



Big South Fork Visitor Guide 2002

The Official Newspaper of
Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area
and
Obied Wild and Scenic River

Keeping The Park Safe - Working to Address Southern Pine Beetle Damage

For the past several years, pine trees in Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (NRRA) and the counties surrounding the park have been infested and killed by the southern pine beetle. As these dead trees decay and weaken, the threat of branches, limbs and even entire trees falling continues to increase. The safety of park visitors, park neighbors and park employees has become the one overriding issue that the park management and staff are now working to address.

The preferred hosts of the southern pine beetle, which is no bigger than a grain of rice, are virginia pine, short leaf pine and in extreme cases white pine and even hemlock. State authorities have classified the southern pine beetle infestation as being at epidemic levels within Big South Fork NRRA and the surrounding counties. These experts feel that the beetle has killed some 90% of the susceptible trees within Big South Fork NRRA. This loss has created an estimated 20,000 acres of dead trees within the park. The impacts of such an infestation are now being painfully felt by park resources, park staff and ever more so by park visitors.

Since the fall of 2000, the park staff has worked to remove these dead and hazardous trees from areas of concentrated visitor use as well as from major roadways crossing the park. To date the maintenance crews at Big South Fork have cut over 6,000 dead and hazardous trees. The magnitude of the problem has, however, overwhelmed the staff, forcing the park to prioritize where and when hazardous trees will be cut down and when downed trees will be cleared from roadways and trails. The workload has also diverted staff members away from routine duties and forced the postponement of normal maintenance activities.

Impacts to park visitors and park neighbors are wide ranging. At the very least the thousands upon thousands of dead trees are an eyesore to those who enjoy the natural beauty of Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.

Of greater importance is the fact that access to and use of trails and roads could at times be reduced and even restricted for some time to come. Because of the work involved in removing hazardous trees from along the parks over 230 miles of roads, maintenance crews have not been able to keep many of its 320 miles of hiking and horse trails cleared of downed trees. As a result trail users should expect to find many downed trees across trails making travel difficult and in some cases impossible.

Access to park roads may be temporarily restricted, when either blocked by fallen trees or when the hazard presented by the potential of falling trees requires them to be closed to provide for visitor safety. Roadwork has been prioritized and a proposed schedule for tree removal developed. Once a closed road has been cleared or the dangerous trees removed that road will be reopened for use.

Of greatest concern is the threat these dead and dying trees pose to the safety of visitors as they enjoy the natural, cultural and recreational resources that Big South Fork NRRA offers. Realizing that it will take years for all the trees killed by the southern pine beetle to be removed or to fall naturally, visitors to the park are urged to remember the danger these trees pose and to act accordingly.

In order to make your visit to Big South Fork NRRA safer, the following suggestions are offered.

Beware of broken limbs and damaged trees that may fall at any time.

Look up while on trails, especially when it is windy.

Use caution when selecting a place to camp.

Control your campfire and make sure it is dead out when you leave.

Visitors who notice trees which are particularly hazardous or which have fallen and blocked trails are asked to notify park personnel by calling either the Bandy Creek Visitor Center at (423) 286-7275 or the Kentucky Visitor Center at (606) 376-5073.



2002 Special Events and Program Calendar

April 13- Spring Planting Day- 10:00 a.m until 5:00 p.m. Join in a celebration of spring from the late 1800's through the early 1900's. Demonstrations throughout the day of horse and mule drawn equipment, plowing, planting, dulcimer music, farm animals and tasks of the homemaker. Rain date April 20.

May 4 - Astronomy - Bandy Creek - Paul Lewis from the University of Tennessee.

June 1 and 2 - Pioneer Encampment - Bandy Creek Fields - 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. - Join staff and volunteers as they re-create a late 1700's pioneer camp. See traditional pioneer skills demonstrated.

June 15 - Astronomy - Bandy Creek - Paul Lewis from the University of Tennessee.

July 20 - Harmony in the Hollow - Blue Heron Mining Community - Join local musicians as they entertain you with various forms of music at the Blue Heron Depot. Times to be announced.

August 10 - Astronomy at Historic Rugby - Paul Lewis from the University of Tennessee.

August 31 - Pioneer Encampment - Kentucky Visitor Center at Stearns - 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. - Join staff and volunteers as they re-create a late 1700's pioneer camp. See traditional pioneer skills demonstrated.

September 28 - 10th Annual Storytelling Festival 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Dulcimer Workshop

Bring your own dulcimer and learn to play a tune. Two sessions will be held beginning at 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. One for beginners and one for intermediate players. A limited number of dulcimers will be on hand for the public's use. Please sign up in advance for this workshop by calling (423) 286-7275. See page 5 for details.

Craft Workshops and Demonstrations

Learn about some of our old time crafts of the region through classes and demonstrations. Crafts offered may include tatting - old time lace making, quilting, wood carving, and basket making. Donations will be accepted to assist with class materials and instructor fees. Sign up for classes will be done in advance. Please call park headquarters at (423) 286-7275. Each class will be a minimum of 4 hours in length. Classes will be scheduled throughout the day.

Storytelling

Join the National Park Service as they host the Tenth Annual Haunting in the Hills night of storytelling, 8:00 p.m. Bandy Creek.

October 5 - Astronomy - Bandy Creek - Paul Lewis from the University of Tennessee.

October 19 - Cumberland Heritage Day - 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Join in a day of cultural heritage activities at Blue Heron community. Crafts demonstrations and presentations of storytelling, natural

dyes, spinning, mountain dulcimer music, coal mining, long hunter rifle firing, pioneer history and old-timey toys.

All events are Eastern Time.

All Programs Are Subject To Change.

Contact Bandy Creek Visitor Center at (423) 286-7275(PARK), Kentucky Visitor Center (606) 376-5073 or the Blue Heron Interpretive Center (606) 376-3787 for program details. **Also see the list below for other summer weekend programs and page 4 and 5 for more information about the astronomy programs and special events.**

National Parks on the Internet

If you are an avid internet surfer you may want to check out what the National Park Service has to offer through the World Wide Web. Many National Park areas have a web page. Information includes camping and park facilities, special events and programs that each area has to offer. Camping reservations for many parks may be done on line as well.

To find this information use www.nps.gov. The Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area page may be directly accessed through www.nps.gov/biso.

More Interpretive Programs

The following is a sampling of interpretive programs that will be offered during the summer at Big South Fork NRRA in addition to those special events listed above. Programs may be added to or dropped from this list. Please check with the Bandy Creek or Kentucky Visitor Center or Blue Heron for dates, times and locations.

Kentucky

Scrip - Program detailing the history of coal scrip. Audience will have an opportunity to examine examples of the Stearns Coal and Lumber Company scrip. Blue Heron Church.

WWII - Blue Heron and the Home Front - How did the coal industry and the people in the Stearns Company contribute to the war effort?

Sunday Afternoon Nature Walk - Blue Heron Coal Mining Community - Topic will vary with the season.

Night Hike - Blue Heron Coal Mining Community Living in a coal mining camp had its rewards and challenges. Bring a flashlight and wear comfortable walking shoes, not sandals. Meet at the Blue Heron Depot.

Owl Prowl - Hear facts and folklore about owls. Take an easy evening stroll and learn how to "call in" barred owls. Bring a flashlight in case of emergency, but be ready to walk quietly in the dark.

Coal Miner's Music: His Story in Song - Highlight the history of early and popular coal mining song through their recordings.

Moonshining - Program describes the making of moonshine and the history of moonshine in this area.

