



# Shenandoah Mountain National Scenic Area Proposal

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Friends of Shenandoah Mountain

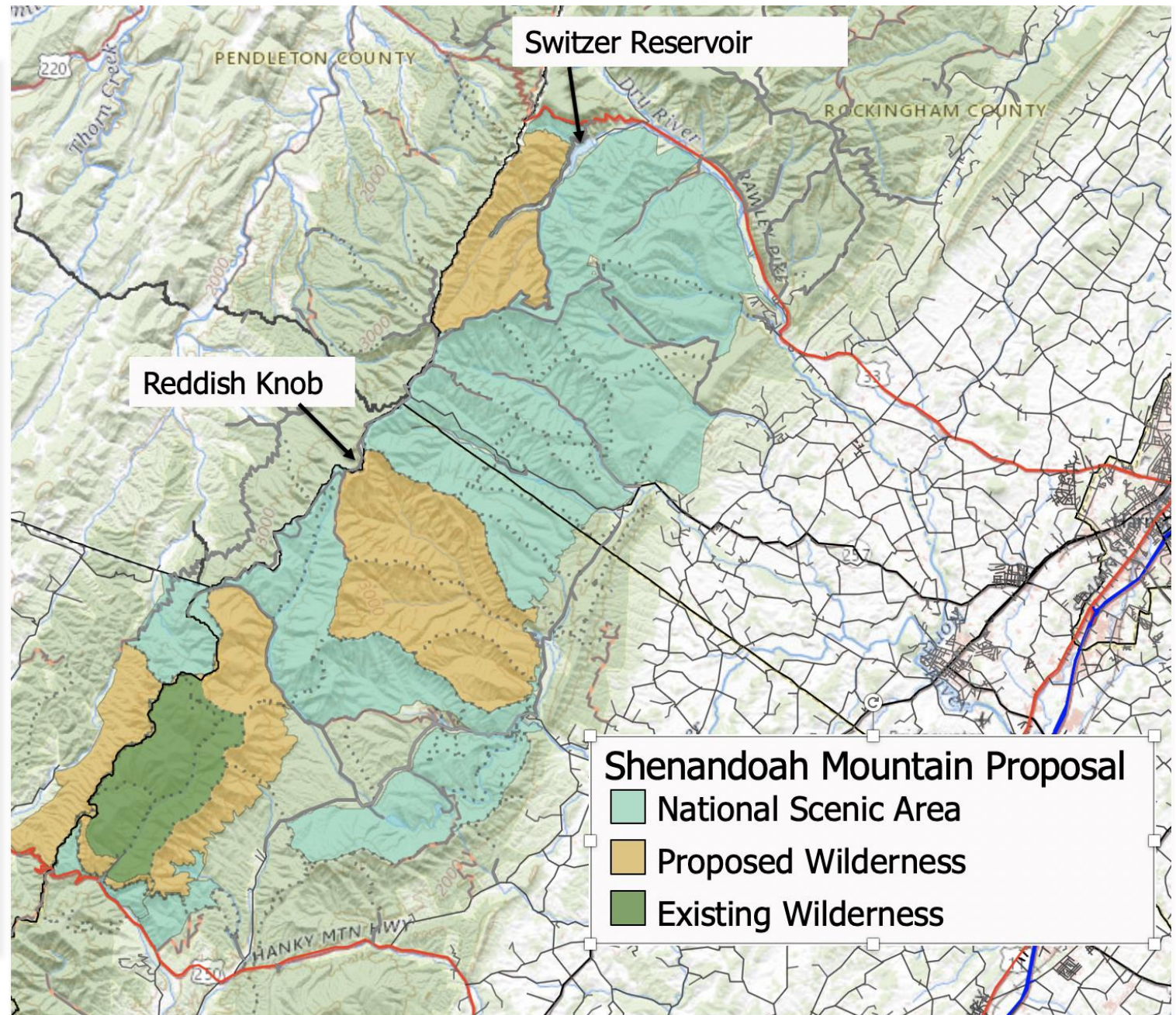
# Proposed Shenandoah Mountain National Scenic Area

90,000-acre National Scenic Area

Proposed Wilderness areas within:

- **Skidmore Fork**
- **Little River**
- **Lynn Hollow**
- **Bald Ridge Addition to  
Ramseys Draft Wilderness**

All roads would remain open.



