

Dear Mr. Mullenax –

This brief comment is in support of the study sponsored by HEPMPO concerning the Weverton crossing over the CSX rail line used by thousands of paddlers and hikers each year near Harpers Ferry. I am a whitewater paddler and was a member of the 1975 US Whitewater Team (Yugoslavia, K-1W slalom). I have been a regional planner for more than 40 years specializing in the protection of special places for the sake of historic preservation, interpretation, recreation, and unique community assets; my practice includes a focus on rural communities, and I am a co-author of *Saving America's Countryside*.

Your organization deserves much congratulations and gratitude from the recreation community for such a professional, clear study. You did the right thing in working to solve a knotty question of public access and public safety. In my view, either solution advanced by the study would be acceptable. The only unacceptable outcome would be to do nothing.

Best wishes – Elizabeth Watson

**HERITAGE** *strategies*

**A. Elizabeth Watson, FAICP**

Heritage Strategies, LLC

p/ [410.725.1272](tel:410.725.1272)

f/ [866.504.9079](tel:866.504.9079)

[ewatson@heritagestrategies.com](mailto:ewatson@heritagestrategies.com)

[www.heritagestrategies.com](http://www.heritagestrategies.com)