Evening Music Program - Come learn about the land that became Big South Fork NRRA, its natural resources and the people who lived and worked here. You're welcome to sing-a-long.

Evening Legends Program - For generations, local folks have passed along stories about unusual occurrences, people and places of the Cumberland Plateau. Some of these stories happened close by. Listen to legends and let your imagination go wild.

Tennessee

Stories of the Big South Fork - Hear some the interesting local history, legend and folklore. Bandy Creek Campfire Circle.

Songs of Appalachia - Sing along to songs of our local culture. Bandy Creek Campfire Circle.

River Adventure - Take a river trip without getting wet! Slide presentation - Bandy Creek Amphitheater.

A Park for All Seasons - Big South Fork activities year round as shown through slides. Bandy Creek Amphitheater.

Clean Water - Water quality program involving active participation from the crowd. Leatherwood Ford.

John Muir - Talk about the famous naturalist. Location of program is at Leatherwood Ford.

Flora of the Big South Fork - Slide presentation will introduce you to some of the beautiful and unusual plants in the area.

History of the Big South Fork - Slide program showing the history of the Big South Fork region. Bandy Creek Amphitheater or Campfire Circle.

Horses in Big South Fork Country - Come meet one of the park horses. Learn about safety and sharing the trails with horses. Bandy Creek Amphitheater or Bandy Creek Stables.

Junior Ranger Activities - Different activities will be offered at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center throughout the summer.

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Emergency Numbers

When emergency medical assistance is needed, contact:

Tennessee

Bandy Creek Visitor Center

(423) 286-7275 (PARK) - 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. during the summer.

Scott County Hospital, Highway 27, Oneida, TN

(423) 569-8521

Scott County Ambulance, Oneida, TN

(423) 569-6000

Scott County Sheriff

Huntsville, TN

(423) 663-2245

Fentress County General Hospital

W. Central Avenue, Jamestown, TN

(931) 879-8171

Fentress County Ambulance

(931) 879-8147

Fentress County Sheriff

Jamestown, TN

(931) 879-8142

Kentucky

Kentucky Visitor Center at Stearns

(606) 376-5073. During train season 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Blue Heron Interpretive Center

(606) 376-3787

Mc Creary County Ambulance

(606) 376-5062

Mc Creary County Sheriff

(606) 376-2322

Welcome From the Superintendent

Welcome to Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area!

Congress established Big South Fork in 1974 to provide recreational opportunities and to preserve and protect its resources. It belongs to the American people and is administered by the National Park Service to both protect those resources and to provide for an array of healthful outdoor recreational activities.

These are exciting times as we move into the 21st century at Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. This year we will complete the park's first General Management Plan which incorporates a Roads and Trails Management Plan.

We have benefited from the care of past generations and it is imperative that we plan properly for future generations of visitors and neighbors at Big South Fork. Please respect Big South Fork as your own. Our care now will keep the area as a priceless gift for future generations.

You are our valued guest so please let us know if you have concerns or comments. We hope that you will explore the area, enjoy the area, enjoy your visit, and return often.

Sincerely Yours,

Reed E. Detring
Superintendent
Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

Make Your First Stop Here - The Visitor Center

By Lynn Thornton - Interpretive Ranger

Whether you are a first-time or regular visitor to Big South Fork, your first stop should be at one of the park visitor centers where informed park personnel can help you get the most out of your visit.

Staff at Bandy Creek, Tennessee, and Stearns, Kentucky, can provide information on camping, hiking, river use, horseback riding, and the most scenic views in the park. Staff also will advise you of weather conditions, known safety hazards on the trails and river, and guidelines on backcountry camping.

In addition to supplying information about Big South Fork, staff members can suggest nearby attractions, points of interest, historic sites and state parks to visit while you are in the area.

The visitor has access to many free brochures, pamphlets, booklets, and handouts about Big South Fork and surrounding areas. Sit awhile and read these materials or enjoy the interesting exhibits of cultural and natural artifacts, photographs, and animal specimens. Someone in gray and green is there to add to your knowledge by answering your questions about these displays.

For those looking for specialized maps, books or a unique gift to take home there is an Eastern National bookstore inside each visitor center. Eastern National is a nonprofit cooperating association that sells educational items. A portion of its proceeds are in-turn donated to Big South Fork to support interpretative programs.

Do you need your National Park Passbook stamped? Each visitor center, as well as Blue Heron Mining Community has its own stamp. Each sells backcountry permits, Golden Age Passports, National Park Passes, and can issue the Golden Access Passport.

These are just a few of the services provided to visitors by Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area visitor centers in Tennessee and Kentucky. Making them the first stop on your visit will go a long way to making your stay in the Big South Fork a safe, pleasant and memorable one.

Bandy Creek Visitor Center is open every day except Christmas 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST and 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. EDST during the summer months. The visitor center is located off Hwy. 297, 15 miles west of Oneida, Tennessee. The Bandy Creek Visitor Center telephone number is (423) 286-7275 (PARK).

Stearns, Kentucky Visitor Center is open 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST (Mar.—Nov.). Call for days and times from December—February (606) 376-5073. The visitor center is located on Hwy. 92, west of downtown Stearns, Kentucky.

Big South Fork receives Grant from Kodak

Kodak and the National Park Foundation recently donated some \$3000.00 in digital imaging products to Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. This generous donation from the National Park Foundation and Kodak brings state-of-the-art imaging technology to the Big South Fork. The donation will enable park staff from all divisions to document special events; use digital photography in interpretive publications and programs; document resource impacts; document and record cultural resources; and enhance the Big South Fork web page.

Spring Planting Day Celebration

By Sue H. Duncan - Interpretive Ranger



The time of the year is spring. It is a time for new beginnings and growth. Mountain families living here in the late 180s and early 1900s began planning for their crops, vegetable gardens and livestock production. This production is what would sustain a family throughout the rest of the year.

The early families who settled the Big South Fork area depended on their ability to successfully raise crops and gardens to feed themselves. Most of the farming that occurred here was truly subsistence farming. The family often consumed the entire production of the garden. There was continued use of wild plant and animal foods, but the “kitchen garden” was vital to a sustainable food supply. This tradition continues with many families even today. It is not uncommon for local residents to have large gardens that provide a substantial amount of food.

In keeping with the tradition of planting family gardens and crops and raising livestock, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area will be hosting the Second Annual Spring Planting Day Celebration on Saturday, April 13. The event will take place at the Lora Blevins home place located on the West Bandy Creek Road from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The rain date for the event will be Saturday, April 20.

Join staff and volunteers as we demonstrate traditional crafts and skills associated with farm life and chores. Some of the demonstrations will include blacksmiths, spinning of sheep wool, flax preparation,

woodcarving, making fence palings, soap making, basket weaving and cooking over an open fire. Come see the mule and horse teams working the field and garden site and planting sorghum seed. Learn about the uses for herbs. A display of several kinds of farm animals will also be at the barn.

The Spring Planting Festival was begun in April of 2001 as a celebration of spring and as a cooperative effort involving our local park communities and neighbors. It has been a way to utilize our historic sites and fields within the park while preserving the cultural landscape. Visitors have an opportunity to see a bit of our ancestors’ way of making a living. In 2001 there were over 1000 people attending this special event. This year we hope for even more visitors.

If you visit Big South Fork in the summer months after Spring Planting Day is past, you can still see the fruits of our labors. Travel west of Bandy Creek to the Lora Blevins site and you may see the stalks of sorghum and some of the flowers, vegetables or herb garden. You can walk over the site and imagine a time in the early part of the 1900s when people lived off the land.

