CCC Public Zoom Meeting

May 19 2020, 8:00

Pisgah Nantahala Forest Planning

New Public Comment Period Deadline June 29

One of the many climbing concerns with Draft Plan:

Proposed Plan, P. 259, CDW-S-05 offers draft direction for climbing in Wilderness, and fixed anchors: NA *"Rock climbing or similar sports is allowed only where there is no resource damage resulting from the activity and where not prohibited by seasonal or permanent closure orders. Installation of new permanent anchors, or their replacement, shall only be done with the appropriate analysis and line officer approval. If replaced or installed, anchors shall be of a non-reflective or camouflaged finish. Use of motorized drills is prohibited."*

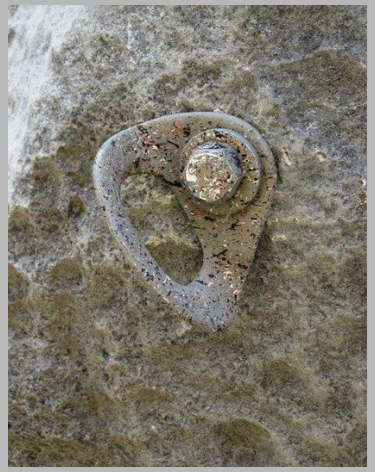
Climbing - Hopes for the New PNNF Plan

Greater focus and resources for recreation management; preserve access to existing climbing resources.

Continued partnership and balanced management for protection of wildlife/ natural resources and climbing access.

Clear policy that allows use and replacement of fixed anchors.

Better stewardship and maintenance of access paths and climbing area infrastructure.

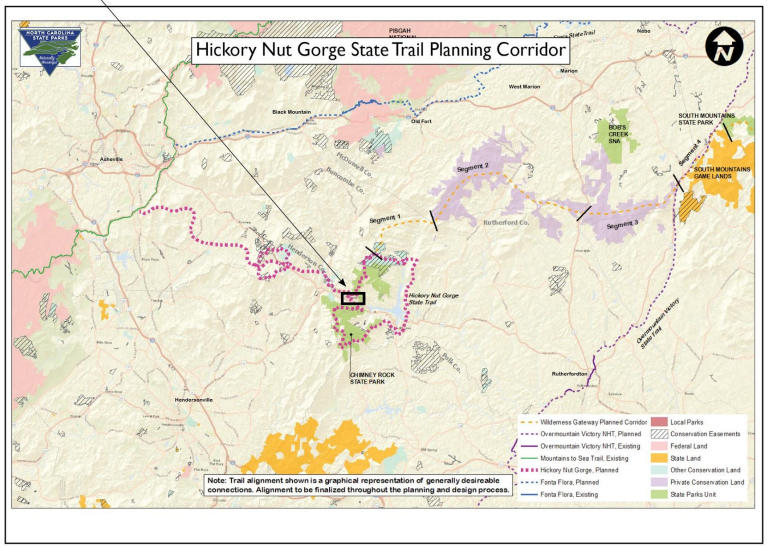


Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail planning

- HNG State Trail plan approved in 2017
- CCC are part of HNG planning group
- 120+ Miles
- Most of the trail is hypothetical and malleable. ~30 miles of the 120+ miles are already built
- ***New access POTENTIAL***

The Heart of the Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail

If the Village of Chimney Rock allowed the Round Top Boulders Trail to be built, it would be the critical piece that would bring the Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail right into the Village of Chimney Rock. The Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail is a largely hypothetical trail begun by the NC State Park State Trails system in 2017. The trail will connect the Upper and Lower Hickory Nut Gorge through a contiguous trail system estimated to be around 120 miles. Roughly 30 miles are complete and planning for the connector sections is on going and malleable. The Round Top Boulders Trail would be the heart of the larger trail.



