



Pisgah National Forest - Pisgah Ranger District


Outdoor Update


From Lake Toxaway to Asheville – Including Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, and Transylvania Counties


August 2008


Highlights of the Month





 **Smokey Bear's Birthday Party will be held on August 9th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Cradle of Forestry.** The birthday party will include games, singing, fire fighting equipment, birthday cake and of course, Smokey Bear. Admission is \$6.00 for ages 16 and older and \$3.00 for youth 15 and under and Federal Interagency and Golden Passport holders.

 Due to construction at Gorges State Park, there is currently **NO public parking for visitors who are trying to access the Horsepasture River** and waterfalls from Highway 281.

 **The Grimshaw Mine area, located along NC 281 in Transylvania County, will be closed to all entry** after a Forest Supervisor's order is signed. Recent activities in the area, including digging and excavating, have severely damaged the site. This temporary closure will allow resource specialists to assess the damage, develop a rehabilitation plan and provide for public safety. Please contact the Pisgah Ranger Station with any questions.


 **Sliding Rock Recreation Area will continue to provide lifeguards through mid-August.** Also, due to slippery rocks and hazardous conditions, the **portion of the river below Sliding Rock is closed to entry.** All Sliding Rock visitors must remain in the developed recreation area.

 **Alcohol will be prohibited along Avery Creek Road (FS Road 477) in Transylvania County** after a Forest Supervisor's order is signed. With the exception of the White Pines Group Camp, no alcohol will be allowed within 1,000 feet of either side of the roadway. Please contact the Pisgah Ranger Station with any questions.


 **A new bridge is being constructed along the Barnett Branch Trail.** This bridge is located near the northern intersection of the Barnett Branch Trail and the Pink Beds Loop. Please use caution in this area and stay clear of all construction. The bridge is scheduled to be completed by late September.

This update is published by the USDA Forest Service, Pisgah Ranger District. If you have any suggestions for improvement or would like more information, please call 828-877-3265 or come by our office at 1001 Pisgah Highway (U.S. 276), Pisgah Forest, NC 28768. For more information about the National Forests in North Carolina visit www.cs.unca.edu/nfsnc.

 **Trail Update: The Daniel Ridge Bridge, at the Daniel Ridge Loop trailhead is now open.** The bridge replacement was completed in mid-July.

 Dredging operations at the **Hendersonville Reservoir** are underway and will continue through August. The lower portion of **Fletcher Creek Trail will be temporarily closed** during portions of the operation. Please contact the Pisgah Ranger District for trail updates.



 **A forest fire can happen at any time--Please exercise caution with all fire**—build fires only in grills and fire rings. Be sure that your fire is completely out before leaving. Remember, campfires are NOT permitted in Shining Rock or Middle Prong Wilderness areas.

Camping Reminder:

Dispersed camping is *not* allowed within 1,000 feet of any Forest Service road except at designated sites. No camping is allowed within the boundary of the Bent Creek Experimental Forest or within the Moore Cove waterfall area.

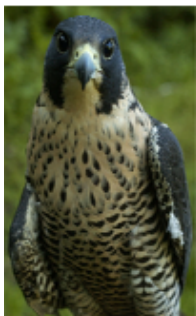
Notice: 

No camping within 1,000 feet of any road or trail except at designated sites.

Wildlife

The peregrine falcon closure order has been lifted. Each year peregrine falcons return to Looking Glass Rock to nest and raise their young. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has lifted the climbing closure around Looking Glass Rock, reporting a nest failure this year.



Timber & Road Repair Projects

Case Camp timber sale is currently underway. Log hauling trucks will be using upper Headwaters Road (FSR 475B). Please be careful in this area.

Baldwin Gap timber sale is currently underway. Log hauling trucks will be using Bill Moore Creek Road (NC 3439). Please be careful in this area.

Coming this Fall:

Plan a trip in this fall to the Cradle of Forestry for one of these upcoming activities:

September 13th-Afternoon Tea with Llamas

September 27th- National Public Lands Day (free admission for everyone)

October 4th- Forest Festival Day & Intercollegiate Woodsmen's Meet
More than 30 traditional craftsmen, exhibitors and entertainers will be on hand to share their knowledge and skills of living and working in the forest. Highlights include: traditional mountain music, crafters and artists, forestry and fly fishing demonstrations, and the John C. Palmer Intercollegiate Woodsmen's Meet - an old time lumberjack Competition.

October 10-12th- Camping in the Old Style

October 24-25th – The Legend of Tommy Hodges

November 9th- Closing Celebration

For more information on these events please call the Cradle of Forestry at (828) 877-3130.



Forest Discovery Center at the Cradle of Forestry