# What is a National Scenic Area?


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- Designated by Congress to protect the:

- Scenic
- Cultural
- Historic
- Recreational and
- Natural resources

of a tract of public land while allowing compatible uses.





## Skidmore Fork Wilderness

- 5,200 acres
- Native trout stream
- 1,400-acre virgin forest
- Special species
- 7 Natural Heritage Conservation Sites





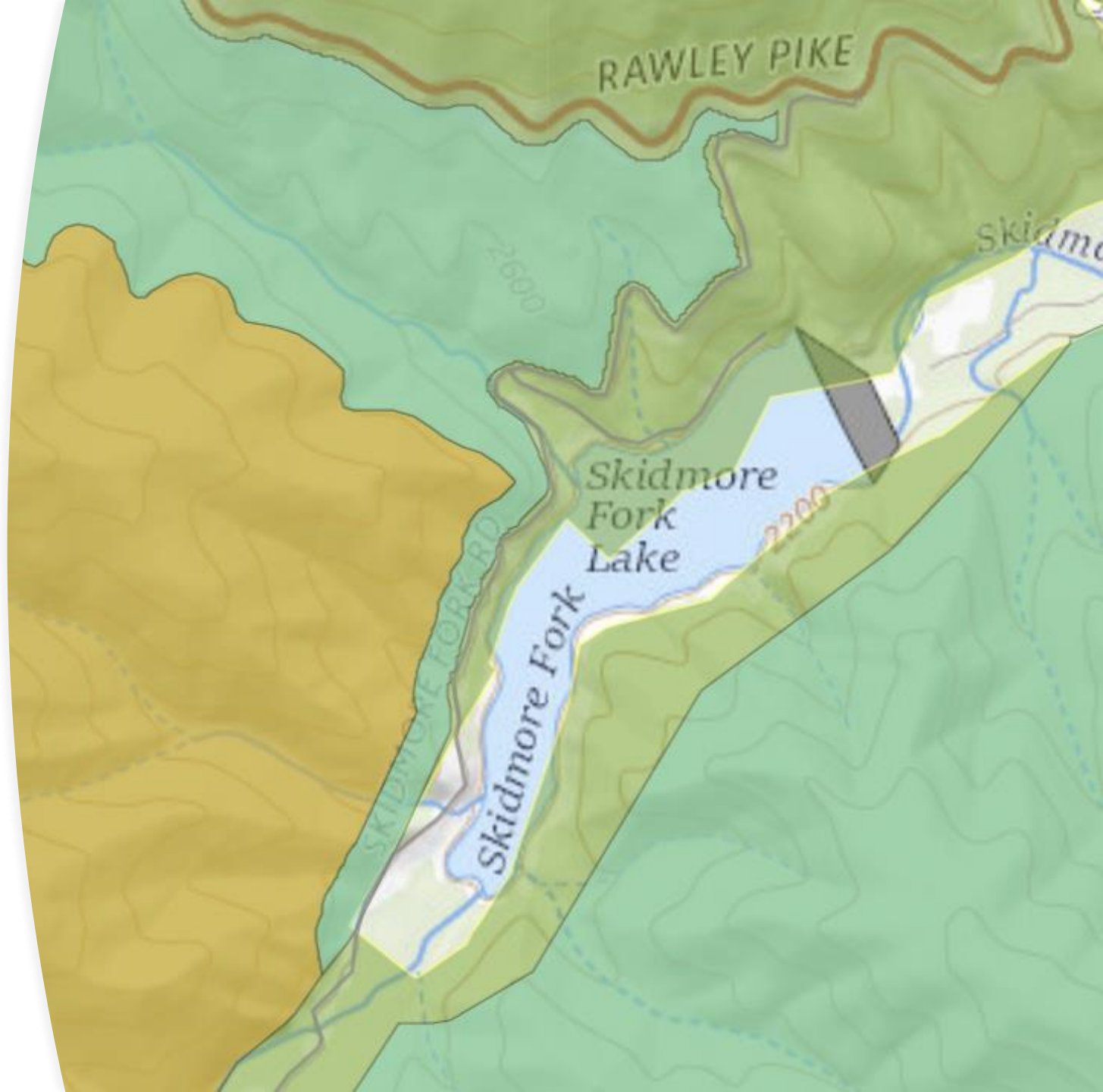
## Benefits to Switzer Reservoir

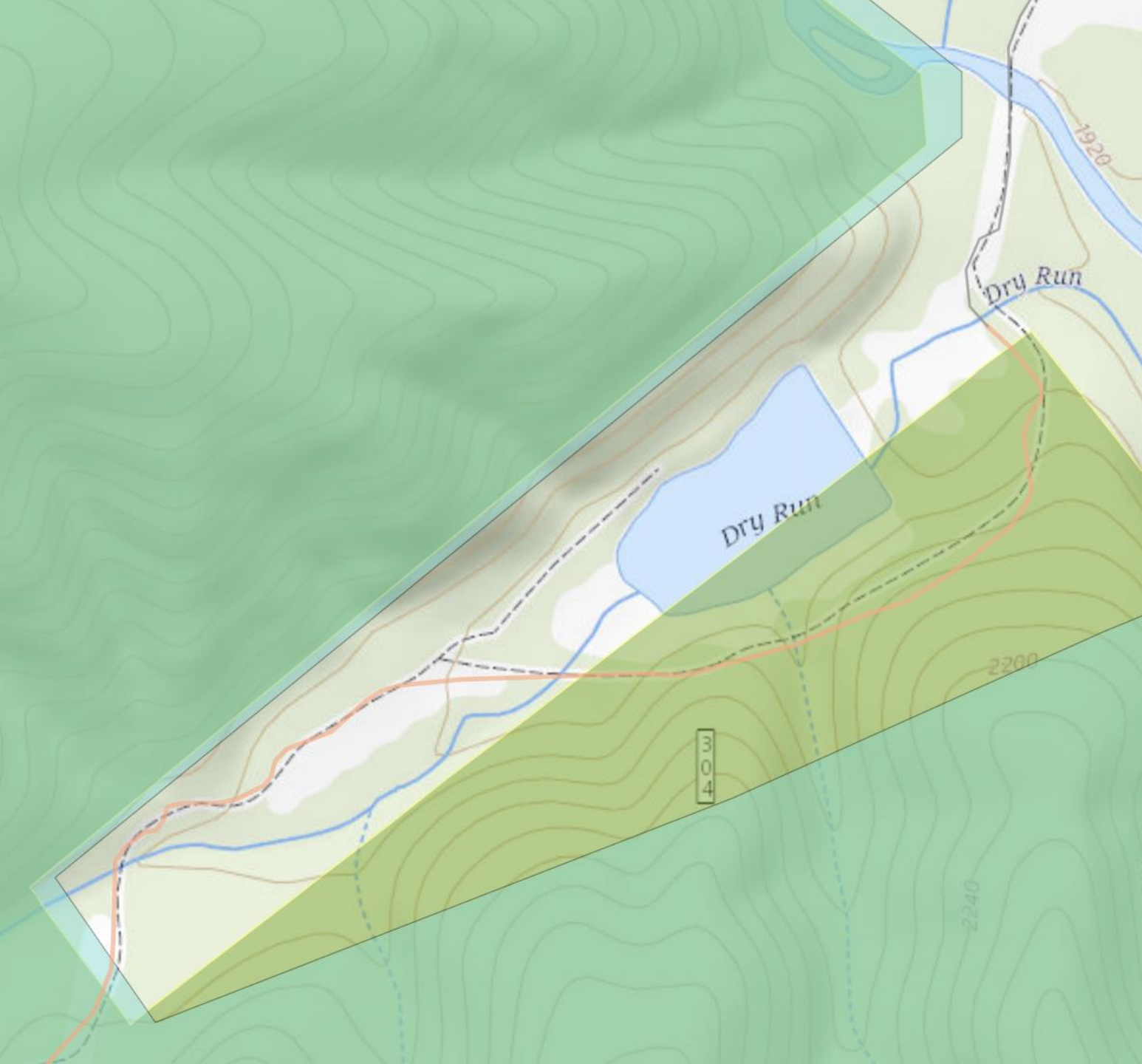
- Strong permanent protection for Harrisonburg's municipal water supply.
- Keeps water treatment costs down.
- Prevents erosion and siltation.

