



File Code: 1010

Date: July 6, 2016

Dear Climbing Community:

Effective July 6, 2016, I am lifting the Forest Supervisor's closure to climbing, rappelling, and hang gliding on the following rock faces:

- Whitesides Mountain, Nantahala Ranger District
- Big Lost Cove Cliffs and Linville Gorge (Shortoff Mountain and NC Wall), Grandfather Ranger District
- Whiterock Cliff and Buzzard's Roost, Appalachian Ranger District
- Looking Glass Rock (north face) and Victory Wall, Pisgah Ranger District

Closure of the cliffs where peregrine falcons are nesting to climbing activities is necessary to limit disturbance during critical reproductive seasons. Climbers should be aware that both the adults and newly fledged chicks remain in the vicinity of the nest site, and may fly or dive at nearby climbers. It is unlawful to take (kill, harass, or injure, including eggs) peregrine falcons and other birds of prey (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 16 USC 703-712).

If you have any questions regarding this action or would like to receive a copy of the closure notice, please contact Sheryl Bryan, Fisheries and Wildlife Biologist, 828-257-4271, sbryan@fs.fed.us. Thank you for your continued cooperation in the restoration of this magnificent bird of prey.

Sincerely,

HURSTON A. NICHOLAS
FOREST SUPERVISOR