Trail Classes At Pumpkintown

Trail Layout Class

Machine Cutting Class

Pandemic Hits

Creation of C4

C4

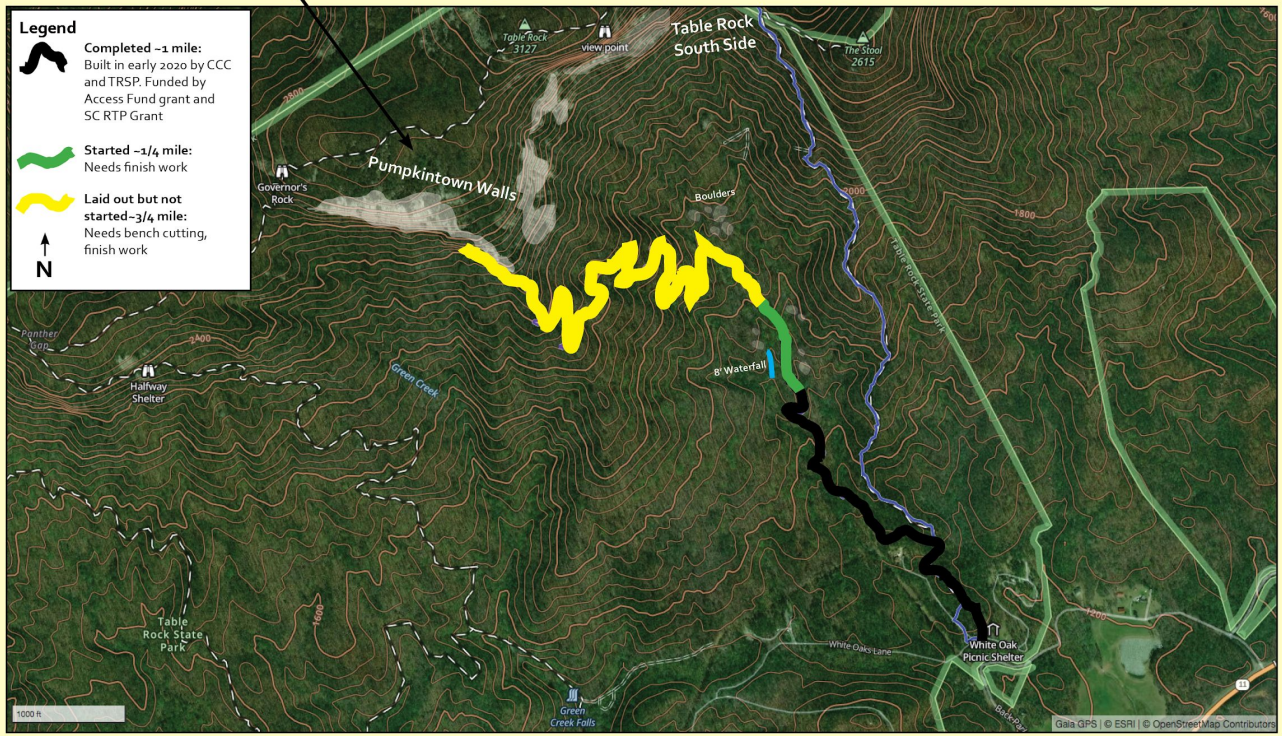
Carolina Climbers Conservation Corp

Pumpkintown Trail

Table Rock State Park, SC

We Need Your Help!

Donate to support trail construction to this newly opened, world class climbing destination:
carolinaclimbers.org/donate
$100+ to the trail= CCC Hat
$500+ to the trail= Recognition on Pumpkintown kiosk



Big Rock Work by C4

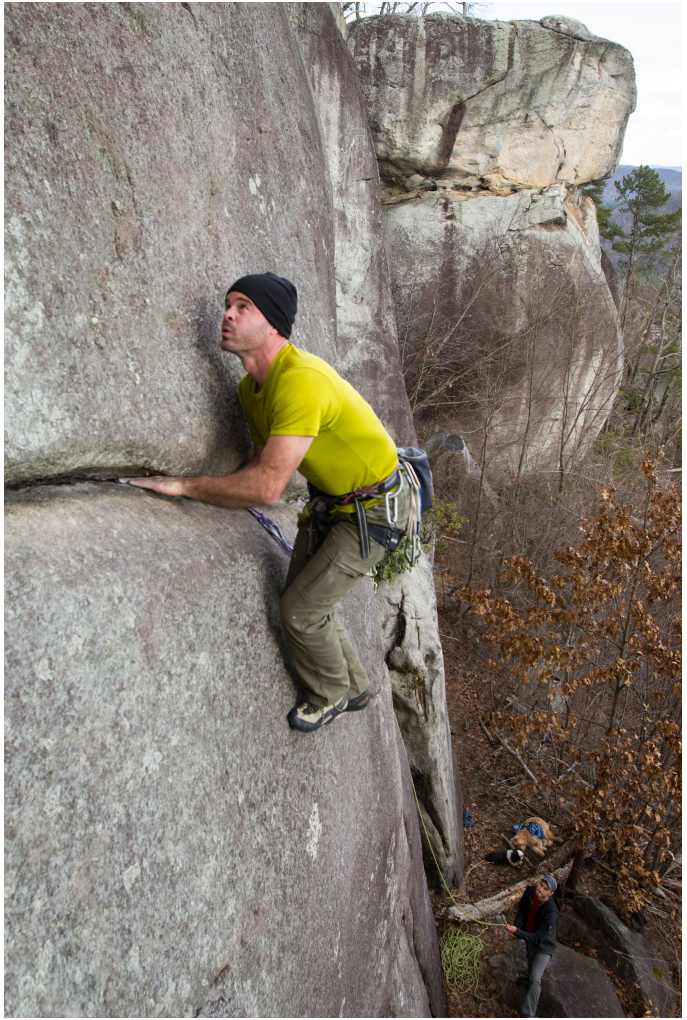
Rerouting Chain Gully

Erosion Control

Adding Steps

Creating Crib Walls

Gaining Experience for Pumpkintown



Citizen Scientists

Climbers take a bigger role monitoring peregrines for NC Wildlife Resources Commision

Successful nesting at Laurel Knob!

