

# Special Interest Areas

New Proposed Areas		
Appalachian		Rough Acres
Lovers Leap/ Stackhouse Slopes	Rare plant rare plant and animal populations	900
Spring Creek Gorge	Steep, narrow gorge, acidic and calcareous shale slope woodland	600
Grandfather		
Bald Mountain	Largest population of the rare Oconee-bells in range	160
Linville Mountain Dolomite Areas	Dolomite outcrops and rare plant communities	240
Lost Cove Cliffs	Large cliffs and rare plant communities, rare heller's blazing-star population	690
Woods Mountain Singecat Ridge	Only population of rare Mountain golden-heather outside of Linville Wilderness	200
Pilot Ridge	Unique geology, rare plant and animal populations	370
Nantahala		
Alarka Laurel	Rare Swamp Forest-Bog Complex, southern Appalachian bog community	645
Blackrock Mountain/ Granite City	High elevation granitic dome community, associated rare species	634
Cedar Cliff/ The Pinnacle	Montane red cedar-hardwood woodlands, associated rare plant and animal species	600
Panthertown	Rare plant communities, largest southern Appalachian Bog on Nantahala/Pisgah	2240
Silver Run Preserve/ Sassafras Mountain	Rare plant communities and associated rare species	?
Pisgah		
Chestnut Bald-Flat Laurel Creek – Sam Knob	High elevation plant communities, rare plant populations	700
Devils Courthouse	High elevation rocky summit, rare plants and animals	120
Tusquitee		
Die Bend/Crowder Bluff	Rare alluvial forest and floodplain pools	50
Total Acres		6660

## Criteria used to evaluate proposed designated areas in the revised Nantahala and Pisgah NFs Forest Plan

1. Designation of the area is responsive to a specific need on the Nantahala and Pisgah NFs, as identified in the Need to Change the Existing Land Management Plan.
2. The area has a prime example of a unique attribute or multiple unique attributes including botanical, zoological, geologic, historical/cultural, scenic resources, or recreational experiences.
3. The area's unique attributes are currently underrepresented in other special designated areas.
4. The area requires specific management direction for maintaining or protecting the unique attributes that are intrinsic to the area.

