

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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PRICE INCREASES FOR FOREST SERVICE MAPS

ATLANTA – Increased production costs have made it necessary to raise national forest visitor map prices by \$2 nationwide, including the 13-state Southern Region, USDA Forest Service officials announced today.

The increased map prices are effective Friday, September 1, at all Forest Service offices in the Southern Region, said Elizabeth McMullen, director of the region's Geometrics Services Unit. Forest maps will now cost visitors \$6. The last time maps increased in price was in 1997, when they went up from \$3 to \$4, she said.

“The increase was based on cost data that is collected nationally every three years by each Forest Service region,” McMullen said. “Regulation requires that map production costs be evaluated to ensure quality recreation maps for forest visitors.”

Inflation, as well as increased paper, printing and distribution costs were major factors for the increase in map prices nationwide, McMullen said. The increase applies to all forest and district maps, however wilderness and trail maps will remain \$4.

Maps of all kinds can be purchased at district ranger offices, the forest supervisor's office, or ordered by phone from the Cradle of Forestry Interpretive Association (CFAIA) at 800-660-0671. Maps mailed out by the CFAIA cost an additional \$1 to cover postage.

McMullen said the map increase would not apply to 7½ Minute Topographic Quad Maps due to a pricing agreement between the Forest Service and the U.S. Geological Survey. Those maps will remain \$4.