

GA Stakeholder Forum June 2017 Review Synopsis

BALD MOUNTAINS Agreement	Needs Collaboration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest that this is a GA that the group agrees on!!! This GA could be used as an example of successful collaboration <p>Restoration and resiliency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrative represents the difference between the restoration opportunities in the South vs the North • Like the focus on enhancing and restoring resiliency and maintaining and increasing bald areas <p>Access/Veg Mngt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seems appropriate. <p>Habitat (wildlife):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Totally appropriate to have a focus on Elk • Goal C resonates, huge opps for high elevation wildlife species in this GA <p>MA Distrib:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seems appropriate. • Well done!! <p>Recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AT trail unites this whole area. <p>Fire:</p>	<p>Restoration and resiliency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration potential in North part of the Pigeon River Gorge. • Roan Mtn stewardship – continue and enhance engagement for bald restoration/maintenance <p>Access/Veg Management (timber and other mngt):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the best red oak timber—in Rich Mtn area and Long Arm and 12 mile strip • Access is huge for recreation connectivity in conjunction with Cherokee NF. • Spell out timber suitability. <p>Partnerships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Boundary opportunities with GSMNP, Cherokee NF, Appalachian Trail • This area has more an opportunity with partners/adjacent land owners. Wyden and Stevens funds can apply. • Land trusts and ATC. <p>Fire:</p> <p>Habitat Mngt (wildlife):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highest deer populations but in the smallest area • Migratory corridor, elk, deer, and important botanicals • Elk reintroduction. Collaboration outside of the forest plan. • Tremendous interest in Bald Mtn area from bear hunters • Black bear mgmt. needs to be discussed in this GA • Not seeing anything that mentions managing white tailed deer habitat • wildlife viewing goal needed. •

Aquatic:

MA distribution:

- Bald Mountain wilderness recommendation with exclusion of AT – CMC and SAWS.

Recreation:

- Horse and bike opps from Hot Springs, Paint Rock, Bluff Mtn—including Shut In Road
- Great area to blend recreation and wildlife viewing, and education about habitat mgmt.
- Concentrated winter use. Winter rec is popular on Roan area.
- Waterville Lake is one of the few with no public access. Public boat access to Waterville is a priority.
- Should be a few more goals for water quality.

Additional areas mentioned: Bluff Mountain, Harmon Den, Nolichucky Gorge, Paint Rock, Hot Springs, Pigeon River Gorge, Elk River Falls