



Tennessee News



View looking downstream of the Forked Deer River, TN

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

CURRENT PROJECT

1. Forked Deer River Water Trail
Mississippi River Corridor Organization
2. Beaman Park to Bells Bend Project
Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservation Community

ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provide 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

First Southeastern Water Trails Forum

In the Fall of 2009 the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program assisted the Southeast Watershed Forum and many other water trail partners from across the Southeast in hosting the first Southeastern Water Trails Forum. The Forum attracted 111 attendees from 13 states and the District of Columbia to Chattanooga to learn, share lessons, and network about water trails. The Forum provided a novel opportunity to create regional dialogue, inspire new paddlers and paddle trail groups, and get out on the water.



Southeast Regional Director David Vela and Project Partner Christine Olsenius

We're Here For You.

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

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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



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Current Project

1. Forked Deer River Water Trail

Location: Forked Deer River east of Dyersburg in the Tigrett Wildlife Management Area to the Chickasaw National Wildlife Refuge on the Mississippi River.
Congressional District: 8
Project Partner: Mississippi River Corridor
NPS Contact: Alison Bullock

Project Goal

The Mississippi River Corridor organization in west Tennessee is developing a blueway/water trail project that will connect the North Forked Deer River to the Mississippi River. The project partners anticipate expanding economic development opportunities and promoting needed conservation to the North Forked Deer and Mississippi River area. The blueway will promote new tourism-based businesses and increase recreation and education opportunities along the river. A long-term plan has been proposed to continue the blueway down the Mississippi River to Memphis.

RTCA Role

RTCA will assist in determining proper launch sites and recommended configuration/construction of these sites. RTCA will also assess areas for rest stops, campsites, and interpretive signage areas for placement along the blueway.

2. Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservation Community Project

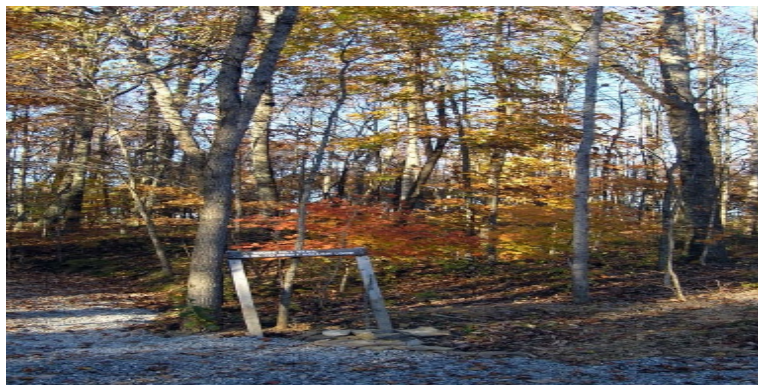
Location: Northwest of Nashville within Metropolitan Nashville/ Davidson County in Scottsboro Congressional District: 5
Project Partner: Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservation Community
NPS Contact: Alison Bullock

Project Goal

The Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservation Community Project seeks to preserve the historically-rich area known as Scottsboro and Bells bend. With tremendous archeological resources, historic structures, forested acres, riparian areas, and the boundary of the Cumberland River surrounding the Bells Bend peninsula, this area has a legacy to preserve for the region as they continue to overcome suburban sprawl and shape this community's future.

RTCA Role

RTCA will be assisting the Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservation Community Project by conducting a Strategic Planning Workshop in the community in 2011 and providing technical assistance to help this organization create an action plan for preservation and future green development. Outcomes of this project include river conservation, open space preservation, and trail connections from Beaman Park to Bells Bend Metro Parks.



Trailhead at Beaman Park, TN