

Welcome to SHINING ROCK WILDERNESS AND MIDDLE PRONG WILDERNESS Pisgah National Forest - North Carolina

Shining Rock Wilderness in Pisgah National Forest, North Carolina, is made up of a series of high-elevation ridges on the north slopes of Pisgah Ridge. The terrain is extremely steep and rugged, with elevations ranging from 2,300 feet on the West Fork of the River to 5,000 feet on Old Mountain. Shining Rock Ridge, which forms the backbone of the area, is over 5,000 feet high and rises to 6,000 feet at the West Fork of the River. It is a major part of the Tennessee River.

AREA HISTORY
Originally, this area was a part of the Cherokee Nation. The land passed into private ownership through a State grant in 1796 and was subsequently divided into tracts and sold. Settlers moved into the area and established homesteads. Many cleared and farmed the land, and some logging operations, turning their cattle out to graze on the open, cleared land.

WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT
The Wilderness Act also spells out the role that the Forest Service must take to manage the area. The goal is to protect and preserve the natural resources and wilderness character, provide for public use, and reduce conflicts between this use and the values of wilderness. These values include solitude and naturalness, as well as ecological features.

What is Allowed?
Primitive recreation activities such as backpacking and camping, hunting, fishing, and trapping under State and Federal laws.

Other Trail Opportunities

TRAIL-USE PATTERNS

PACK IT IN - PACK IT OUT
Give a hoot! Don't pollute.

Personal fly traps, color, national origin, race, religion, or with any handicapping condition are welcome to use and enjoy all facilities, programs, and services of the USDA. Discrimination in any form is strictly against agency policy, and should be reported to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.



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NO-TRACE USE
In the past, we spoke of wilderness survival as the ability of man to survive the land. Now we speak of wilderness survival as the land's capability of surviving man. The capability of wilderness is combined with proper travel and camping techniques, in creating man's ability to survive in the wilderness. The quality of wilderness experiences and the unimpaired freedom of wilderness, each individual must accept responsibility for the impact of his or her visit. When you pass this visit, the wilderness be as good as dead. Wilderness resources must be managed to ensure that they are unimpaired and values remain optimum.

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PLEASE PREVENT FOREST FIRES

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 FOREST SERVICE
SHINING ROCK AND MIDDLE PRONG WILDERNESS
 PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST
 NORTH CAROLINA

SCALE 1:24,000
 CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET

- LEGEND**
- National Forest Boundary
 - Private Land Boundary
 - Access Road
 - National Forest Land
 - National Forest Area
 - State and Private Land
 - Interstate
 - Highway
 - Road
 - Railroad
 - Pipeline
 - Canal
 - U.S. Highway
 - Primary State Highway
 - Secondary State Highway
 - Forest Road
 - Fire Road
 - Fire Lane
 - Secondary Pathway
 - Interlocking
 - Pipeline
 - Railroad
 - Pipeline
 - Canal

FOREST OF PISGAH MAP
 Compiled in the Regional Office, Atlanta, Georgia in 1988 from U.S. Forest Service Primary Data Series Maps.

