

What is the Red River Gorge?



The Red River Gorge is...

- A part of the Daniel Boone National Forest
- The Daniel Boone NF is under the US Department of Agriculture

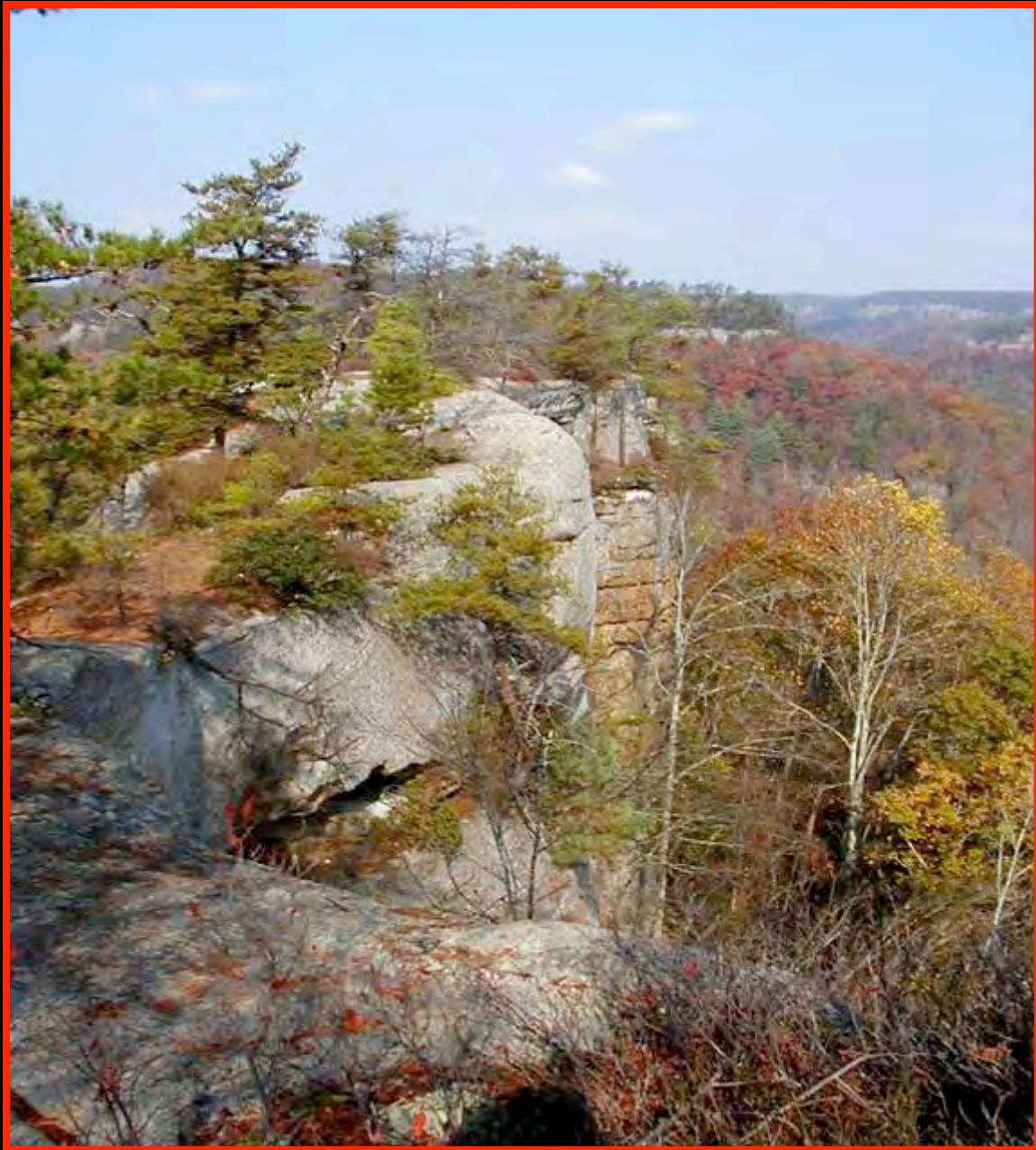


- Not a National Park
- Not part of Natural Bridge State Park

Rugged Terrain – 700 miles of cliffline









