



October 13, 2023

Jordan Green
District Biologist
Virginia DWR
Fredericksburg Office
1320 Belman Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Dear Mr. Green,

We represent the members of the Blue Ridge Mountain Civic Association located in both Clarke and Loudoun counties along Blue Ridge Mountain Road.

We are writing to you regarding a bear that recently died on a resident's property due to a severe case of mange. In late September, two residents reached out to your office for advice and assistance. Your office explained that there was not much that they could do. Several weeks later, the bear was still alive and suffering and our neighbor was then told to find someone to put it down humanely. The bear died before anyone could be found who would be willing to do this. This was a painful process for our residents to witness.

With all due respect, this bear clearly suffered. We are reaching out to you in hopes of finding a better and more humane way to deal with a situation like this going forward. Who can our residents turn to for assistance when this happens again? Who can euthanize a bear with mange? Is special permission required? If so, from whom? Who will remove the bear carcass? We would appreciate answers to these questions so that we can inform the members of our association.

We understand your office is busy and short-staffed, but we feel an obligation to care for the wildlife in our community. It was very sad to see this beautiful bear slowly decline. We feel that if we are better informed, we can respond quickly if this should happen again.

Respectfully,

Paz Andrae
Vice President
Blue Ridge Mountain Civic Association
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