



NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH • CAROLINA

USDA FOREST SERVICE, 160A ZILICOA STREET, ASHEVILLE, NC 28801

NEWS • RELEASE

Contact: Deborah Walker 910-576-6391 ext 100
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For Immediate Release

Uwharrie National Forest Proposes New Recreation Fees

TROY, NC.....The Uwharrie Ranger District is seeking public comment on a proposal to charge fees for use of four recreation areas on the District. The four proposed new areas include:

1. Flintlock Shooting Range (\$3 per person per day/ \$30 annual pass)
2. Uwharrie Horse Trail System (\$5 per rider per day/ \$30 annual pass)
3. Uwharrie Mountain Bike Trail System (\$3 per rider per day/\$20 annual pass)
4. Kings Mountain Point Day Use Area picnic shelter reservation (\$44 per half day and \$59 per whole day). No fee would be charged for use of the shelter during times it is not reserved.

In addition to the new fee proposals, the current season pass for the Badin Lake off-highway vehicle (OHV) area would also be increased from \$30 to \$40 a year. The daily pass will remain at \$5 per day for use of the OHV trails.

According to District Ranger Deborah Walker, "We are experiencing tremendous increases in recreation uses on the Uwharrie. We want to be able to provide quality recreation facilities to meet this demand, but our appropriated recreation budget is limited. In 2004, Congress passed the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act which allows us to charge recreation fees at certain places on the forest where additional facilities and services are provided and where there is public support for charging such a fee. Under this law ninety-five percent of fees collected would remain on the Forest for

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operating and maintaining these areas and for improving facilities at the sites,” Walker explained.

The Flintlock Shooting Range offers six 100 yard rifle target lanes and four 50 yard target lanes, sheltered shooting benches, information board, parking, and trash collection. A new toilet will be constructed at the site prior to fees being charged. The Uwharrie Horse Trail System offers 40 miles of trails maintained primarily for equestrian use, an information board, trash collection and parking facilities. A new toilet will be constructed at the site prior to fees being charged. The Uwharrie Mountain Bike Trail System offers 24 miles of trails in the Woodrun area, maintained primarily for mountain bike riders, an information board, trash collection and parking lot. A new toilet will be constructed at the site prior to fees being charged. The Kings Mountain Point Day Use Area picnic shelter site offers a picnic shelter with six tables, three group barbeque grills, potable water, flush toilet, trash receptacles, information board, paved parking and fully accessible paved pedestrian trails.

The Badin Lake OHV Area offers 16 miles of trails maintained primarily for OHV use, toilets, parking areas, information boards and trash collection.

Requests for additional information can be made to the Uwharrie Ranger District at (910) 576-6391 or at 789 NC Highway 24/27E, Troy, NC 27371. Comments on the fee proposal should be submitted no later than February 23, 2007 to:

UWHARRIE NATIONAL FOREST
Attn: Deborah Walker, District Ranger
789 NC Hwy 24/27 East
Troy, NC 27371

E-mail comments can be sent to:

comments-southern-north-carolina-uwharrie@fs.fed.us

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