National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Kentucky News

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PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Big Sandy Water Trail Big Sandy Area Development District
- 2. Eagles Nest Equestrian Trails Preservation Ft. Harrod Backcountry Horsemen, Inc.
- 3. Great Eastern Trail KY/VA/WV links Great Eastern Trail Association
- 4. Kentucky River Water Trail Kentucky Riverkeeper

Kayakers along the Kentucky River

Current Projects

1. Big Sandy Water Trail

Location: Along the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River between Paintsville and Prestonsburg, KY Congressional Districts: 5 Project Partner: Big Sandy Area Development District NPS Contact: Alison Bullock

Project Goal

Develop a water trail plan that will assist the local project partner with implementing a 20+ mile water trail.

RTCA Role

RTCA will continue to assist the Big Sandy Area Development District with finalizing a water trail plan that will outline the steps for completing the water trail.



Big Sandy River, KY

ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provides technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

We're Here For You.

Could your project benefit from RTCA Staff Assistance? Contact us to find out.

Alison Bullock 423.987.6128

alison_bullock@nps.gov

2010 Nationwide Partnership Success

- 1,251 Miles of Trail Developed
- 1,694 Miles of River Conserved
- ^{25,370} Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected
- 94% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

Find more information online at www.nps.gov/rtca



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Current Projects cont.

2. Eagles Nest Equestrian Trails Preservation

Location: 1,000 acre parcel near Ft. Harrodsburg, KY, that has been privately owned and operated by a family who is now interested in conserving the property in perpetuity for public use. Congressional District: 6 Project Partner: Ft. Harrod Backcountry Horsemen, Inc. NPS Contacts: Alison Bullock, Mary Hanson

Project Goal

Permanently protect for public use 1,000 acres of property, with over 30 miles of existing equestrian trails, currently owned by a single family who are interested in making this property into a public park for equestrian use.

RTCA Role

RTCA will continue on a consultation level to advise the Ft. Harrod Back Country Horsemen, the Equine Land Conservation Resource and Mercer County about options to conserve Eagle's Nest in perpetuity for equestrian riding.

3. Great Eastern Trail - KY/ VA/WV links

Project Partner: Great Eastern Trail Association RTCA Contact: Peggy Pings Location: Southern WV, eastern KY, southwestern VA Congressional District: KY-4, VA-9, WV-3

Project Goal

Create a 350 mile hiking trail link between the Breaks Interstate Park in VA/KY to the Allegheny Trail on the WV/VA border.

RTCA Role

Develop local trail group memberships. Assist with easments and agreements for trail segments. Begin implementing conceptual routes. Form and activate local trail clubs.

4. Kentucky River Water Trail

Location: Central Kentucky along the Kentucky River southeast of Lexington Congressional District: 6 Project Partner: Kentucky Riverkeeper NPS Contact: Alison Bullock

Project Goal

Create a 350+ mile hiking and multi-use trail link between the Breaks Interstate Park in Virginia and Kentucky to the Allegheny Trail on the West Virginia-Virginia border.

RTCA Role

Assisting Kentucky Riverkeeper in trail designs and facilitating and conducting meetings with various project partners along the area.



RTCA staff and volunteers help kids get ready to ride around the Eagle's Nest Equestrian Trails Preserve