CCC and climbers highlighted in NCWRC reports

Climbers given more autonomy to collect data, monitor nest sites, improve closure boundaries, and lift closures early

NCWRC trains climbers at Moore’s Wall. Lifts North End closures

Moore’s Wall

Falcon Monitoring with NC State Biologists

-Raptor Identification

-Falcon Vocalizations

-Tools of the Trade: Eyes and Ears, Binoculars and Audiolures

-Objective: Determine if a pair is on Territory

-Timing: Mid January until it is determined whether or not Falcons are in the area

Asheboro

- New land owner
- Confirmed continued access
- Fill out a waiver!
- Make sure CCC-membership is current

Rocky Fork State Park

Not open to climbing yet, but we are working on it!

Thanks to an Access Fund Grant, we have completed a bio survey, peregrine monitoring, cliff mapping, trail building assistance, and base trail planning

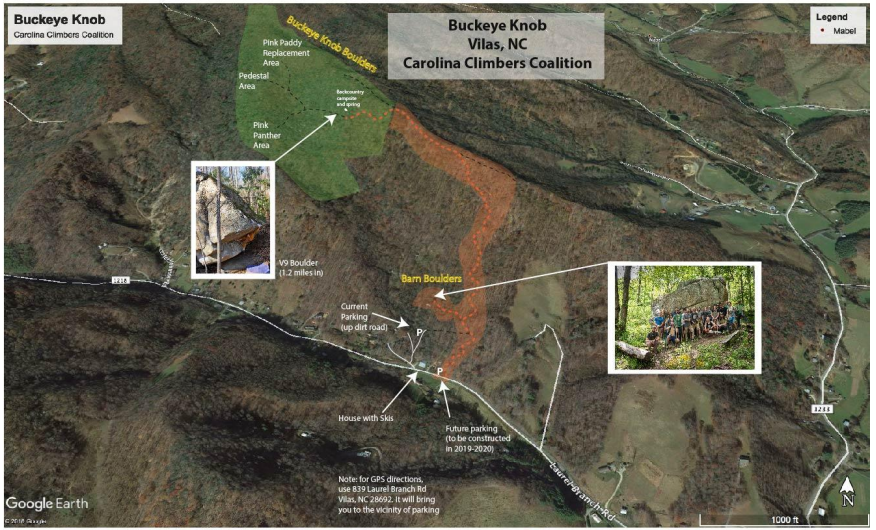
Misc. Project Reports:

- Melrose
- Rumbling Bald West Side Restoration complete for now!
- Eagle Rock, Tunnel Trail expansion complete!
- Bolt Replacement

Buckeye Knob

Paid $10,000 off in March. $25,000 to go!

Trail, Parking, Kiosk, Rescue Basket are all going in this week.

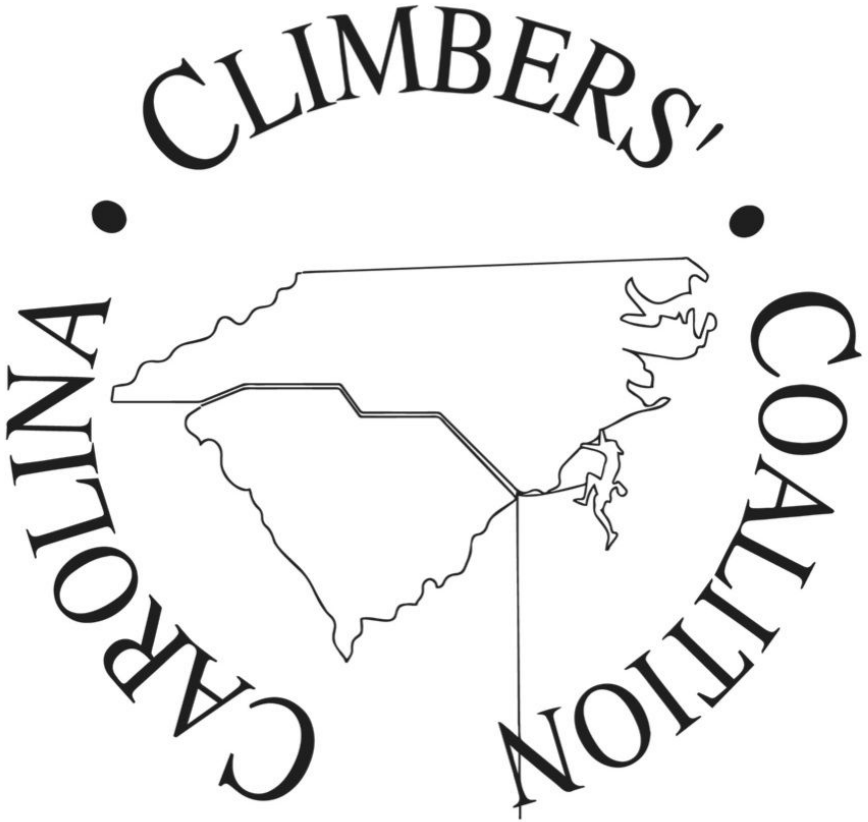


Crowders Mountain

REI grant trail repairs 2019 / 2020

- David's Castle & Practice Wall, 4 work days over 4 months.
- Repaired severely eroded trails for future generations.
- Built stairs and covered social cut through trails.
- One small work day left. On hold due to closures.

Questions? Thank you!!!

Become an annual CCC member:

www.carolinaclimbers.org