The Big Skies Over Big South Fork

By Paul Lewis - Volunteer In Park

Each of this year’s astronomy presentations will have a bit of an added attraction. I have recently been appointed one of the NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassadors for Tennessee for 2002. The ambassador program is designed to teach the public about the missions and activities of Jet Propulsion Laboratory. JPL is the premier solar system exploration field center for NASA, and I am very proud to be able to share with you the resources that have been made available for this purpose.

You hear about these missions in bits and pieces in the various media and most times you hear more about mission failures than mission accomplishments. I am going to change that this summer by bringing you programs that will enlighten you through the use of images and information from JPL about a number of past, present, and future missions.

We will explore the solar system and our universe through our programs and then through our telescopes.

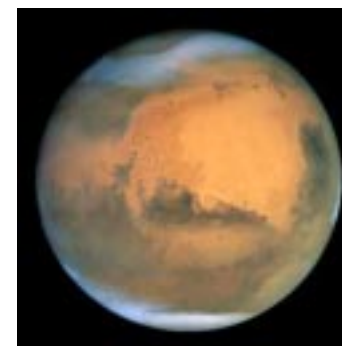
One of my favorite activities is solar observation. Viewing the sun through special filters is in and of itself very special. The sun is the nearest star and certainly the only one we can easily survey the surface of with our telescopes. We will do just that on two occasions this summer. Every view is unique as we observe the ever-changing face of the star of our solar system. Astronomers are talking about a possible second peak in sunspot activity this cycle. Perhaps we will be able to share in a unique discovery about the apparent changing activity.

Observing the night sky from the very dark skies of the Big South Fork is always rewarding. Bring your binoculars and your curiosity and we will explore the many splendors of our night sky.

Clear Skies!



Saturn through the seasons



Mars through the Hubble Telescope

Cumberland Heritage Day at Blue Heron

The National Park Service preserves and interprets a diverse cross-section of our nation’s cultural and natural resources. This is especially true in the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. The area has a long human history spanning the last ten thousand years. From the prehistoric Paleo Indians to the coal miners of recent time, the Big South Fork area is a rich cultural tapestry.

To honor these cultural traditions, the National Park Service hosts an annual Cumberland Heritage Day each October at the Blue Heron Mining Community. This event is a day-long celebration of the diverse cultural traditions that have shaped the heritage of this region. The location of the event, Blue Heron, also allows the visitor a pleasant opportunity to explore a recreated coal mining town of the mid-20th century.

This year’s event will be held on Saturday, October 19, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). Volunteers and park rangers will present cultural demonstrations of a pioneer encampment with outdoor cooking, woodworking, spinning/natural dyeing of wool and black powder long rifle firing. Coal mining history presentations will be going on throughout the day. Other traditional crafts and skills along with dulcimer music, and old timey toys will be displayed during the day.

The event is free to the public, and everyone is cordially invited to attend. Come share in the cultural heritage of the Big South Fork region. Please contact the Kentucky Visitor Center at (606) 376-5073 or Blue Heron Mining Community at (606) 376-3787.





Pioneer Encampments 2002

By Sue H. Duncan - Interpretive Ranger

The pioneers who settled on the Cumberland Plateau traveled many miles and endured many hardships in order to get here. During the late 1700's people came through the "Gap" and crossed the Cumberland Mountains. They homesteaded in this area we now call the Big South Fork. The settlers lived off the land and found ways to survive in the harsh environment, but how did they do it?

Today we seldom stop to think about these people or what it took to survive. We have stores, vehicles, and roads, not to mention doctors and hospitals, to depend upon for food, travel, medicine and necessities. Here at the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, we try to recreate the way it was for people long ago with special programs. Costumed interpreters and volunteers depict the lives of the settlers from the 1780's and 1790's. Pioneer encampments will be set up on Saturday, June 1 and Sunday, June 2 in the Bandy Creek fields; Saturday, August 31 at Kentucky Visitor Center and during the Cumberland Heritage Day Saturday, October 19 at Blue Heron.

During these events, interpreters and volunteers will be demonstrating and explaining different life-styles and skills that people would have needed to survive as a pioneer. See pioneer cooking being done over an open fire. Learn about the long rifle and view rifle firing demonstrations (weather permitting). Other types of pioneer weapons and tools will be on display. See demonstrations of drop spindle hand spinning and natural dyeing for yarn and cloth. Find out what the pioneers would have taken with them on the trail as they traveled to their new homes. If you would like more information about the pioneer encampment, please contact Bandy Creek Visitor Center at (423)286-7275.

Storytelling – 10th Annual Haunting in the Hills

By Steven Seven - Interpretive Ranger

Want to have fun being scared? Come to this year's Tenth Annual Haunting in the Hills Storytelling Festival. Building on nine years of success, visitors to this year's festival can expect to find a full day of fun and excitement. The festival will be held on Saturday September 28, 2002, in the fields adjacent to the Bandy Creek Visitor Center.

What many visitors may not realize, however, is that the events scheduled for Saturday are really the climax to a full week of storytelling. Beginning on Tuesday and continuing Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, these same professional storytellers will visit all the elementary, middle and high schools as well as many Headstart and senior citizen centers in the five counties which adjoin Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. Altogether these tellers will present programs to over 14,000 students. These presentations, while entertaining, are much more than that to both students and teachers alike. The presentations serve to introduce students to the art of storytelling, enhance communication skills, expose students to a multitude of cultures and allow teachers to integrate storytelling into classroom learning experiences.

Saturday morning will begin various craft workshops and demonstrations including beginning and intermediate dulcimer lessons. Storytelling begins at 1:00 in the afternoon when these storytellers who have been visiting the area schools step on stage and share their favorite "family oriented" stories. Following their performance, the stage will be opened to students from area schools that have storytelling clubs; this is a great chance to hear some of tomorrow's tellers today.

Beginning at 5:00 p.m. the Knoxville Area Dulcimer Club will present an hour-long concert with some of the best dulcimer music you could ever hope to hear.

