

KATIE FRY HESTER
Legislative District 9
Howard and Montgomery Counties

Education, Energy, and
Environment Committee

Chair, Joint Committee on
Cybersecurity, Information Technology
and Biotechnology



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 8, 2024

Assistant Secretary Paul Peditto
Department of Natural Resources
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401

Assistant Secretary Peditto,

Thank you for your willingness to work with District 9A constituents to help us manage trails in the Patuxent River Wildlands for emergencies. I appreciate your ongoing partnership in balancing the preservation of our wildlands with the need to keep trails clear and safe for use.

This letter is to confirm that DNR is working to grant the Howard County - Iron Bridge Hounds, Inc. (HIBH) access to clear trails for emergencies in the Wildlands from April-September of 2024. I am hoping that a completed Memorandum of Understanding for HIBH to clear trails for emergencies with mechanized/motorized equipment will be completed as soon as possible, upon receipt of the requested maps. Please let me know what a reasonable timeframe might be, as I know HIBH was hoping to begin clearing the trails April 1st.

Again, I appreciate your ongoing partnership. I appreciate a response at your earliest convenience confirming the potential timeline. Many thanks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Fry Hester".

Senator Katie Fry Hester
District 9 - Howard & Montgomery County

CC: Secretary Josh Kurtz
Mr. Dylan Behler, Director of Legislative and Constituent Services
Mr. Darragh Moriarty, Counsel Education, Energy & Environment
Ms. Ann Moxley
Mr. Rob Scranton
Mr. Don Reuwer