LAND OF THE ARCHES





Rock Shelters

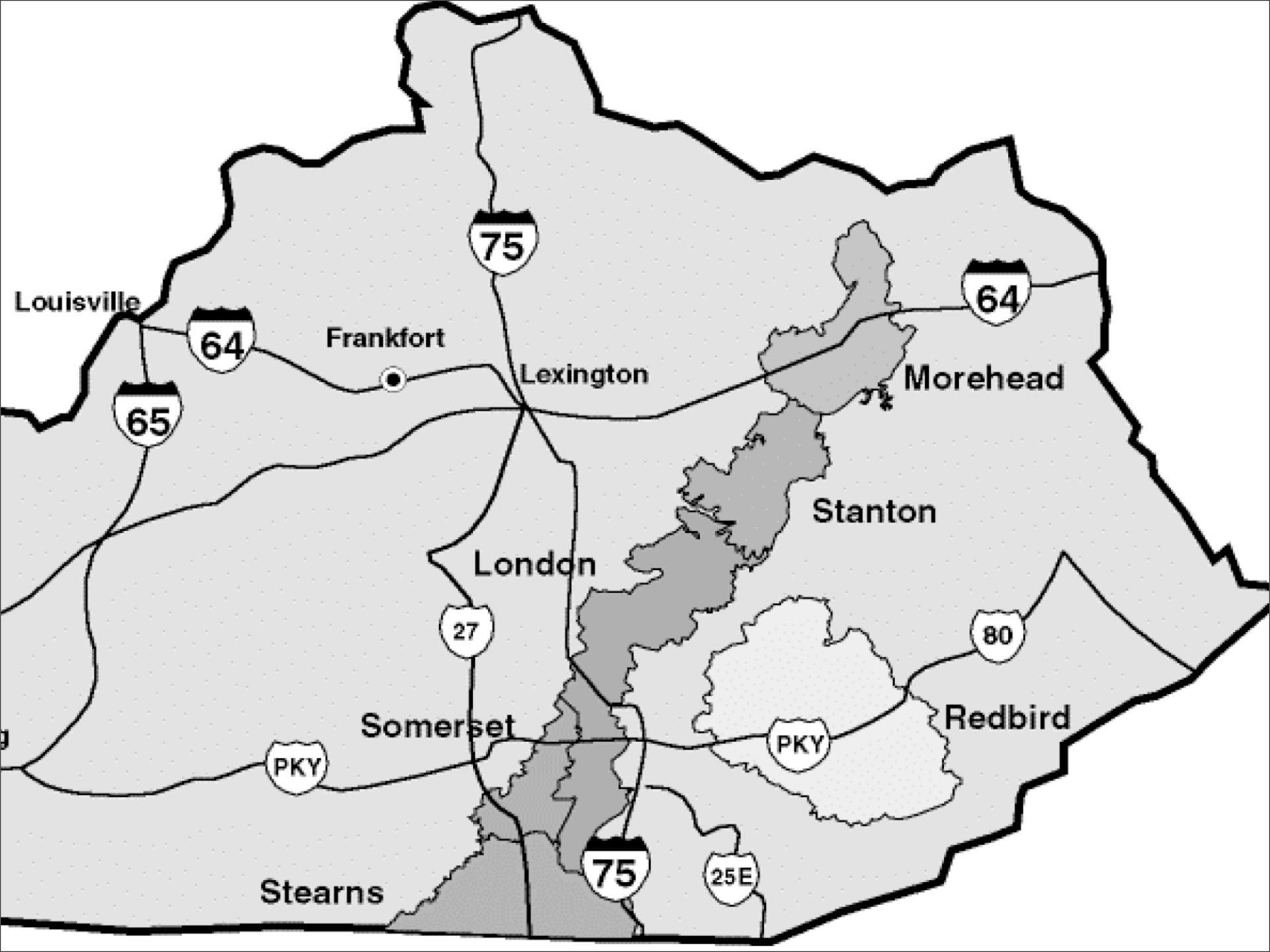


Cumberland Plateau







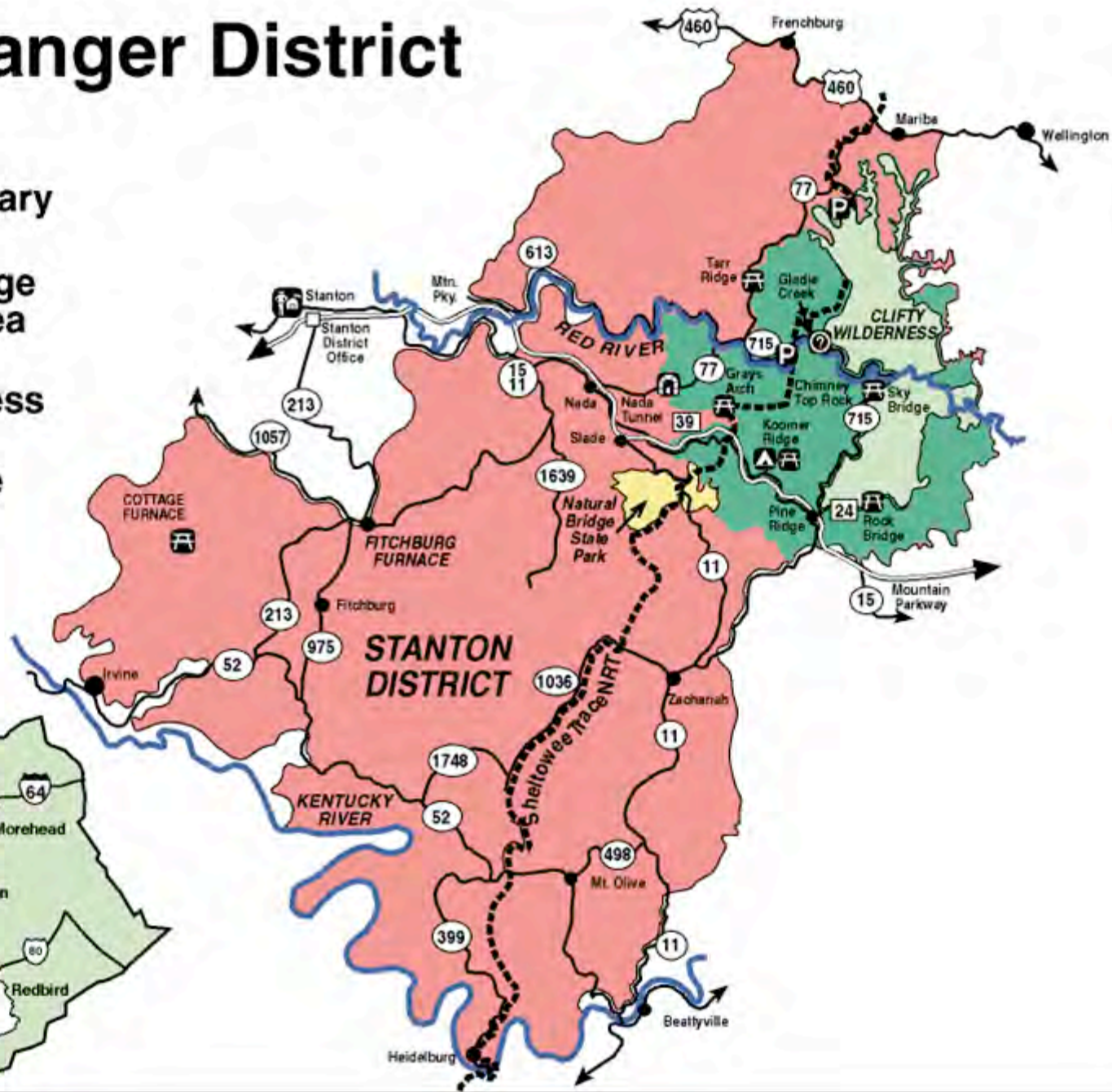
Red River flows through the area





Stanton Ranger District

-  District Boundary
-  Red River Gorge Geological Area
-  Clifty Wilderness
-  Natural Bridge State Park

