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**ACTION ALERT**

Air National Guard Low-Fly Proposal for PA Wilds

Dear KTA Members and Friends,

The Maryland Air National Guard (MD ANG) is taking public comment until Dec. 15th on its proposed 2,178 square mile, low-fly military operations area (MOA) for the PA Wilds, which will cover almost all of Potter County and parts of Clinton, Tioga, McKean, Elk and Cameron counties. The proposal lowers the current flight zone to allow flights as low as 100 feet above the ground. The MOA would be used primarily by A-10s, but other jets (e.g. F-16s, F-22s, etc.) could also train in the proposal area. More information can be found at these links:

* [Duke MOA Low Fact Sheet](https://www.kta-hike.org/uploads/8/2/5/0/82502470/low-flying_aircraft_duke_moa_fact_sheet.pdf)
* [Duke MOA Low FAQs](https://www.175wg.ang.af.mil/Portals/66/documents/Duke%20Low%20MOA%20FAQs.pdf?ver=9IcXo5cynXQiL2zH5-gvug%3d%3d)
* [Duke MOA FONSI Draft](https://www.175wg.ang.af.mil/Portals/66/documents/Duke%20MOA%20Draft%20FONSI.pdf?ver=mv_aouqMQxqdM4uBAZy3nA%3d%3d)
* [Volume 1 Draft Environmental Assessment for Modification of Duke MOA](https://www.175wg.ang.af.mil/Portals/66/documents/Volume%20I%20Duke%20MOA_%20DEA.pdf?ver=8UF-1pzsTPYqCHtQOo2XvQ%3d%3d)
* [Volume 2 Appendices Draft Environmental Assessment for Modification of Duke MOA](https://www.175wg.ang.af.mil/Portals/66/documents/Volume%20II%20Appendices_Duke%20MOA%20Draft%20EA.pdf?ver=0yA2P-ecKk-BaOejGQ2cpQ%3d%3d)

The MD ANG has not yet held any informational meetings with the public and has not yet conducted a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). We support our armed forces, but we need to better understand how these activities could affect wildlife and nature-based tourism, a critical part of the local economy. How would it impact hiking experiences on trails renowned for their solitude and silence?

Please ask the Maryland Air National Guard to hold public meetings in affected counties to share their proposal, details of the impacts it will create, and address questions from the public.

There are two ways to make your voice heard by December 15th:

1. Trail Clubs and individuals can sign-on to [KTA’s official comment letter](https://www.kta-hike.org/uploads/8/2/5/0/82502470/kta_comment_letter_-_duke_moa_low.docx)
2. Submit your own group or individual comment letter via email to <mailto:ngb.a4.a4a.nepa.comments.org@us.af.mil>. If you live in the project area, we encourage you to cc your respective federal and state representatives as well as your county commissioner. A list of those officials is provided in the fact sheet above.

Thanks for making your voice heard on this important matter.