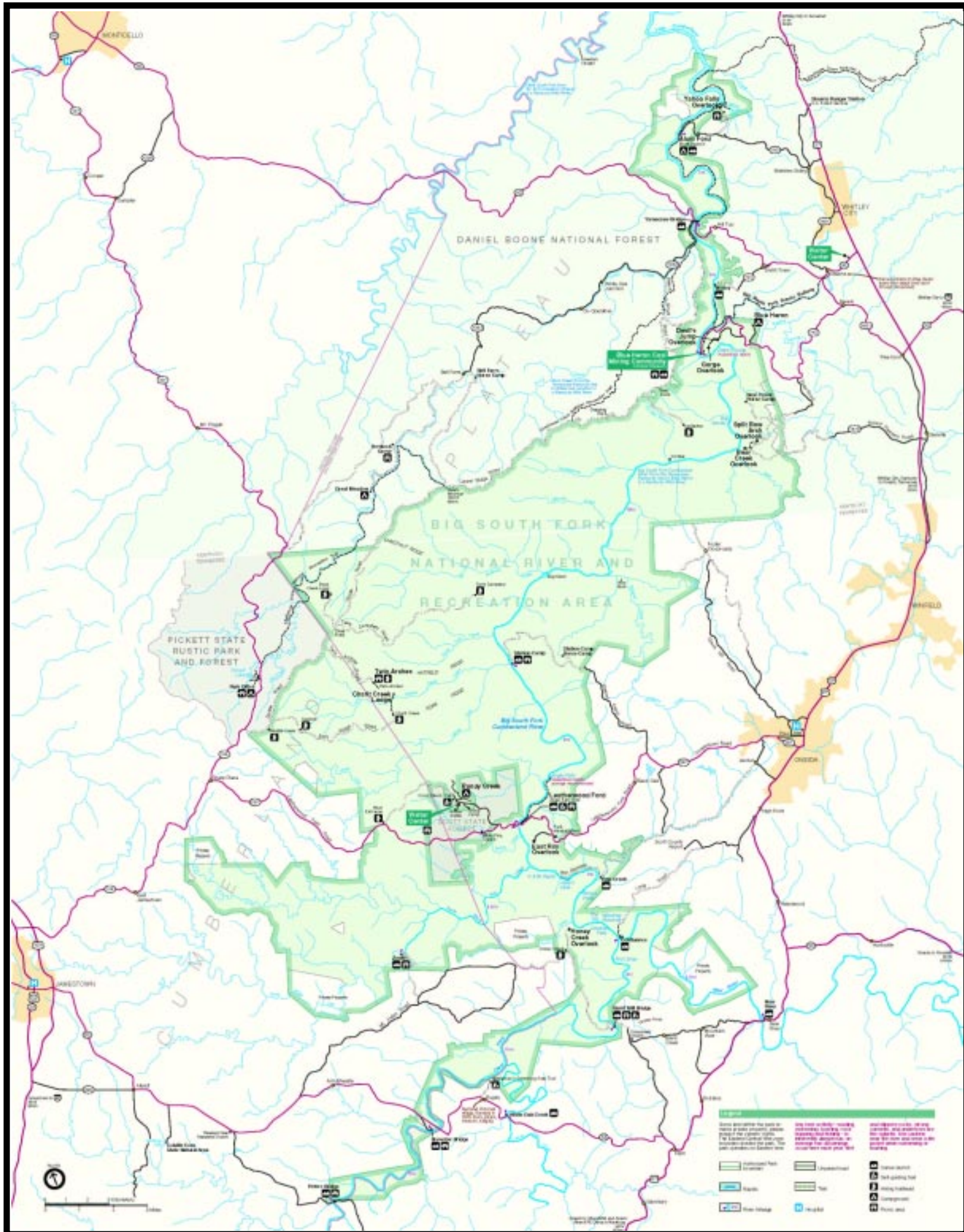
Capping off the night will be a two-hour performance by the festival storytellers who will share their scariest ghost stories. This year's tellers will include Charles Maynard, Lyn Ford, Elizabeth Ellis and Lloyd Arneach.

Join us for the day. The "Haunting in the Hills" has become the largest free storytelling festival in the southeast. Remember to bring warm clothing for the evening, as it can be cool. Food and soft drinks will be available throughout the day and picnic facilities are adjacent to the site. Check at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center for the latest information about this upcoming event.



Big South Fork Map

<http://www.nps.gov/carto/PDF/BISOmap.pdf>



General Information

Visitor Centers

Tennessee - Bandy Creek Visitor Center (423) 286-7275 (PARK).
Kentucky - Kentucky Visitor Center (606) 376-5073.
Kentucky - Blue Heron - (606) 376-3787.

Accessibility

Bandy Creek Visitor Center

The visitor center and its restrooms are accessible. One or more rangers are trained, to some degree, in sign language. Large print brochures are available on request.

Kentucky Visitor Center

The visitor center at Stearns is accessible. Restrooms are accessible.

Campgrounds

Bandy Creek and Blue Heron Campgrounds have designated wheel chair accessible sites for families and groups. Restroom facilities are also accessible. Water and electrical hookups are available at both campgrounds also.

Overlooks and River Access

East Rim and Honey Creek Overlooks in Tennessee and the Devils Jump Overlook in Kentucky are accessible to individuals with mobility impairments. Leatherwood Ford River Access offers accessible trails and restrooms.

Blue Heron/Mine 18

The scenic train ride into Blue Heron is fully accessible. Blue Heron offers accessible restrooms and is partially accessible to individuals with mobility impairments (some steep grades and steps exist).

Campgrounds

Bandy Creek Campground is open year round while Blue Heron is open April through November. Bandy Creek Campground and Blue Heron Campground sites may be reserved from April 1 through October 31 by calling Spherics Inc. at 1-800-365-2267 code 244. From November 1 through March 31 campsites are only taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

Bandy Creek sites are \$15.00 for tents per night and \$18.00 for water/electric hookups per night while Blue Heron sites are \$15.00 per night with water/electric hookups available. Both campgrounds have restrooms, shower facilities and dump stations.

Although a reservation system is in place, campers are still welcome on a first-come, first-served basis for unreserved campsites.

Campground hosts are available to help you May through October at both Bandy Creek and Blue Heron Campgrounds.

Bandy Creek Group Camp Area E I and II are for larger groups of 25 or more persons. There are no electrical hookups within the group camp. The cost is \$3.00 per person and \$75.00 minimum charge per night.

A primitive campground exists at Alum Ford in Kentucky. There are no restroom facilities or water located at this area. Camping fee is \$5.00 per night.

For additional information call:
Bandy Creek Campground (423) 286-8368
Blue Heron Campground (606) 376-2611

Backcountry Camping

Backcountry camping is allowed in the National River and Recreation Area. There are no designated campsites, but there are rules that tell you where you can and cannot camp. Stop at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center or the Kentucky Visitor Center for more information and to pick up a backcountry camping permit. Many local stores also carry the permits.

Permit fees are as follows:
1 to 6 people - \$5.00
7-12 persons - \$10.00
13 - 18 persons - \$15.00
19 - 24 persons - \$20.00
25 - 30 persons - \$25.00
A yearly permit is available for \$50.00.

Please contact (423) 286-8368 for more information. Permits may be checked by rangers and are necessary when emergencies arise where a ranger may need to contact you.

River Information

The Big South Fork of the Cumberland River is a free flowing river. Sections of the river are calm enough for beginners while other parts are more challenging with exciting whitewater. Peak times for river use are in the spring and sometimes late fall or winter. There are a number of commercial companies who provide equipment and trips for canoeing and rafting the river. Please check at the visitor center for a listing of these outfitters. If you are planning on embarking on the river with your own equipment and expertise, please check in at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center to file a trip plan, register for overnight river trips and obtain information that will help you have a safe trip.

Concessionaires

Bandy Creek Stables - (423) 286-7433.

Big South Fork Scenic Railway - 1800GOALONG.

Charit Creek Lodge - (865) 429-5704.

Eastern National - (423) 286-7275.

Station Camp and Bear Creek Equestrian Areas - (423) 569-3321

Permitted Outfitters

Sheltowee Trace Outfitters
P.O. Box 1060
Whitley City, Kentucky 42653
1-800-541-RAFT
(606) 376-5567

Southeast Pack Trips, Inc.
299 Dewey Burke Road
Jamestown, Tennessee 38556
(931) 879-2260

Tally Ho Stables
P.O. Box 4773
Oneida, Tennessee 37841
(423) 569-9472

Safety Facts

To help you enjoy your trip to Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, be aware of some safety precautions. (1) There are poisonous snakes (copperheads and timber rattlesnakes), ticks, chiggers, and poison ivy found in this area. Be cautious as you hike the trails or use the back-country. Always use a flashlight when walking at night to avoid stepping on any snake. (2) Plan to leave information about your trip with someone at home. (3) Obtain your backcountry permit. (4) Beware of hazardous trees. Use caution when in the backcountry, look up-down-around. Do not set up your camp near any dead or leaning trees.

