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Blue Ridge Parkway News Release

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FONSI issued for managing vistas within Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel habitat Along the Blue Ridge Parkway

(Asheville) The National Park Service, Southeast Regional Director has approved the *Finding of No Significant Impact* (FONSI) for *Vista Management within Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel (CNFS) Habitat.* This document records the decision of the National Park Service to 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 Blue Ridge Parkway, as described under Alternative C in the Vista Management within Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel (CNFS) Habitat Environmental Assessment.

The National Park Service has determined that the proposed project will not significantly affect the human environment within the project area; therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

The recently approved EA and FONSI are available by visiting the National Park Service's planning website at: <u>http://parkplanning.nps.gov/documentsList.cfm?parkID=355&projectId=11396</u>. These documents have also been posted on the Parkway's website: <u>http://www.nps.gov/blri/parkmgmt/planning.htm</u>. Click on the FONSI link. A limited number of printed copies are available at Parkway headquarters, located at Milepost 384, just north of US 74A.

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