

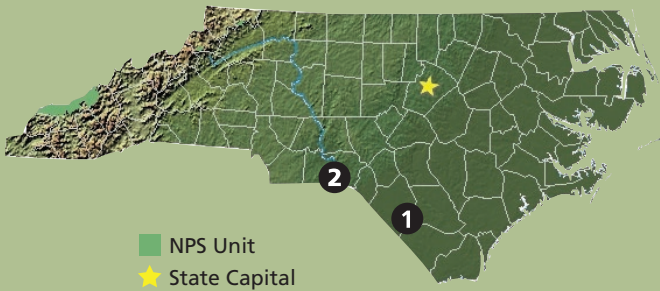


North Carolina News



Bald Cypress Knees along the Waccamaw River.
Photo: Waccamaw Riverkeeper

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2013



CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Waccamaw River Blue Trail
Waccamaw Riverkeeper, American Rivers
2. Kings Mountain Gateway Trails Phase V
Kings Mountain Gateway Trail, Inc.

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.

Recent Successes

Waccamaw River Blue Trail

Selected as a Department of Interior's America's Great Outdoors Project, the Waccamaw River Blue Trail continues to move forward in creating a recreation and conservation plan. Working in partnership with NC Department of Transportation, NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and the Waccamaw Riverkeeper, the partners have identified three public and private access points. The newest access point being located adjacent to Juniper Creek. Future plans include developing a paddle guide and hosting an annual "Paddle Fest" in 2013.



Waccamaw River Blue Trail planning team. Photo: Waccamaw Riverkeeper

We're Here For You.

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

Bill Lane

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2012 Nationwide Partnership Success

2,154 Miles of Trail Developed

1,074 Miles of River Conserved

70,385 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

94% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

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



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Current Projects

1. Waccamaw River Blue Trail

Project Partner: Waccamaw Riverkeeper and American Rivers
NPS Contact: Bill Lane
Location: Lake Waccamaw, NC to Georgetown, South Carolina - Along eastern seaboard of NC and SC
Congressional Districts: NC – 7; SC – 1

Project Goal

Establish a "Blue Trail" along the entire length of the Waccamaw River in NC. Through the development of long term support strategies (creation of a diverse steering committee), the project will connect with current trail efforts in SC.

NPS Role

Continue to provide guidance in developing river access points, public relations strategies, marketing material, and identifying long term funding sources.

2. Kings Mountain Gateway Trails - Phase V

Project Partner: King Mountain Gateway Trail, Inc.
NPS Contact: Bill Lane
Location: City of Kings Mountain
Congressional District: NC - 10

Project Goal

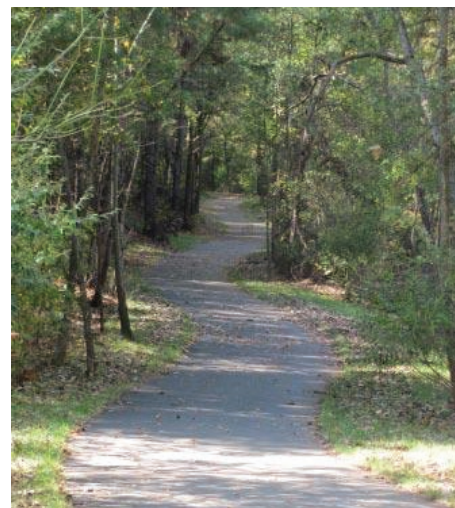
Improve the quality of life and economic well-being of the Kings Mountain area, the project will provide nature-based recreational opportunities with an emphasis on natural, cultural, and historical resources of the area.

NPS Role

Assist in the development of phase V of the trails master plan, as well as research potential funding sources for construction and long term management.

"The synergy that has resulted from this community coalition is remarkable, yielding actions relating to improved opportunities for recreation, education, volunteer monitoring of water quality, and planning/strategies to address watershed issues. The result is greater awareness of the unique resources of the watershed and its stewardship."

- Christina Ellis, Waccamaw Riverkeeper



Images of Kings Mountain Gateway Trails.
Photos: NPS