

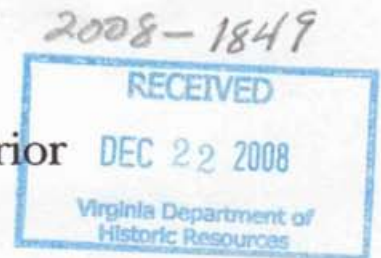
APPENDIX A
Agency Correspondence



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Prince William Forest Park
18100 Park Headquarters Road
Triangle, VA 22172



H30 (PRWI)

December 17, 2008

Ms. Kathleen Kilpatrick,
State Historic Preservation Officer
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221


Dear Ms Kilpatrick:

The National Park Service (NPS) has completed an initial draft of an environmental assessment (EA) describing the impacts of a road resurfacing project in Prince William Forest Park. During the review we identified an element of the preferred alternative that will require a further assessment for cultural resources.

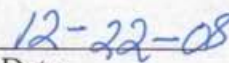
The Purpose and Need in the EA identifies the need for a redesign/alignment an intersection of the park Scenic Drive, at mile-post two. To modify the road junction, the preferred alternative identifies a small portion of road to be re-aligned with a historic road trace which is now covered in grass. The movement of the road would have a beneficial affect on the safety of visitors within the park. However, the road trace is identified as existing and as potentially having been constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

The purpose for this consultation is to notify the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) that we are in the process of developing a contract to conduct a Determination of Significance for the road trace. Due to the nature of the resource and the time-table for the environmental assessment, the park proposes to conduct the survey while the EA is available for public comment, and commit to submitting the findings to the SHPO prior to completing the compliance process.

If you concur with our approach, please indicate your concurrence on the line below.



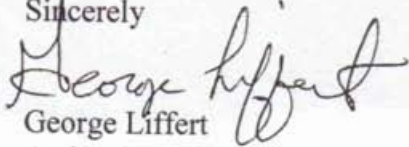
Signature



Date

For questions, please contact me at (703) 221-2366 (email George_Liffert@nps.gov), or Paul Petersen, Acting Chief of Resource Management at (703) 221-3266 (email Paul_E_Petersen@nps.gov).

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George Liffert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Liffert".

George Liffert
Acting Superintendent

Cc: Ethel Eaton

L. Preston Bryant, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources



Joseph H. Maroon
Director

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

217 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219-2010
(804) 786-7951 FAX (804) 371-2674

December 17, 2008

George Liffert
National Park Service
Prince William Forest Park
18100 Park Headquarters Road
Triangle, VA 22172

Re: #L7617, Prince William Forest Park Federal Highway Road Repaving

Dear Mr. Liffert:

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage (DCR) has searched its Biotics Data System for occurrences of natural heritage resources from the area outlined on the submitted map. Natural heritage resources are defined as the habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, unique or exemplary natural communities, and significant geologic formations.

DCR supports the continued work on the Isotria Management Plan. However, due to the legal status of the Small Whorled Pogonia, DCR recommends coordination with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to ensure compliance with protected species legislation.

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS), which has regulatory authority to conserve rare and endangered plant and insect species through the Virginia Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act, has established a Memorandum of Agreement with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). Under this Agreement DCR's Division of Natural Heritage, in consultation with VDACS, represents VDACS in its comments and recommendations regarding the potential impact of reviewed projects or activities on state-listed plant and insect species. Since it has been determined that this project or activity may impact a state-protected plant, **Small whorled pogonia**, VDACS will respond directly to ensure compliance with Virginia's Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act. Further correspondence regarding the potential impacts of this project or activity on state-listed plant and insect species should be directed to VDACS.

In addition, our files do not indicate the presence of any State Natural Area Preserves under DCR's jurisdiction in the project vicinity.

New and updated information is continually added to Biotics. Please contact DCR for an update on this natural heritage information if a significant amount of time passes before it is utilized.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries maintains a database of wildlife locations, including threatened and endangered species, trout streams, and anadromous fish waters that may contain information not documented in this letter. Their database may be accessed from <http://vafwis.org/fwis/> or contact Shirl Dressler at (804) 367-6913.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 804-692-0984. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristal McKelvey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kristal" and last name "McKelvey" clearly distinguishable.

