



Roadless areas in our Southern Appalachian National forests are among the last truly wild places. They harbor unbroken wildlife habitat, clear-running streams that feed our rivers and drinking water supplies, and backcountry places where we can experience recreation that only undisturbed forests can provide.

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NOW, THEREFORE, Bev Perdue, THE GOVERNOR of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 7 – 15, 2010 as “ROADLESS RECREATION WEEK” in North Carolina and call upon the residents to observe and participate in this week with appreciation for America’s national forest roadless areas and their recreational, environmental and economic values .



Activities in North Carolina

Hiking into Pisgah’s Old Growth and Wilderness Areas with SAFC, and supported by REI

Fishing the Mountain Headwaters with Headwaters Outfitters

Biking Premier Pisgah Roadless with Biowheels

Paddling the pure crystal clear creeks with Nantahala Outdoor Center

Climbing Roadless Craggs with Appalachian Mountain Institute

Sponsored by: Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition and its Partners



For More Information: www.safc.org or contact Mark, Jody or Hugh @828.252.9223



A sampling of activities throughout the region:

Virginia - hiking into Ramsey's Draft Roadless with SAFC, Virginia Forest Watch, Wild VA

Tennessee - hiking into Upper Bald River and trail maintenance in the Big Laurel Branch with SAFC, WILD TN, Rock Creek Outfitters

South Carolina - hiking into Ellicott Rock Roadless with SC Wildlife Federation and Sierra Club

Georgia – hiking Rabun Bald with a poetry reading at the mountain top with Georgia Forest Watch

Alabama – hiking into Bankhead Roadless with Wild South

NC Background Information

Active Outdoor Recreation Creates Economic Growth

More than three out of every four Americans participate in active outdoor recreation each year. Americans spend money, generate jobs, and support local communities when they get outdoors. Simple, healthy outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, camping, or wildlife viewing generate enormous economic power.

Active Outdoor Recreation Fuels Economic Growth In North Carolina

North Carolina offers spectacular recreation — from Mt. Mitchell to the Outer Banks — and other treasured destinations that bring in tourist dollars from out-of-state active outdoor recreation participants. North Carolinians also recreate close-to-home in their beautiful National Forests.

THE North Carolina ACTIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION ECONOMY:

- **Contributes more than \$7.5 billion annually to North Carolina's economy**
- **Supports 95,000 jobs across North Carolina**
- **Generates \$430 million in annual state tax revenue**
- **Produces \$6.1 billion annually in retail sales and services across North Carolina**

Active outdoor recreation creates sustainable long-term economic growth and community development. .

Messaging/Talking Points:

Environmental

Protecting roadless areas is an important step towards preserving the invaluable ecological benefits that intact forests proved. Now as the realities of global climate change become ever more apparent, the critical need to preserve these last remaining intact roadless areas within the national forests could not be more urgent. The importance of maintaining large terrestrial carbon stores, particularly in forests, is swiftly being recognized as a critical element in addressing climate change.

Recreation and Economy

Protection of public lands, and the scenic and recreational amenities they provide, supports our local economies. In total, active outdoor recreation generates more than \$7.5 billion in revenues annually to North Carolina's economy and supports 95,000 jobs. (Outdoor Industry Report)

Public Support

Roadless area protection has enjoyed tremendous public support over the years. These lands provide some of the best fish and wildlife habitat left in the nation as well as clean, safe sources of drinking water to millions of Americans. The 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule protects these lands from logging and development, while ensuring they remain open to traditional outdoor recreation activities such as camping, hiking, fishing, and hunting.



SAFC's goal is to secure strong, long-term protection for the 58.5 million acres of roadless area in America's national forests, especially the magnificent 723,000 acres within our beloved Southern Appalachians.