

Lands, Engineering, Recreation, and Archaeology

FY 2011 Accomplishments

Lands & Special Uses

Lands FY11

- Over 300 miles of property line
- Average 38 miles/ year boundary maintenance
- 75 miles complete FY11

Special Uses FY11

- 14 Special Uses Permits were issued
- Inspected 120 existing permits
- 2 Recreational Activities permits

Archaeology-Heritage Resources

- FS projects that involved ground disturbance were surveyed.
- Heritage resources were evaluated and Significant * sites were protected.
- All reports for projects implemented in FY11 were reviewed by State Historic Preservation Office and Tribes.

*eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Engineering & Roads

- Brushy Bridge Project- 150 ft free span bridge across Brushy Creek.



Engineering Roads cont.

- Maintained 15 Admin. Facilities
- Maintained 47 recreational facilities
- Maintained 183 miles of road system.
- Maintained 61.2 through a cooperative agreement with Lawrence County.
- Alford Springs and Basin Creek Aquatics passages project.

Engineering & Roads cont.



Dispersed Recreation

- Assessed over 96.1 miles of trails after tornados
- Performed general trail maintenance
- Assisted search and rescue
- Increased Patrolling
- Attended Southeastern Equestrian Trail Conference
- Implemented a 1.5 mile reroute FSR 262J
- 50K run and Horse and Saddle endurance race.
- Hosted a Regional trail tour of Owl Creek Horse Trail
- Hosted Cross-Cut, Chainsaw, First, CPR, Wilderness Ranger, Trails Workshop.

Developed Recreation

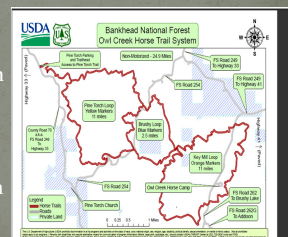
- Clear Creek, Corinth, Houston Recreation Concession Permit FY11.
- Concession Bid + Non-Responsive = Forest Service will be taking over these facilities.
- Deferred Maintenance Issues
- FERC Agreement Alabama Power- April

Bankhead Trails Update



Owl Creek non-motorized Trails

- 24.9 miles
- 3 loops – Key Mill, Brushy, and Pine Torch
- Horses, mountain bikes, hikers
- 2 trailheads – Owl Creek CG & Pine Torch
- Camping Owl Creek



Overall Vision

- Enhance and develop existing trail system to a sustainable and safer condition.
- Ensure system does not negatively impact T&E species.
- Improve quality of user experience.

Goals

- Expand riding opportunities within the foot print of the existing trail system.
- Provide new, safer, and enjoyable riding experiences.
- Mitigate current erosion issues near T&E species habitat and throughout the entire trail system.
- Improve overall trail maintenance.

Regional Trail Visit



Proposed Owl Creek Improvements

- Implement contract for a Detailed Trail Assessment Of 25 miles Owl Creek Trail System.
- Host a trails workshop for volunteers and FS Staff.
- Review finding and recommendations.
- Create new reroute and trail design proposal.
- Start EA process on an agreed upon proposal.
- Seek funding to implement proposal. RTP grant, Soil and Water Funding, etc.
- Increase fee compliance at trailheads

Trail course photo



Trail Assessment Contract Progress

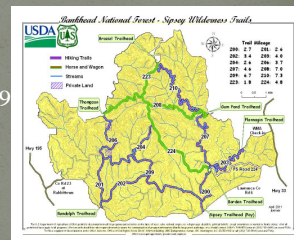
- U.S.F.S. and Warrior Mountain representatives met with contractor.
- Classroom training and Outdoor Session on trail design and maintenance.
- The field work for the assessment is complete.
- Proposal is being drafted for review.
- Assessment results and recommendations are to be completed by January .

Owl Creek Trail System FY12

- Perform general maintenance and repairs to MAINTAINABLE portions of the trail system.
- Design new trails proposal.
- Start EA process.
- Mitigate S&W concerns.
- Seek grants and alternative funding

Sipsey Wilderness

- 13.3 miles horse & wagon - 2 routes
- 33.4 miles hiking – 9 trails
- NO bikes or motorized
- Minimal signing & maintenance

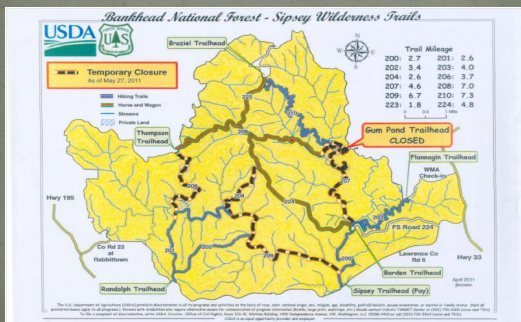


Sipsey Wilderness Trail System

- Tornadoes impacted a large percentage of trail system .
- Timely assessment of damage helped secure funds for clean-up.
- Contract awarded to clean up 13 miles 208, 207, 209, 204, and 206



Trail Closure



Proposed projects

- Trail cleaning contract starts this week.
- Start work on wilderness trailhead parking lots.
- Mitigate severe soil erosion along trails.
- Host development training.
- A group of UAB volunteers along with Backcountry Horsemen of Alabama cleared significant portion of 224.

Volunteer Highlights

- Sipsey Wilderness Hiking Club = 215 hrs / trail #210
- Back Country Horsemen = 765 hrs / trails #223 and #208
- Wild South = 1385 hrs / #203,206,207
- Wild South adopted the Wilderness Ranger Program.

Thanks!!!!