Kristal McKelvey
Coastal Zone Locality Liaison

CC: Tylan Dean, USFWS
Keith Tignor, VDACS



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Prince William Forest Park
18100 Park Headquarters Road
Triangle, VA 22172

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30 (PRWI)

November 10, 2008

Ms. Kathleen Kilpatrick,
State Historic Preservation Officer
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221


Dear Ms Kilpatrick:

The National Park Service (NPS) is beginning to study alternatives for a Federal Highways road re-pavement project at Prince William Forest Park, in Triangle, Virginia. We are proposing the expansion of two parking lots on Park Scenic Drive. These are Parking Lots D and E. All resurfacing will occur within the existing roadway footprints. Some drainage structures may be repaired and/or replaced based on their condition. Impacts to cultural, historic, and archeological resources are not expected.

We have begun the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for this project and are beginning preparation of an environmental assessment. In accordance with Title 36 CFR 800.8 © of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations, we are notifying your office in advance of the park's intention to use the NEPA process to meet its obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

We look forward to working with your organization as we proceed with the environmental planning process for this project. If require more details for your assessment, we would be pleased to arrange a meeting with you at your convenience. Please contact me at (703) 221-2366 (email George_Liffert@nps.gov), or Paul Petersen, Acting Chief of Resource Management at (703) 221-3266 (email Paul_E_Petersen@nps.gov).

Sincerely,


George Liffert
Acting Superintendent

Cc: Ethel Eaton



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Prince William Forest Park
18100 Park Headquarters Road
Triangle, VA 22172

L7617

November 10th, 2008

Mr. Tylan Dean,
Assistant Supervisor
Endangered Species & Federal Activities
US Fish & Wildlife Services Ecological Services
Virginia Field Office
6669 Short Lane
Gloucester, VA 23061

Dear Mr. Dean:

The National Park Service (NPS) is beginning to study different alternatives for a Federal Highways road re-pavement project at Prince William Forest Park, in Triangle, Virginia.

We have begun the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for this project and are preparing an Environmental Assessment. In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and 50 CFR 402 Subpart B, we are notifying your office in advance of the park's intention to use the NEPA process to meet its management obligations.

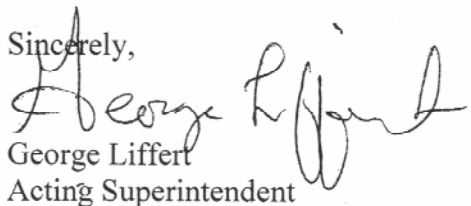
The park has worked closely with the Virginia Department of Natural Heritage (VNH) to inventory and monitor the federally threatened species, *Isotria medeoloides*, Small Whorled Pogonia, a plant that occurs in the park. Currently, park managers along with other specialists are reviewing a Draft *Isotria* Management Plan. This plan, developed by the VNH, takes into consideration multiple surveys of *Isotria medeoloides* conducted from 1983 through 2007. Suitability modeling and surveys have identified approximately 3000 acres of land within the park as potential *Isotria medeoloides* habitat. Subsequently, these lands have been surveyed for species presence and absence. Currently, there are 19 known locations of the plant in the park, ranging from a single individual plant, to colonies of up to 28 plants.

The road resurfacing project is being proposed based on recommendations provided by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The resurfacing project is being

conducted on pre-existing road surfaces and formally disturbed areas, and does not include any *Isotria medeoloides* habitat. The nearest *Isotria medeoloides* colony/individual is approximately 500 meters from a paved park road.

We look forward to working with your organization, as we proceed with the environmental planning process for this project. If you require more details for your assessment, we would be pleased to arrange a meeting at your convenience. Please contact me at (703) 221-2366 (email George_Liffert@nps.gov), or Mr. Paul Petersen, Acting Chief of Resource Management at (703) 221-3266 (email Paul_E_Petersen@nps.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George Liffert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" being more prominent and the last name "Liffert" written in a more compact, stylized manner. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

George Liffert
Acting Superintendent



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Prince William Forest Park
18100 Park Headquarters Road
Triangle, VA 22172

L7617

November 18, 2008

Ms. Rene Hypes
Environmental Review Coordinator
Virginia Natural Heritage Program
217 Governor Street, Third Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Ms. Hypes:

The National Park Service (NPS) is in the process of studying alternatives for a Federal Highways road repaving project at Prince William Forest Park (PRWI), in Triangle, Virginia.

We have begun the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for this project and are in the process of drafting an Environmental Assessment for the work. In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and 50 CFR 402 Subpart B, the NPS has notified the USFSW in advance of the park's intention to use the NEPA process to meet its management obligations. This letter extends notification to the Virginia Department of the Natural Heritage and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for informal consultation.