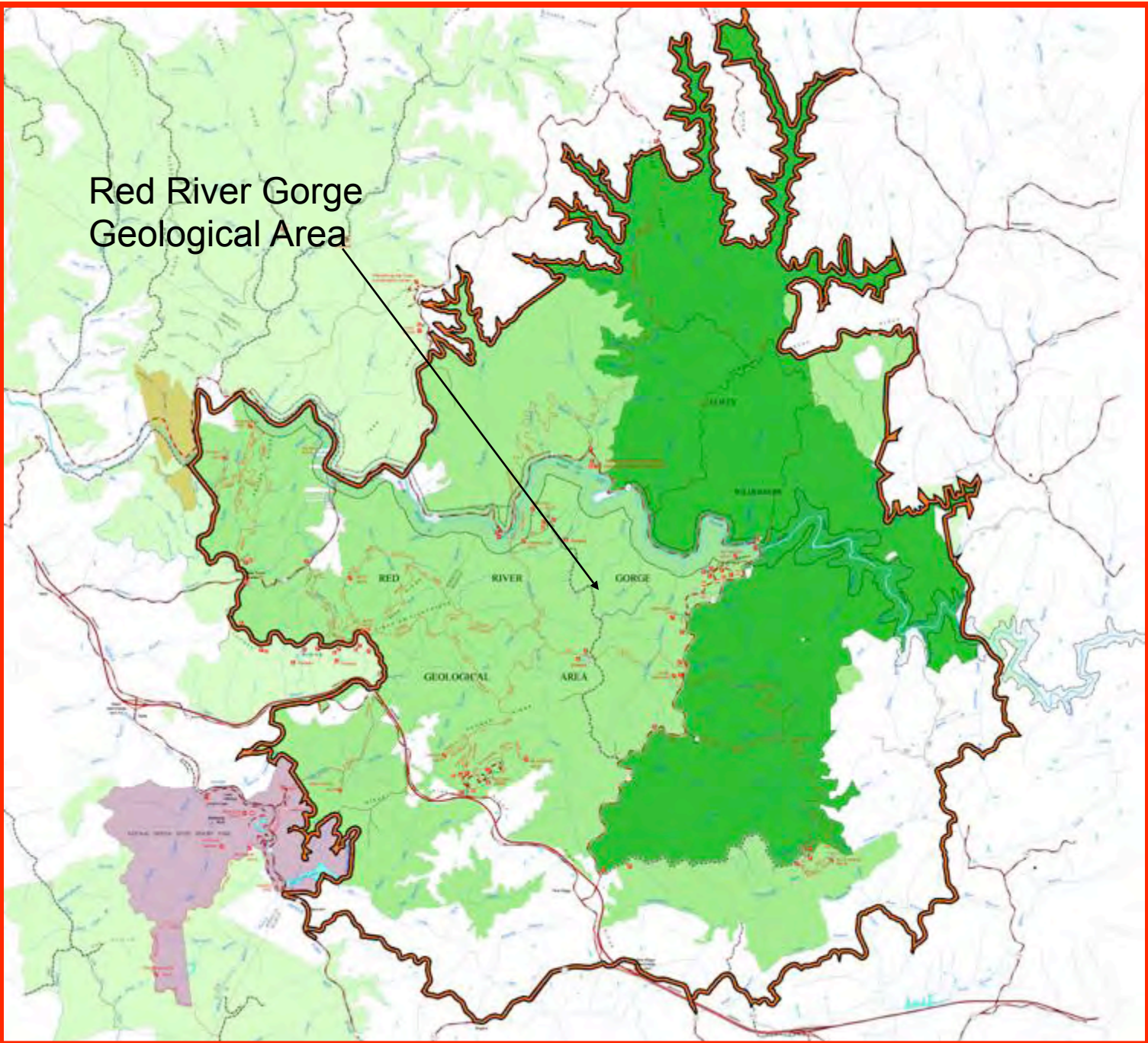


