



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Francis Marion and Sumter National  
Forests  
Andrew Pickens Ranger District

112 Andrew Pickens Circle  
Mountain Rest, SC 29664  
864-638-9568

**File Code:** 1950

**Date:** August 7, 2026

Dear Interested Public:

You are invited to a collaborative public meeting on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 between 5:30 and 7:30pm, at the Andrew Pickens Ranger District office (112 Andrew Pickens Circle, Mountain Rest, SC 29664). This meeting will be an open house / drop-in format.

The purpose of the meeting is to share information, get feedback and answer questions about a potential White Pine Plantation Restoration Project being considered by the Forest Service. This is an opportunity for interested stakeholders to help with development of the proposed action.

### **DRAFT PROPOSAL**

The Forest Service is considering a project to restore mixed shortleaf pine / upland hardwood forest communities on sites currently dominated by Eastern white pine plantations. These mixed forest communities are ecologically better suited to these upland sites. This action is intended to support viable populations of native plants, aquatic life, and wildlife species within the project area, consistent with our management goals for forest health and ecological restoration.

Silviculture treatments are proposed at twelve sites totaling approximately 550 acres. Treatments would include timber harvest along with reforestation treatments that may include the following: mastication, herbicide site preparation, and tree planting to establish the new forest communities. Up to 2.5 miles of temporary roads would be used for access. Most temporary roads would utilize existing undesignated "woods" roads. These roads would be obliterated once project treatments are completed.

No treatment would be proposed in the following areas:

- Ellicott Rock Wilderness
- Wilderness Study Areas
- Roadless areas
- Floodplains or wetlands
- Research Natural Areas
- Chattooga Wild and Scenic River Corridor
- Botanical/Zoological Areas

Please send RSVP by August 20 so that we can ensure adequate accommodation. **To RSVP or for more information**, contact Victor Wyant, District Silviculturist, at 864-638-9568 or by email [victor.wyant@usda.gov](mailto:victor.wyant@usda.gov).

Sincerely,

ROBERT SITZLAR  
District Ranger