# Future Water Needs

## Legislation will support:

- maintenance of and improvements to existing dams and reservoirs;
- tapping into existing reservoirs for municipal use;
- establishment of new reservoirs, if needed, for the public good;
- setback of boundaries at a distance recommended by the City to allow for flexibility to meet future needs





# Dry Run Reservoir

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Boundaries will be set back to allow for expansion and access.

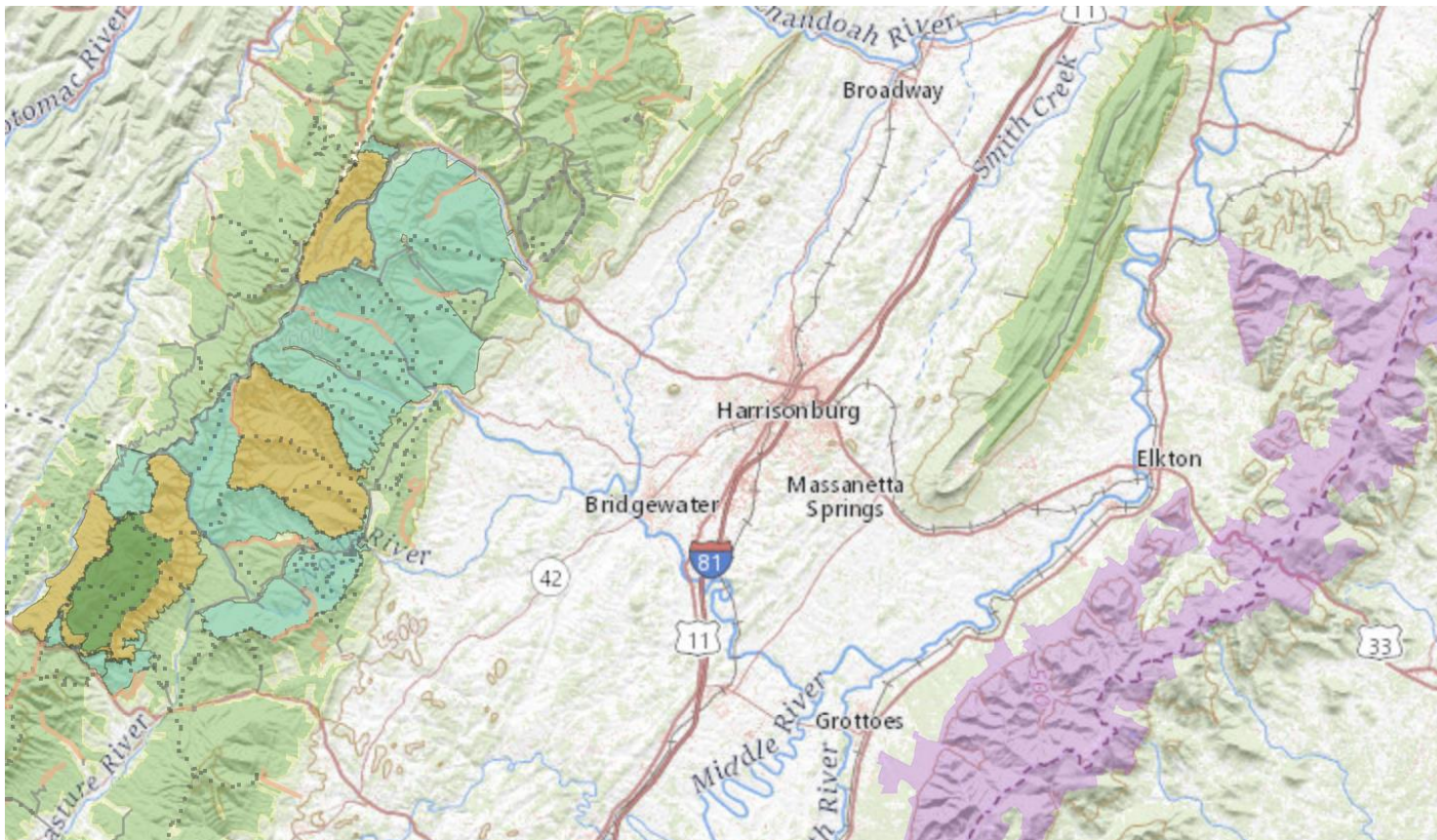
# Recreation on Shenandoah Mountain

- 150 miles of trails
- Fishing in native trout streams and lakes
- Hiking
- Mountain biking
- Hunting
- Swimming
- Nature study
- Canoeing
- Horseback riding
- Scenic driving

