

31 Juneway Lane Berlin, MD 21811

February 21, 2022

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Chair The Honorable Dana M. Stein, Vice-Chair House Environment and Transportation Committee House Office Building, Room 251 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support for HB 882

Dear Honorable Chair Barve, Vice-Chair Stein, and House Environment and Transportation Committee,

I would like to show my support for the proposed Pocomoke State Forest Wildlands Trail. As a resident of Worcester County, as well as a small ecotourism business owner in the area, and a current employee of Delaware State Parks, I can see the benefits of a trail like this from a variety of different angles.

This trail would provide a crucial connection that would make outdoors recreation more accessible to the residents of Snow Hill. It would also provide a tourism boost to the town of Snow Hill, as those camping at Shad Landing would have easy access to explore the town. I could envision the Pocomoke River Canoe Company offering one-way kayak rentals where people could return to down by foot. The new riverboat in Snow Hill could even provide tours to Shad Landing, combined with a guided walk back to town.

I can envision endless opportunities with the addition of this trail! Worcester County is lacking safe pedestrian and bicycle pathways and this trail would be a true asset to the entire region. As I saw on a poster years ago, "Roads Divide, Trails Unite!" <u>Please vote in support of HB 882!</u>

Please feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss this trail further. I can be reached at Scharle.Media@gmail.com or 410-591-8075.

Happy Trails!

Laura M. Scharle Owner & Founder

Scharle Outdoor Rec Consulting, LLC