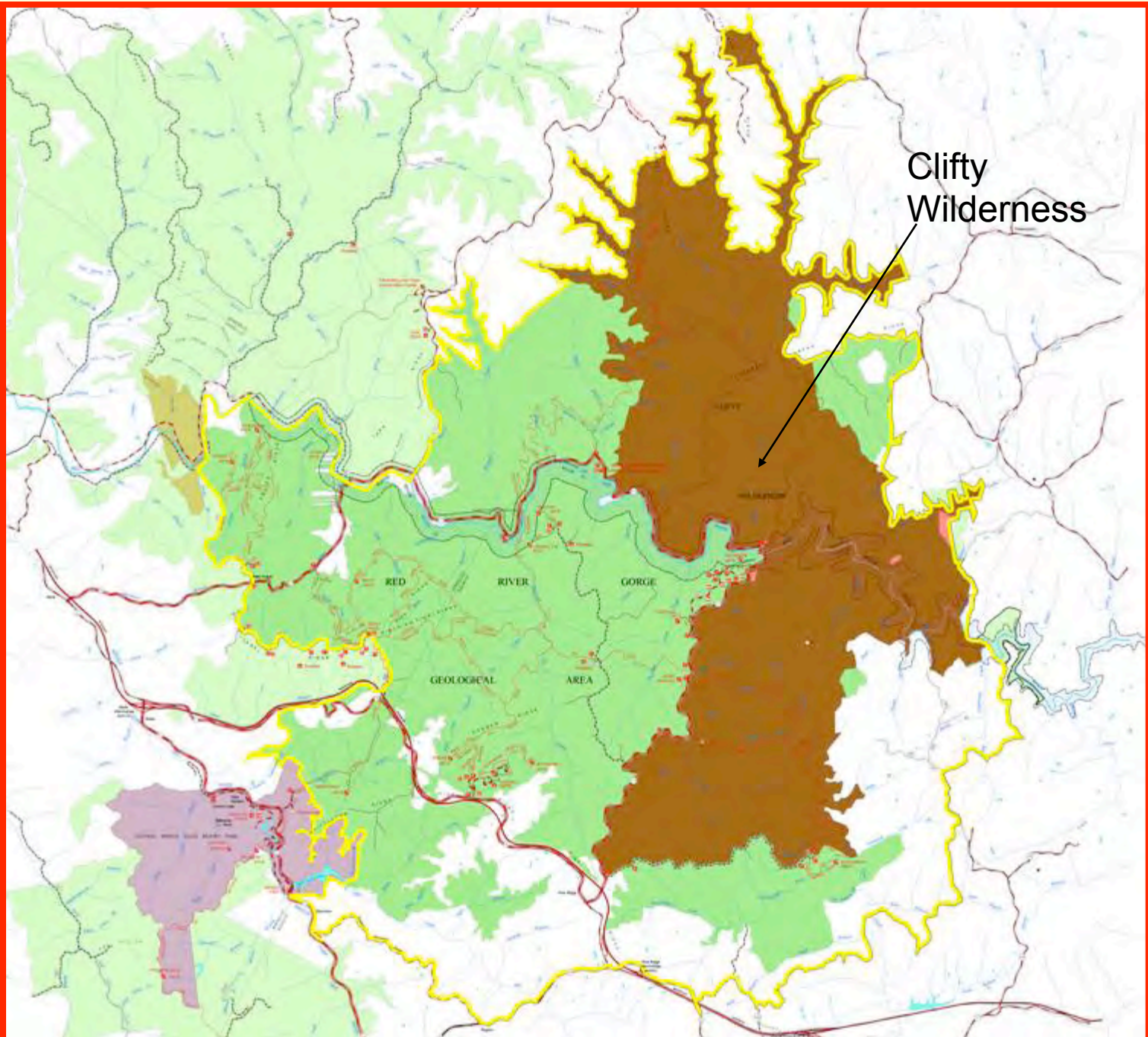
The Gorge has many designations:

- National Geological Area 29,000 acres
- National Natural Landmark 29,000 acres
- Clifty Wilderness 13,000 acres
- National Wild & Scenic River 19.4 miles
- National Scenic Byway 46 miles
- National Archaeological District 37,000 acres



Red River Gorge
Geological Area

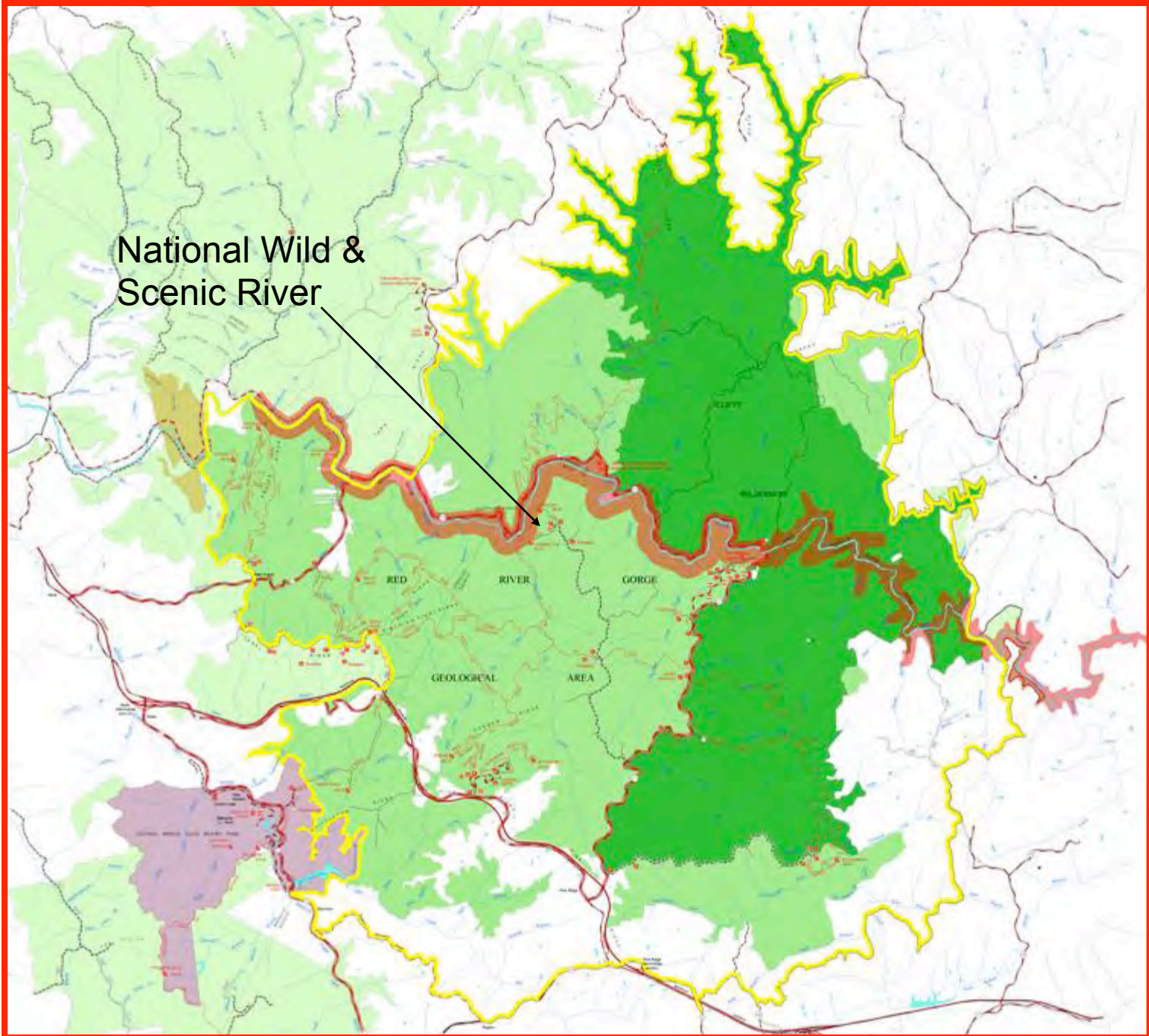




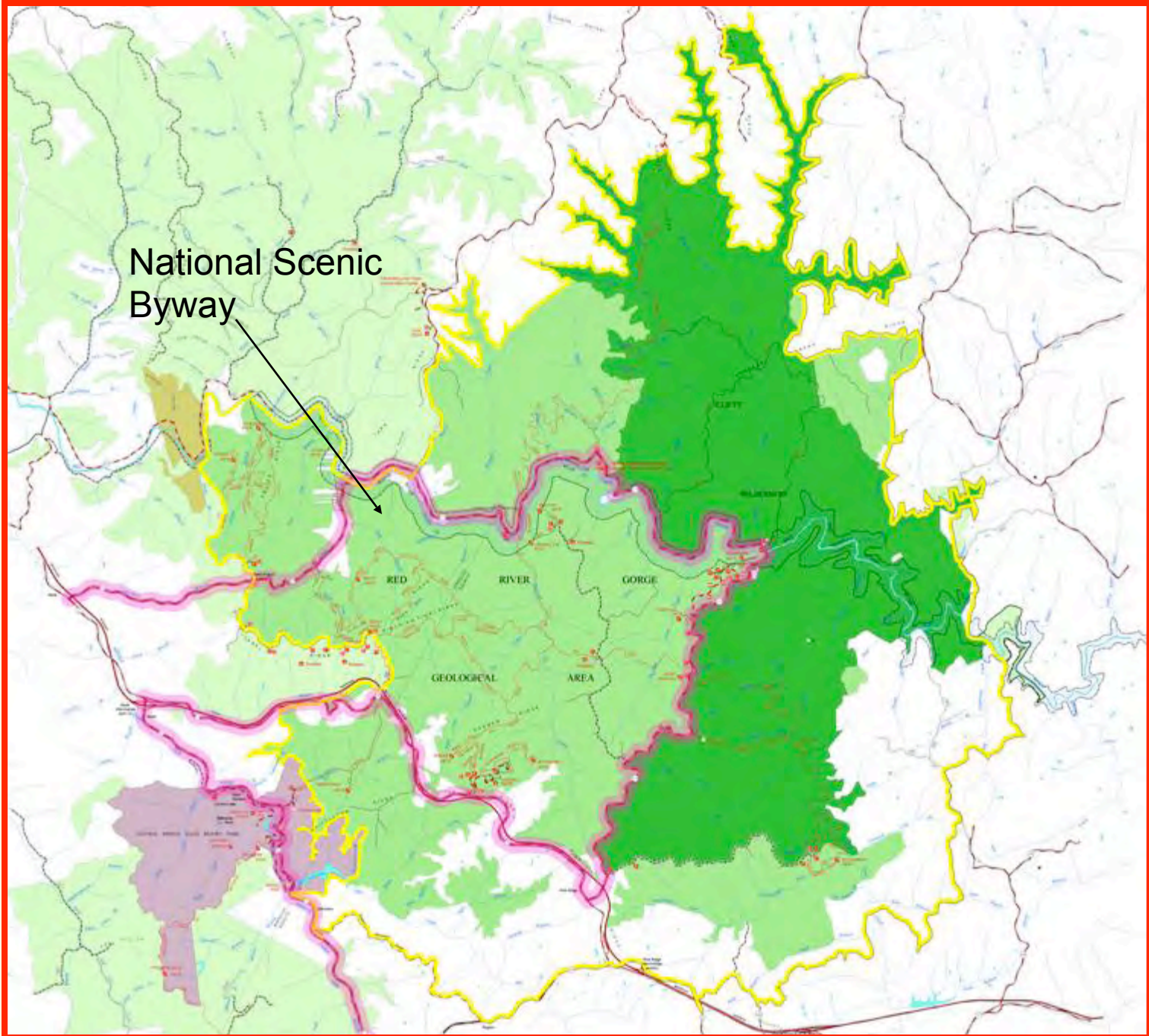
Clifty
Wilderness

RED RIVER GORGE
GEOLOGICAL AREA

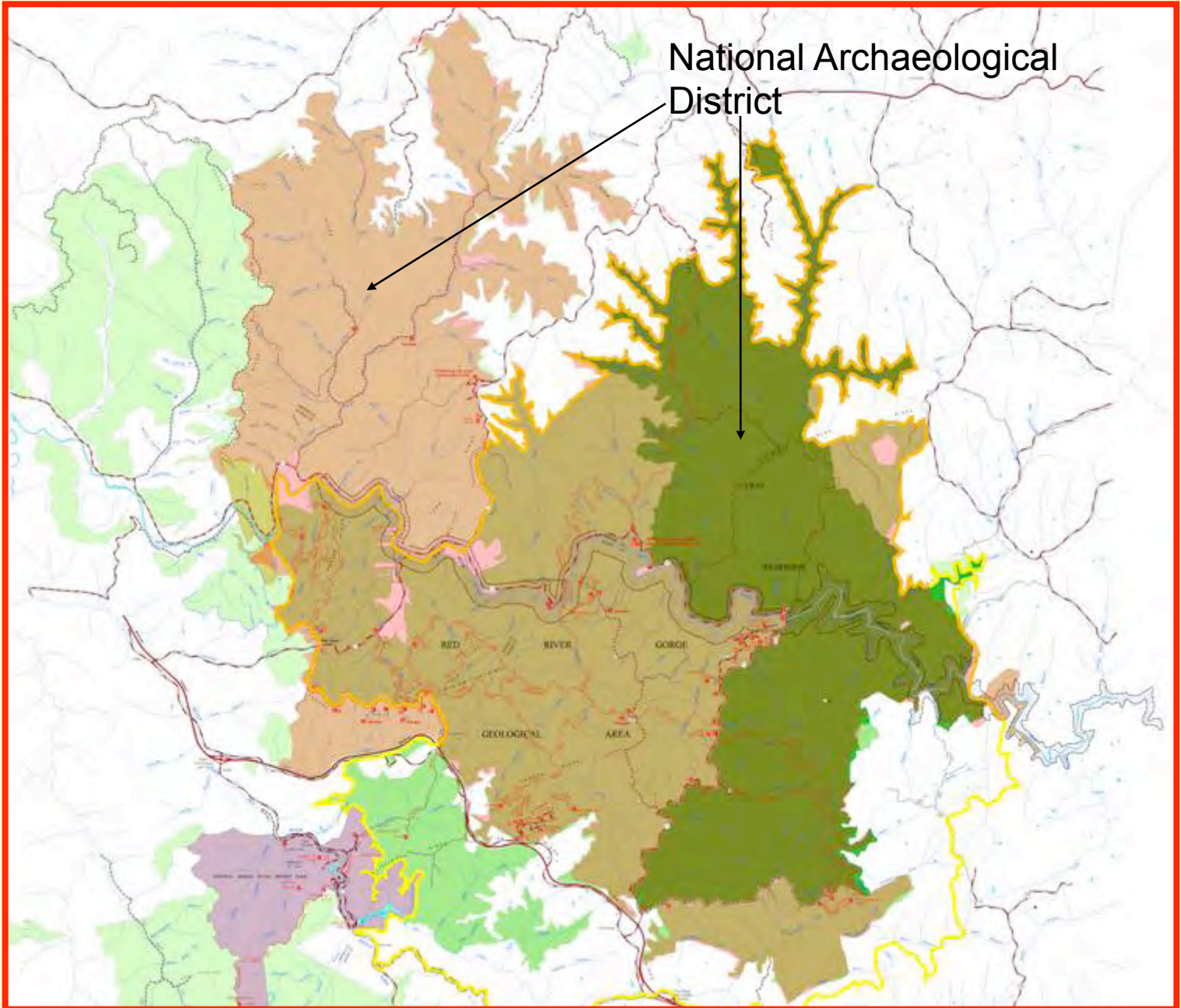
National Wild &
Scenic River



National Scenic
Byway



National Archaeological District



The Wilderness Act states that wilderness is a place...

- “Which generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable...”
- “Where man himself is a visitor who does not remain...”
- “Which has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation...”



