarging vista.	75	95 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation 1st 20 feet of vista and large trees at vista edges.		X	

882	459.0 PwL	0.775	Birch along downhill edge. No conifers. Beech nearby. View is poor.	Squirrel nest on private lands adjacent to Parkway to north.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	85	95 Remove tall non-CNFS hardwood vegetation as directed and at bottom and edges of vista.		X		
883	459.3 PwL	2.438	Two dying hemlocks in vista. Two small (5') birch along road. Beech nearby.	Squirrel nest on private lands adjacent to Parkway to north.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	40	80 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation 1st 20 feet of vista and large trees at vista edges.		X		
884	459.5 PwL	1.444	Spruce at south end of vista.	Squirrel nest about 1/4 mile southeast.	Bunches Bald Overlook - Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 or 2 large birch trees for den trees.	65-75	90 Remove non-CNFS hardwood vegetation 1st 20 feet of vista and large trees at vista edges and behind sign.		X		
885	459.7 PwL	0.697	No spruce in vista or visible nearby.	Squirrel nest about 1/2 mile southeast.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	65-75	90		X		

886	460.0 PwL	0.483	No spruce in vista or visible nearby. One dying hemlock in vista.	Squirrel nest about 1 mile southeast.	Allow spruce and birch to enter vista. OK to thin spruce trees as they grow if enough are left to allow squirrel movement through vista. Leave 1 large birch tree for den tree.	5-10	90		X		
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