Lost and Found

Lost items may be reported to rangers at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center or at Blue Heron Mining Community. A file will be made describing the item and where it was lost. Items that have been found should be turned in at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center or at Blue Heron. The Visitor Center hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time every day. During the summer months the Visitor Center stays open until 6:00 p.m.

Eastern National



During your visit to the Big South Fork NRR or Obed WSR you are invited to stop by one of the Eastern National bookstores located at the visitor centers. These bookstores offer a variety of books, maps and local craft items. Eastern National is a non-profit, cooperating association authorized by Congress to assist the National Park Service in providing educational and interpretive materials to the public. Each year Eastern donates a percentage of all income to the parks in which they operate. These donations are used to further the historical, scientific and educational activities of the National Park Service.

What is a GMP, Anyway?

By Christopher J. Stubbs - Community Planner

Many visitors to National Park units have heard the term “GMP” and know that this acronym stands for *general management plan*. Far fewer folks know that a general management plan is more than just a blueprint for how to manage a park or a national area; rather, it is an entire process of involving the public in the future management of our precious park lands.

The general management planning process at Big South Fork has been proceeding for two years, and has included a draft GMP that was issued to the public for review. Due to strong public comment, the National Park Service is preparing a revised draft GMP. The plan will contain additional information, more specific alternatives and a preferred alternative. The decision has also been made to incorporate specific roads and trails management options into the GMP. With the addition of this critical information, the GMP will outline a designated roads and trails system for Big South Fork and establish the management of this system for the next 10-20 years.

Your input is critical to the development of the GMP and the roads and trails system. Focus groups representing a wide diversity of interests have met several times to provide valuable input to Park Service planners and managers. Focus group meetings will continue, and the insight gained from these meetings will be integrated into the GMP.

The Park Service planning team is currently developing alternatives for inclusion in the GMP, which will be followed by the identification of the environmental effects of these options. Release of the revised draft GMP for public review is scheduled for spring of 2002.

Your input is key to the success of the planning process. When asked to comment on the GMP, Superintendent Reed Detring replied, “the Park Service is committed to producing a General Management Plan that meets both the needs of Big South Fork as well as the expectations of the public. Public input has always been extremely helpful; we invite the continued participation of all who are interested in the management of the National Area.”

If you would like to share your thoughts and suggestions, you may write the park Superintendent at 4564 Leatherwood Road, Oneida, Tennessee 37841.

Black Bears



Black Bear (ursus americanus)

By Leslie Smith - Wildlife Biologist

Historically, black bears were found throughout the Cumberland Plateau. However, due to habitat degradation and unregulated hunting, black bears were all but eliminated from their historic range. To study the feasibility of restoring a bear population, a cooperative effort with Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, USFS-Daniel Boone National Forest, and USGS-Biological Resources Division-University of Tennessee initiated an experimental release of 14 female black bears in the Big South Fork area. During 1996 and 1997, black bears were captured from Great Smoky Mountains National Park and placed in remote areas of Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. The bears were fitted with radio collars and their movements tracked.

Not all bears released stayed in the area. However, some have established home ranges in and around Big South Fork. In fact, the two females currently being monitored were observed with newborn cubs in the winters of 1999 and 2001. Additionally, bears at Big South Fork have been observed by biologists to weigh more than bears in other nearby populations. This is an excellent indicator that bears are doing well in their new home. Biologists estimate that 15-20 bears reside in Big South Fork. Although this may be true, researchers indicate this is not a large enough population to sustain itself. Therefore, a cooperative reintroduction effort is in the planning process. An environmental assessment is being completed to address the issues of releasing approximately six bears and their cubs each year for two years. If the environmental assessment supports this project, these additional releases would supplement the current small population enough to lead to a self-sustaining, viable population of black bear on the Cumberland Plateau.

Black bears have not been seen around developed areas. If you are lucky enough to see one of these secretive animals, please contact a park employee or stop by a visitor center to report your observation.

Feral Hogs in Big South Fork?

By Kristy Kozel - Park Ranger

It is very surprising to some visitors that we have feral hogs in the park, but we do. Wild hogs, mostly Russian Boars, were introduced for hunting purposes at Parch Corn Creek Hunting Lodge, which is now called Charit Creek Lodge. Because they used to have large pens of wild hogs at the lodge, it was also called the “hog farm”. The “hog farm” existed for many years (1963-1982) and along the way many of the hogs escaped. Over the years, many of the hogs in the park have bred with domestic hogs so they usually are seen in a variety of colors, such as brown and black, or white and black, or solid black. Hogs can weigh in excess of three hundred pounds and usually have large tusks that they use to dig up roots. There are a few of the more pure Russian Boars left, and they are still in abundance around the old “hog farm”.

HUNTING: Big South Fork does allow hunting of hogs during the big game season. Managers at Big South Fork are currently working with state game agencies to establish an extended hog season following the regular big game season. This season is proposed to last through the end of February. Hunters must possess a valid hunting license for big game and, as proposed, permits will be required for the extended hunting season.

LEGAL HUNTING METHODS:

- A licensed big game hunter can only take hogs during big game season. This may change during the 2002 - 2003 season. Please check with park staff) You can only hunt hogs with the same equipment that you can hunt deer.
- During the archery deer seasons, feral hogs can be taken using archery equipment. During muzzleloading season, only muzzleloading rifles or can be used.
- During gun season, handguns or shotguns loaded with rifled slug or single ball ammunition only can be used.
- Center fire rifles and handguns MAY NOT be used to hunt feral hogs during the muzzleloader or archery deer seasons.

ILLEGAL HUNTING METHODS INCLUDE:

- No hunting with dogs
- No spotlighting (this includes using headlights)
- No hunting at night
- Using shotgun ammunition loaded with more than one solid ball. Rifles and handguns loaded with military or other full-metal jacketed type of ammunition are illegal.
- Fully automatic weapons or weapons that are capable of firing more than one round at a time are illegal.

- Any arrow with poisoned or chemically treated tip or explosive head; the use or possession of a pod arrow; any pod-type device for holding drugs or chemicals on an arrow is illegal.
- Using any type of bait, which includes salt licks, grain, corn, etc. is illegal to use at anytime.
- Trapping – live or otherwise is illegal.
- Persons hunting with archery tackle MAY NOT carry firearms or be accompanied by a person possessing firearms during the archery only season.

Occasionally, while out enjoying the park, people have run into feral hogs. It is always important that if you are walking your dog to have them on a leash. This is especially true near creek beds where they spend a lot of time. Hogs have been known to attack and seriously injure or kill dogs when they feel trapped or are protecting their young. During the summer months the hogs are more likely to be seen along a creek bed or near rock overhangs. During the winter or in times of drought they can be seen in fields and ridge tops. Most of the hogs are found on the west side of the Big South Fork River. If you were to run into a hog, the best thing is to give it plenty of room. Most of the time they can be scared off by making a lot of noise. Generally they do not bother humans.

Meeting a Horse on the Trail - What you should do

1. Be alert for horses.
2. Yield to horse/rider when possible.
3. If the rider stops the horse, converse with the rider. Promote a positive relationship between user groups by encouraging a friendly, courteous meeting.
4. The rider may choose to move the horse on without stopping. This may not be due to lack of courtesy, but rather due to a decision that the horse may be agitated and is best handled by urging him on past you. However, in some cases the rider may decide they can best handle their horse by having you move on and request you to do so. This is more apt to occur with a hiker or bicyclist than with an ATVer because of the noise created by the ATV. Expect the rider to advise you.