Park staff has worked closely with the Virginia Department of Natural Heritage (VADNH) to inventory and monitor the federally threatened species, *Isotria medeoloides* or small whorled pogonia, a plant that occurs in PRWI. Currently, park managers and other specialists are reviewing a Draft *Isotria* Management Plan. This plan, developed by the VADNH, takes into consideration multiple surveys of *Isotria medeoloides* conducted from 1983 through 2007. Suitability modeling and surveys have identified approximately 3000 acres of land within PRWI as potential *Isotria medeoloides* habitat, and subsequently these lands have been surveyed for species presence and absence. Currently, there are 19 known locations of the plant in the park, which range from a

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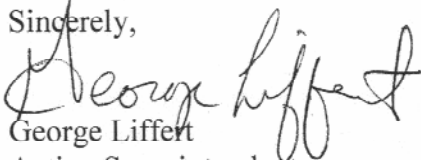
single individual plant, to colonies containing up to 28 plants. (See VA Natural Heritage Technical Report 07-08 and DRAFT Management Plan for Small Whorled Pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*) Colonies in Prince William Forest Park, Virginia - author Kevin Heffernan).

Additionally, the VADNH has produced a number of Natural Heritage Inventory reports regarding the rare and unique natural resources in Prince William Forest Park. These include an inventory and assessment of eastern hemlock (*Tsuga Canadensis*), assessments of oligiotropic seepage swamps, and an assessment of a state listed rare sedge, *Carex vestita* (See Natural Heritage Technical Reports 95-24, 97-6, and 99-08).

The road resurfacing project is a joint project between the National Park Service and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The project is being conducted on pre-existing road surfaces and formally disturbed areas, and does not include *Isotria medeoloides* habitat. The nearest *Isotria medeoloides* colony/individual is approximately 500 meters from any paved park road. The project site is neither on, nor adjacent to, any Natural Heritage Areas defined by the Virginia Department of Natural Heritage.

We look forward to working with your organization as we continue the environmental planning process for this project. If you require additional details or information for the purposes of your assessment, we can provide them to you, or we can arrange a meeting with you at your convenience. Please contact me at (703) 221-2366 (e-mail George_Liffert@nps.gov), or Mr. Paul Petersen, Acting Chief of Resource Management at (703) 221-3266 (e-mail Paul_E_Petersen@nps.gov).

Sincerely,


George Liffert
Acting Superintendent

cc: Todd P. Haymore, VDAC Commissioner



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Prince William Forest Park
18100 Park Headquarters Road
Triangle, VA 22172

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L7617 (PRWI)

April 15, 2009

Ellie Irons
Virginia DEQ
Environmental Impact Review Program Manager
629 East Main Street
P.O. Box 1105
Richmond, VA 23218

Reference: Road resurfacing in Prince William Forest Park
Subject: Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, and Coastal
Zone Management Act and Code of Virginia

Dear Ms. Irons:

The National Park Service (NPS) is studying different alternatives for a Federal Highways road repavement project at Prince William Forest Park (PRWI), in Triangle, Virginia.

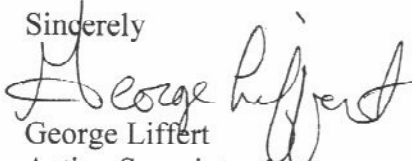
We have begun the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for this project and we are drafting an Environmental Assessment for the work. The park seeks to comply with its obligation to seek federal consistency with the policies of the Coastal Zone Management Act, as well as the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Code of Virginia (§ 10.1-1186. General powers of the Department) "5. Implement all regulations as may be adopted by the State Air Pollution Control Board, the State Water Control Board, and the Virginia Waste Management Board."

The park is conducting the road resurfacing project due to recommendations given by the Federal Highways Division of the NPS. The roads in the park are stressed by long-term environmental factors and predictable wear. The resurfacing project is being conducted on pre-existing road surfaces and includes expansions of two existing parking areas.

Prince William Forest Park requests Virginia DEQ conduct a review of the EA for both satisfaction of NEPA and CZMA. We look forward to working with your organization, and other consulting parties, and the public as we proceed with the environmental

assessment, we would be happy to arrange a meeting with you at your convenience.
Please contact me at (703) 221-2366 (email: George_Liffert@nps.gov), or Paul Petersen,
Acting Chief of Resource Management at (703) 221-3266 (email:
Paul_E_Petersen@nps.gov).

Sincerely



George Liffert
Acting Superintendent