PRKN requests that the Army consider the following issues in its preparation of an EA, pursuant to NEPA.

1. Conduct a full alternatives analysis that identifies alternative locations for the distribution center that would result in reduced loss of forest cover.

2. Carefully assess impacts to Natural Areas adjacent to the proposed Area D disturbance, including impacts to water resources, tree cover, erosion/stormwater, and any disturbance of contaminated soils.

3. Conduct soil, groundwater and stream surface water sampling to test for pollutants related to the range or other FB activities in this area of the site.

4. Assess all impacts to water resources, including sedimentation, fate and transport of groundwater contaminants to surface water, loss of tree cover/temperature changes, and increased flooding/scour risk due to tree cover/riparian loss.

5. Conduct formal consultation with state (DGIF) and federal (USFWS) wildlife agencies to fully assess any potential impacts to the threatened Wood Turtle and Small Whorled Pogonia.

6. Requests the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for each future project include existing and planned, unbuilt projects in the evaluation of cumulative impacts and includes NCPC in the NEPA scoping periods.

PRKN also requests that the Army hold a public meeting, with proper public notice, to announce and explain the release of the draft EA.

PRKN also incorporates by reference and fully supports the comments of Philip Latasa, Friends of Accotink Creek."

Thank you,

Potomac Riverkeeper Network
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