Protocol for Horse Riders, Hikers, ATVers, and Bicyclists

Hikers: Step off the downhill side of the trail and stand still. By stepping to the downhill side, adequate room is yielded to the horse for passing. Be sure the horse has seen you before stepping aside, particularly if you step out of sight. Many horses are spooked by the sight of backpackers or the large packs themselves; remain still and speak softly to have a calming effect on the horse. When the horse approaches you, any sudden movement on your part will probably spook the horse if he is unaware of your existence. Also, do not attempt to pet horses. Please remember to yield to horse riders.

Bicyclists: At a safe location, bring bicycle to a halt and remain in position. Please remember to yield to horses riders and hikers.

ATVers: Move to the side at a wide, safe location. Shut down your engine! Please yield to other trail users.



Leave Nothing but Hoofprints How to Minimize Impact on Horseback

By Howard Ray Duncan - Interpretive Ranger

No question about it, a day in the woods on horseback is a great pleasure. Spending a day or even a few hours with a good horse and good friends is a wonderful experience. However, horses do have an impact on the land. By consideration and forethought the rider can help minimize the impact their mounts have upon the trails and landscape. A little attention to preserving the land can make riding more enjoyable for all. Following are some suggestions for minimizing impact on the land we ride through.

- Riders should stay on designated trails.
- Do not ride on trails not designated for equestrian use. Trails not designed for horse use can be heavily damaged by even one trip through by horses, or horses can be injured on trails not designed for horse use.
- Don't be tempted to cut across switchbacks, severe erosion will result.
- Use provided hitch rails. Do not tie horses to trees.
- Do not litter.
- Be considerate of other riders when meeting on trails.
- Consider riding during dryer seasons.
- Time your trip to coincide with periods of low use. You may find that you have the trail all to yourself.
- Train your horse to go through muddy areas, not around them. Riding around muddy areas only widens them, creating greater impact.
- Ride directly across streams when you must ford. Only cross at designated fording areas. Big South Fork River crossings are marked with orange flags.
- If backcountry camping with horses, scatter manure well away from your campsite and well away from streams.
- Consider volunteering to maintain your favorite trail or adopt a trail in need.



Riders in the Station Camp area admire the beauty on one of the many rock shelters found throughout the backcountry.

Hiking Safety

Enjoying the backcountry in the Big South Fork can be a rewarding and relaxing adventure. But, when you are injured, the weather changes, or you are a bit disoriented [LOST], the adventure can be less than relaxing!

Experienced hikers always carry a pack and some basic items of equipment known as "the essentials." These items can make any mishap in the backcountry less of an emergency or can save your life or the life of others. Remember that you are responsible for your safety when you are in the park.

THE ESSENTIALS

Map
Compass
Knife
First aid kit
Extra clothing
Food/snacks
Water
Matches
Flashlight
Shelter

OTHER ITEMS TO CONSIDER DEPENDING ON SEASON AND LENGTH OF TRIP

Insect repellent
Backpacker's stove
"Space blanket"
Sun screen
Sunglasses
Water filter or purification tablets
Trail guidebook(s)
Wildlife or vegetation identification guides
Binoculars
Hat

Mountain Biking Growing

By Joe Cross - Big South Fork Bicycle Club

The idea of riding a bicycle in the backcountry has blossomed. Since the late 1980's, the sport of mountain biking has seen tremendous growth across the globe. It is now an Olympic event and has been embraced by the public as a true sport and not merely a passing fad.

All across the country, people are using bicycles to explore the great outdoors. Our Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area is no exception. Bicycles are allowed on many of the trails in Big South Fork enabling cyclists to explore the thousands of acres of natural beauty in our area.

The bicycles are a lot like the balloon-tired cruisers of the 50's. Fat tires and an upright riding position allow riders to traverse the dirt trails quite nicely—easily rolling over many of the bumps and obstacles present on the trail. The technology explosion of recent years has also influenced the bike industry. The bicycles now have built-in shock absorbers, stronger wheels, more gears, stronger-but-lighter frames, and easier braking.

Better clothing materials allow the riders to stay cooler in the hot weather, warmer in cold weather, and drier in the rain. Backpacks that have a water system attached allow riders to carry plenty of water and food and other supplies effortlessly. All of these factors working together allow the riders to ride

farther and stay out in the woods for longer periods of time. It is not unusual for riders to be equipped with lighting systems to allow trail riding after the sun goes down.

All recent health studies continue to show the unhealthiness of the American population. The U.S. is fatter and more out of shape than ever. Schools do not offer any type of physical education for our children. Video games, home computers, and the "Net" have the effect of luring children inside the house instead of outside in the fresh air and sunshine. The baby-boomer generation will probably live longer than their parents—but will also be facing a poorer quality of life in those years due to health neglect. However, the news is not all bad, for many families have discovered the benefits of cycling. Parents riding with their children allows them to have fun—together. Whether they are on a paved road or a trail, the mountain bike allows more comfortable riding for everyone. The fitness benefits are becoming more known to everyone and more people are beginning to ride for better health...and are having fun doing it.

Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area is somewhat unique. It was only the second unit of the National Park system to allow bicycles on the trails. Local volunteers worked closely with the Park Service to identify certain trails for cycling. The volunteers helped construct the trails, built and erected the signs,

and mapped out the trails for Big South Fork visitors. The local mountain bike volunteers have "adopted" the trails and routinely maintain them. This eases the budget crunch of the park and allows a good working relationship between the user group and the National Park Service. They have also tried to educate the user group by showing the visitors proper trail etiquette as determined by the International Mountain Bike Association.

Better bikes, more technologically advanced clothing and supplies, and the desire for better health have all played a role in getting more people riding bicycles for recreation. The low cost of the sport allows virtually everyone to purchase a bike and explore the great outdoors inexpensively and healthfully. The main factor, however, in the increasing numbers of riders is that it is just plain FUN. Spirits are rejuvenated, stress is relieved, and tough-to-break bonds are formed. The Big South Fork NRRRA is a wonderful playground allowing for this type of clean, cheap, healthy FUN.



Yahoo Falls

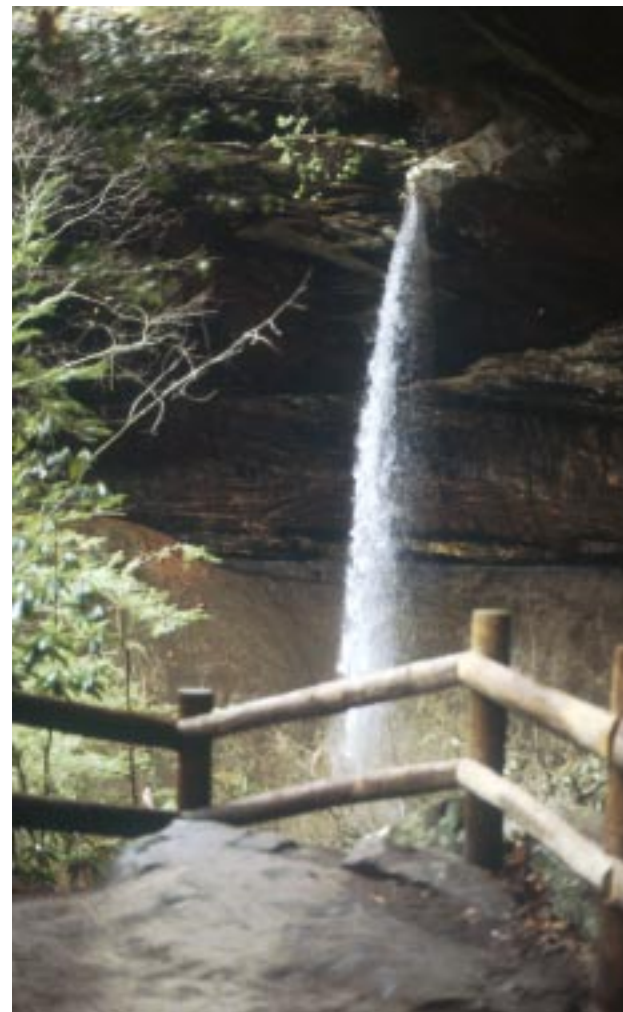
By Sherry Fritschi - Interpretive Ranger

Have you ever visited a place just because you like its name? If so, you'll have fun exploring Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. It's chock full of intriguing names and places; one of which is Yahoo Falls in Kentucky. Hike to the rockhouse with its 113-foot waterfall and you'll be impressed by the peaceful natural surroundings. Who would guess this beautiful area has a past shrouded in mystery?