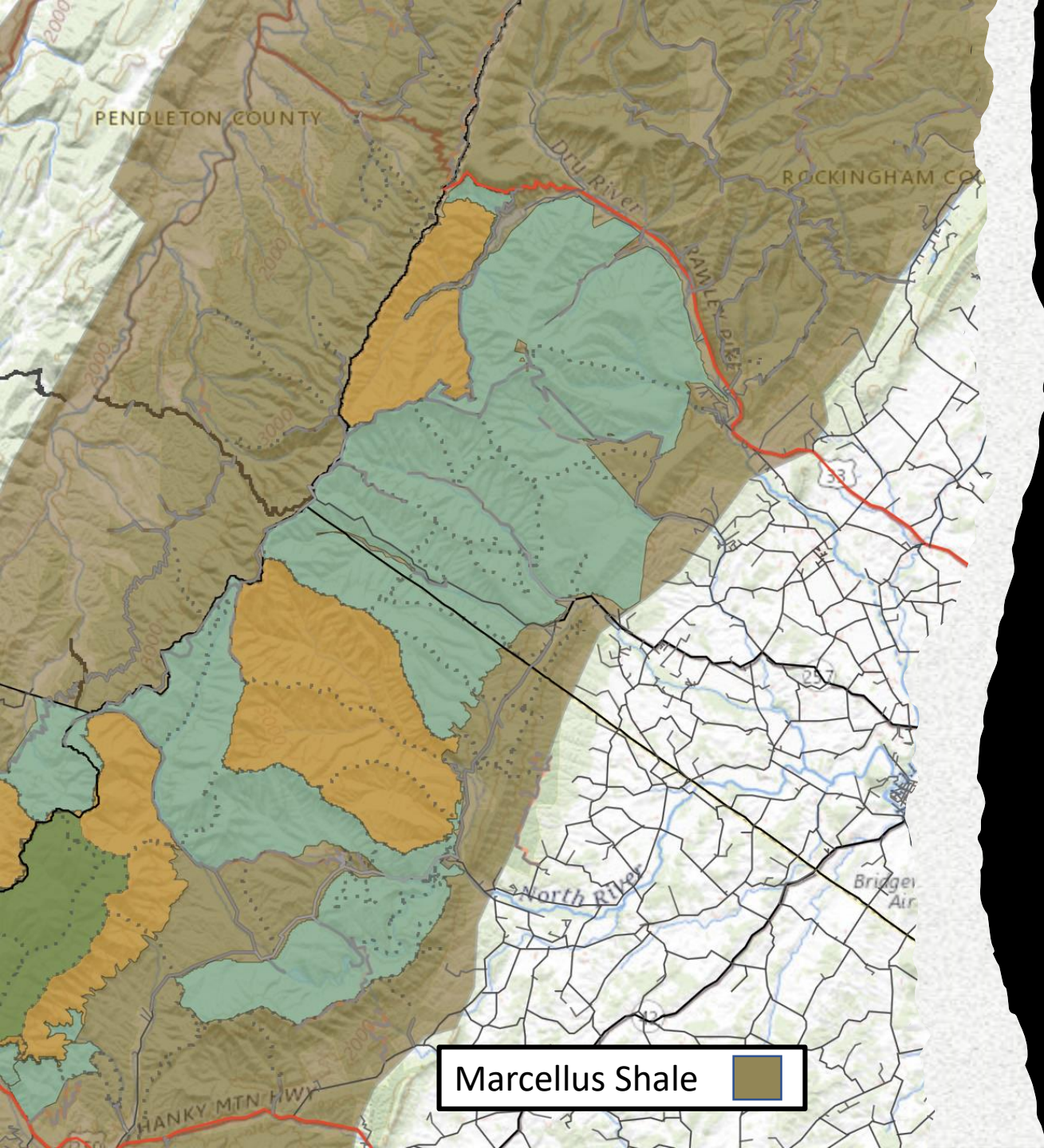




# Economic Benefits



- Draws tourists to the west
- Protects scenic beauty
- Supports outdoor recreation
- Would increase expenditures by visitors