The Red River Gorge is
home to many rare plants
and animals





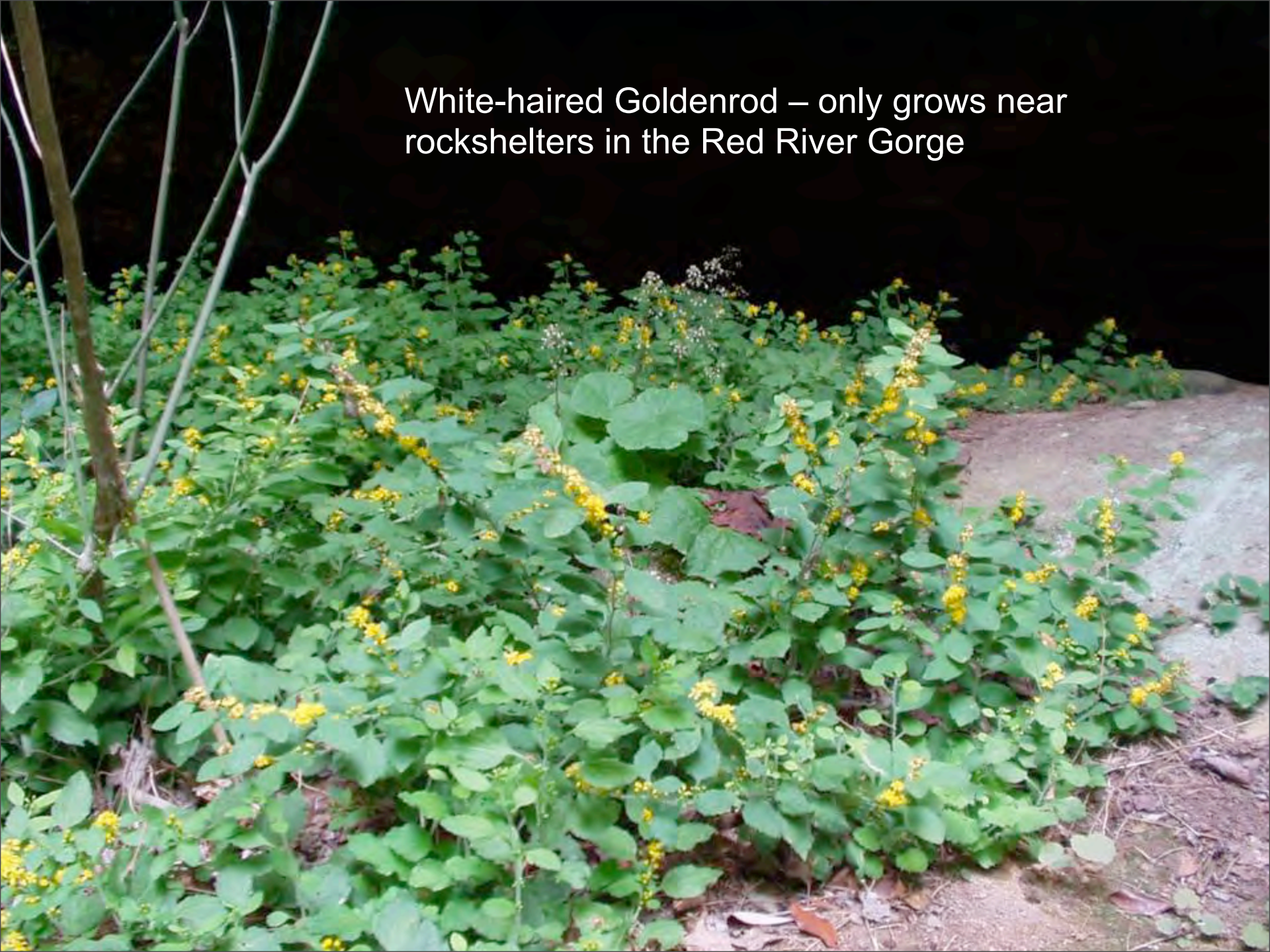








White-haired Goldenrod – only grows near
rockshelters in the Red River Gorge



**HELP PRESERVE
OUR
CULTURAL
HERITAGE**



**BY LEAVING ARCHAEOLOGICAL
HISTORICAL REMAINS UNDISTURBED**

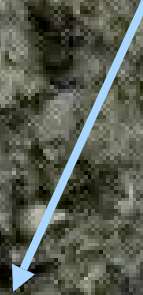
**REMOVAL OF ARTIFACTS
PROHIBITED BY LAW**



Concentric Circle



**Remains of pit, lined with
leaves/grass to store wild
nuts**



Cultivated Plants and Wild nuts/seeds



Origin of agriculture

**MIDDEN – Intact stratified layers
of Cultural Deposits**



MOONSHINE STILL



MOONSHINE STILL



Pen of hand-hewn logs made for holding mules/oxen during the early 1900's



Leaching Vats



SALT PETER MINES

Some fences have been installed to protect significant archaeological or biological resources





What's out there?

- About 60 miles of designated system trails
- Well over 60 miles of user-created trails
- About 1,000 user-created campsites
- Over 700 user-created climbing routes
- Koomer Ridge Campground
- Gladie Education Center & Historic Site
- Frenchburg Job Corp Center
- 4 picnic areas
- 2 boat launches



What is “user-created”?

- < Repeated traffic back & forth to the same spot that eventually beats out a path, a bare campsite, a bare spot at bottom of a climbing route
- < Not developed or maintained by the Forest Service
- < Remember all recreation use leaves some sort of impact

**AN EXAMPLE OF A USER-CREATED TRAIL ALONG
A CLIFFLINE USED BY HIKERS, CAMPERS AND
ROCK CLIMBERS**



Why are there “user-created”?

- < Recreation use levels and patterns have changed since most Forest Service trails were designed and constructed in the 1960's and 1970's
- < Visitors like to go to favorite places such as camping spots, vistas, fishing holes or climbing areas – whether there is a Forest Service system trail there or not

The Gorge is very accessible

- Mountain Parkway takes you right to the Gorge
- Within the Gorge area itself:
 - 22 miles of National Forest gravel roads
 - 3 miles of National Forest paved roads
 - 40 miles of state paved roads

Who visits the Gorge?

- < Hikers
- < Backpackers
- < Campers
- < Rock Climbers
- < Rappellers
- < Cavers
- < Hunters
- < Anglers
- < Canoers
- < Sightseers
- < Partiers