One mystery about Yahoo Falls concerns the origin of its name. Nobody living today can recall who named it or when. Look up the word "yahoo" in a good dictionary and you will discover that it first appeared in the English language in the novel *Gulliver's Travels*, written by Jonathan Swift in 1726. According to the story, Gulliver travels to Houyhnhnmland where he meets the Yahoos, a group of brutish, human-like beings. Could it be that a frontiersman who had read the book named the creek and waterfall? If so, why?

A more logical explanation might be that Native Americans gave this scenic area its name which no doubt got changed when adapted to the English language. Although today the most common pronunciation sounds like "yahoo", some local people recall from childhood that "yahoo" came from a Cherokee word that sounded like "yawhoe". Unfortunately, nobody remembers what the word means.

There are Native American words similar to "yahoo". In my wanderings through books, I came across the Cherokee word "yahu'lu", a kind of hickory tree. It also means, "doodle-bug". The Cherokee word for screech owl is "wa'huhu". Owls like to roost in



hollow places. Once I saw a screech owl sound asleep on a ledge within a sandstone cliff, a common geological feature in this part of Kentucky. The name Screech Owl Falls might not be too far a stretch of the imagination.

The Creek Indian language has the word "uhawhu" which translates into "wahoo", a name for the winged elm. Wildflower enthusiasts may know "wahoo" as another name for hearts-a-bursting, a bush with colorful red seeds in the fall. The Creeks were a confederation of several tribes including the Yamacraw Indians who possibly lived in this portion of the Cumberland Plateau in the late 1700s. They moved out as white settlers moved in, but maybe they left some place names behind.

Today, people born and raised in these parts will tell you that "yahoo" is the local name for the big leaf magnolia. These trees which are common in this area have the largest single leaf of any North American tree. Sunlight filtered through the leaves gives the forest a soft green glow, an impressive sight that could have inspired someone to name the waterfall "yahoo" after the trees. Why not?

Well, so far, I have "yahoo" referring back to human-like characters in a novel, hickory, elm and magnolia trees, bushes, doodle-bugs and screech owls. What a nice variety!

Unraveling the mystery of Yahoo Falls has been like groping through a thick fog that suddenly disappears without a trace. There are no sure explanations, so choose whatever strikes your fancy. Visit this beautiful place and you will likely account for its name in your own special way. That's because Yahoo Falls will lure you with its charm. Put on your walking shoes, slip into the forest and go see for yourself.

Friends of BSF - Participating in the Future

The Friends of the Big South Fork meet on Thursday, November 15, 2001 with the National Park Service to discuss ways of assisting and supporting the Park Service in future events that will be beneficial to both the park Service and the public.

The Friends of the Big South Fork is a non-profit organization that was formed to support and assist the National Park Service in preserving, restoring and enhancing the natural beauty and features of the Big South Fork National River and Recreational Area. The Friends are also supportive of preserving the Big South Forks ecological systems and the cultural and historical heritage. Our participation will help to enhance educational, interpretive and research opportunities relating to the recreational area and to increase public awareness, enjoyment and appreciation of the area. In addition, the Friends will support and assist the National Park Service in the construction and improvement of park facilities such as trails visitor centers and other support facilities to better serve the public.

In the past, the Friends have supported the Park by participating and funding projects and special events

such as trail clean up, photo workshops, story telling, and spring planting events. These events have been enjoyed by both the local and visiting public and have brought visitors into the area that has helped to support the local economy. Funds have been raised and labor has been donated to assist in the building of the log dormitory used to house groups and individuals who volunteer their time and effort to help with special projects and events that are taking place in the recreational area. The Friends plan to help host and participate in future events with the National Park Service.

We invite and encourage the public to be a part of the Friends of the Big South Fork and to participate in future events. If you are interested in working with the Friends and would like additional information you may contact the Friends at 569-1599.



VIP - Volunteers In Park

By Debbie Zimmerman - Volunteer and Intern

Throughout the National Park Service there are a number of people who are devoted to making your park visit enjoyable and safe. Permanent and temporary employees work in Administration, Resource Management, Visitor Protection, Maintenance and Visitor Services and Education. You may see any of these employees on your visit to the park, but what about the other people who volunteer their time and skills to make the park a better place for you too?

Volunteers in Parks are people of all ages who spend anywhere from a few hours per week to several months working for the park. There are people who serve as campground hosts, evening program presenters, special events demonstrators, visitor center information providers, maintenance and trail workers, resource management assistants, search and rescue team members and much more.

For the past three years I have been a volunteer at Big South Fork. My main volunteer experience has been with the Interpretive Division. This has given me the opportunity to develop such skills as operating a spinning wheel, pioneer cooking and natural dyeing techniques. I have also been able to complete required college credit hours in which I will receive my BS degree in May 2002. At the present I am doing my internship which is 480 clock hours equivalent to 8 college credit hours. This will fulfill my BS degree. I am a student at Eastern Kentucky University, and my degree is Recreation and Park Administration with an emphasis on Environmental Education and Outdoor Recreation.

Volunteering has given me the chance to deliver programs, demonstrate at various special events and provide information to the visitors at the Bandy Creek visitor center. Volunteering is a unique opportunity to share your knowledge as well as learn more about the park and develop new skills and knowledge. I encourage anyone to volunteer at the park. I have met many interesting and wonderful people while volunteering. The staff and the other volunteers are willing to share their experiences and professional views. This is a great opportunity to develop new friendships that will reward you for years to come.

You may have a talent or interest that you're not aware of that would be beneficial to the staff and visitors. Some examples are quilting, weaving, sewing, crocheting, knitting, beadwork, woodworking, candle making, soap making, leatherwork, blacksmithing, storytelling, bird watching, wildlife photography and many more too numerous to mention.

If you have a special interest or skill that you want to share and would like to participate in the Volunteers in Parks program, please write or call: Sue H. Duncan, Volunteer Coordinator, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, 4564 Leatherwood Road, Oneida, Tennessee 37841, (423) 286-7275 (PARK).

Junior Rangers

By Brenda Deaver - Interpretive Ranger
The Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area invites kids ages 4 to 12 to participate in the Junior Ranger Program.

Have fun with your parents and learn something new. Listen to what our National River and Recreation Area has to say. Look more closely at our colorful history and at the unique Appalachian culture. Think a little harder about our natural resources and how you can help to protect them.