# Shenandoah Mountain at Risk

- Underlain by Marcellus shale
- GWNF land can be leased for gas development
- SMNSA legislation would make area permanently unavailable for leasing

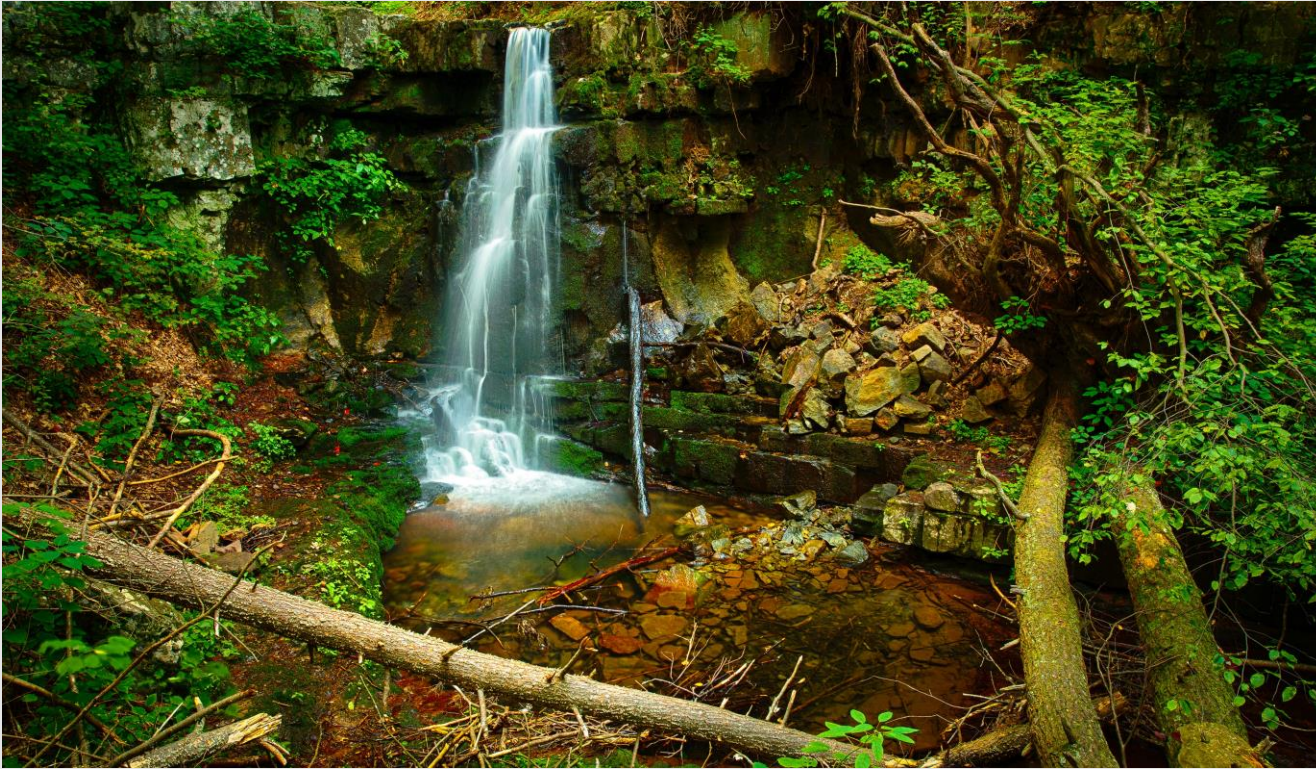


Allegheny National Forest (PA)

# Supported by

- Over 400 businesses and organizations
- Shenandoah Valley Travel Assn.
- GWNF Stakeholder Collaborative
- Recommended by GWNF Plan
- Local governments
  - City of Staunton
  - Augusta County
  - Rockingham County





## Benefits of a Shenandoah Mountain National Scenic Area

- Clean water
- Outdoor recreation
- Wildlife and plant habitat
- Economy/Tourism
- Flood protection
- Protection from fracking and other industrial development
- Migratory corridors



# Photo credits

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- Kyle Lawrence
- Lynn Cameron
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- David Wendelkin
- Steven David Johnson