

LAC Documents: Gorge Designations

Special Designations		
Name	Date	Size
Cumberland National Forest USDA Forest Service	1937	340,000 acres in 1937 700,001 acres in 2004
<i>Changed to Daniel Boone National Forest in 1966. Most of Gorge was purchased in the 1930's.</i>		
Kentucky Wild River State of Kentucky	1973	9 miles of upper Red River
<i>To preserve primitive character of streams and prevent future impoundments *FS/State had MOU 12/27/73</i>		
Red River Gorge Geological Area USDA Forest Service	1974	About 29,000 acres
Manage principally for: recreation use, watershed protection, wildlife management. Substantially in a natural condition.		
Kentucky Landmark Program State of Kentucky – Kentucky Heritage Council	1980	5 sites as of 1980
Five prehistoric sites in Red River Gorge. Purposes of program: 1) identify all Kentucky cultural resources that have local, state or national significance, 2) begin historic documentation of Kentucky historic sites for Kentucky Official Register and for the National Register.		
National Natural Landmark USDI National Park Service	1976	About 29,000 acres (same as Geologic Area)
Established under authority of the Historic Sites Act 1935. Objectives: 1) encourage preservation of sites illustrating geological & ecological character; 2) enhance scientific and educational value; 3) strengthen public appreciation of natural history; 4) foster concern for conservation of Nation's heritage		
Clifty Wilderness U.S. Congress	1985	12,646 acres (overlaps eastern part of Geologic Area)
Laws based on 1964 Wilderness Act. No mechanical or motorized travel or equipment. Wilderness has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.		
National Register of Historic Places USDI National Park Service	1970 -2002	18 sites
18 individual prehistoric sites throughout the Red River Gorge area. Several are prehistoric rock art sites.		
National Wild & Scenic River U.S. Congress	1993	19.4 miles Total*
Based on 1968 Wild & Scenic Rivers Act. "Rivers shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations." *Upper 9.1 miles Wild River (4.5 miles in wilderness), Lower 10.3 miles Recreation River		
Kentucky Scenic Byway Kentucky Transportation Cabinet	2001	46 miles- KY 715 & KY 77 within Red River Gorge
Defined as road which has roadsides or view sheds of aesthetic, cultural, historical, and/or archaeological value worthy of preservation, restoration, protection, and enhancement.		
National Scenic Byway Federal Highway Administration	2002	46 miles - KY 715 & KY 77 within Red River Gorge
National Scenic Byways based on one or more archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities.		
Red River Gorge Archaeological District USDI National Park Service National Register of Historic Places	2003	About 37,000 acres
Contains 442 contributing sites and 222 non-contributing sites. Highly likely that more sites will be added as more archaeological surveys are completed.		

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