Special Junior Ranger programs (just for kids) will be scheduled throughout the summer at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center. Check the campground bulletin boards for times.

You can get your Junior Ranger book at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center, the Kentucky Visitor Center, or the Blue Heron Mining Community. You will be awarded your Junior Ranger badge when you finish all of the required activities. Good Luck!

Hunting Seasons

The Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area does allow hunting during regular state seasons. Check with the visitor centers or at Blue Heron for maps of the safety (no hunting) zones and regulations.

Kentucky Big Game - Deer

Deer Archery - Zone 1-4: Third Saturday in September through the third Monday in January.
Muzzleloader - Zone 1-4: Two consecutive days beginning the fourth Saturday in October and seven days beginning second Saturday in December.
Modern Gun Deer - Zones 1-2: 16 consecutive days, beginning the second Saturday in November. Zones 3-4: 10 consecutive days, beginning the second Saturday in November.
Youth Hunt - Zones 1-4: Two consecutive days beginning the third Saturday in October.
Boar - Check current regulations for McCreary County, Kentucky. Wild hogs may be taken during open deer season.

For exact dates contact Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 (502)564-4336

Tennessee Big Game Hunting Seasons

Permanent Opening Dates
Quail and Rabbit - Second Saturday in November.
Squirrel - Fourth Saturday in August.
Deer/Archery - Last Saturday in September.
Deer/Gun - Saturday before Thanksgiving.
Deer/Juvenile only - First Saturday and Sunday in November.

For exact dates please contact: Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Region III, 464 Industrial Blvd., Crossville, Tennessee 38555, (931) 484-9571 or 1-800-262-6704 in Tennessee.

Managers at Big South Fork are working with state game agencies to establish an extended hog season following the regular big game season. This season is proposed to last through the end of February. A special permit available through the park would be required.

Discover Historic Rugby

At the Big South Fork Southern Boundary



Historic Rugby is a non-profit museum and historic site founded in 1966 to carry out the restoration, preservation and interpretation of one of the South's most intriguing historic places. The organization now maintains and operates five public museum buildings, three historic buildings for unique overnight lodging, food service at the Harrow Road Cafe, and a museum & craft store—the Rugby Commissary.

Guided interpretive tours of the public buildings are conducted daily except on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Many special events, crafts workshops and other educational programs are presented year-round. The Rugby colony was established in 1880 by famous British author and social former Thomas Hughes as a social and agricultural Utopia. Twenty historic buildings remain today. The entire Rugby village was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

Three miles of walking trails built by original Rugby colonists still wind down to the Clear Fork and White Oak Rivers, now part of the Big South Fork. Trail guides are available at the Schoolhouse Visitor Centre.

Historic Rugby is in an area of exceptional natural beauty, 16 miles from Jamestown, 24 miles from Oneida, directly adjacent to the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.



2002 CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT HISTORIC RUGBY, TENNESSEE



27th ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF BRITISH & APPALACHIAN CULTURE

Saturday & Sunday, May 18 - 19, 2002

With Continuous British Isles & Appalachian Music & Dancing...
75 or More Traditional Arts & Craftsfolk Demonstrating & Selling Their Works...
Storytelling Stage...Historic Building Tours... Delicious Food
Event \$6.00 Adults, \$3.00 Students, Members & Preschoolers Free



HALLOWEEN GHOSTLY GATHERING

Friday & Saturday, October 25 & October 26

A Calling of the Spirits From Rugby's Past & A Look at How Halloween Came to Be
Chili & Cornbread Dinner...Candle & Lantern Lit Tours...Story Telling
Limit 100 Each Night: Adults \$16; Students (6 & Above Only) \$8. Advance Reservations



THANKSGIVING MARKETPLACE

Friday, November 29

Start or Finish Your Christmas Shopping at the Rugby Commissary
Demonstrating Craftspeople...Tours of Historic Buildings
Victorian Cream Tea at 1880 Newbury House B & B
Delicious Meals at the Harrow Road Cafe
Advance Reservations Required for Cream Tea - \$6.00



CHRISTMAS AT HISTORIC RUGBY

Saturday, December 7 & Saturday, December 14

Visit Beautifully Decorated & Lamp Lit Historic Buildings To Bring an Old Fashioned Christmas Alive...Enjoy Classical Music & Actors Portraying Early Rugby Colonists
Join in an Old Fashioned Carol Singing w/Hot Wassail
Lessons & Carols Service at Christ Church Episcopal...Christmas Treasure Shopping...Sumptuous Four Course Victorian Dinner at the Harrow Road Cafe
Event \$6.00 Members, \$8.00 Adults, \$4 Students - Four Course Dinner \$27
Advance Reservations Required



Call Historic Rugby at (423) 628-2441

For Reservations & Lodging

Email: rugbytn@highland.net - Website: www.historicrugby.org

Discover Pickett State Park

The Glow Worms of Hazard Cave

Throughout the Big South Fork area there are numerous sights to see. Pickett State Park is our next door neighbor and is located about 20 minutes away from the Bandy Creek Visitor Center. Pickett State Park offers a wealth of scenic treasures for the day hiker, casual stroller, serious backpacker and overnight camper. Cabins are even available to rent throughout the year.

A fascinating aspect of this natural area is a glowworm that inhabits Hazard Cave and nearby overhanging, sandstone rock bluffs. Hazard cave is not considered to be a true cave. True caves are areas where no light can penetrate. Geologists often call these "caves" rock shelters instead. Within these rock shelters there exists a larvae of the fungus gnat (Diptera mycetophilidae). This larvae has been found in the Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina, Pickett State Park and at a few locations within the Big South Fork as well as a cave named Luminous Cave in Claiborne County, Tennessee. Until recent times, there was only one other place to find these creatures, which was New Zealand.

The "glowworms" may be viewed at night in the furthest reaches of Hazard Cave only when you turn off your flashlight and sit patiently while your eyes become adjusted to the darkness. Slowly you will begin to see their dim, bluish-green glow as if a magical city were appearing before your eyes.

Park staff will lead you to see these minute creatures during evening programs held during the summer months. Check with the Pickett State Park offices for times and dates of these and other naturalist programs by calling (931) 879-5821.

Hazard Cave at Pickett State Park



Canoeing the Big South Fork River

White Water

Experienced river users know they can quickly get in over their head... if they do not follow some basic rules. Remember that the dangers of the river are real. With experience and the proper equipment, you can have a great trip. Without experience and proper equipment, you can create disaster for yourself and others.

- Always wear a Personal Flotation Device.
- Always wear a helmet in class 3 or above rapids.
- Carry a throw bag. Practice its use.
- Always scout a rapid before you run it.

Rapids are not marked, nor are there formal portage routes. Familiarize yourself with the features and landmarks which will allow you to locate rapids as you approach them. Much of the river length is remote. There are few access points to the river. If you are injured, it will take time to find your way to a phone to call for help. You must know what you are doing before you go.

- Never attempt a section of river that is beyond your experience unless you have others along to train and assist you.
- Dress properly for the season. Cool clothing that gives protection from the sun in the summer and warm clothing and/or a dry suit for winter.
- Know first aid and CPR. Carry a first aid kit.
- Be experienced in rescue and recovery techniques.
- Carry at least the basic essentials: Map, compass, matches, flashlight, shelter, food/snacks, water, extra clothing, first aid kit, and knife.

The visitor centers' staff at the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area at Bandy Creek or in Stearns and Obed Wild and Scenic River in Wartburg can provide you with more important safe user information. Be sure to check in before your trip and file a backcountry permit if you plan on staying out overnight.