

# Rocky Gap / Willis Knob Horse Trails



The Rocky Gap Trail in South Carolina and the Willis Knob Trail in Georgia combine to offer some of the most scenic horseback riding in the Southern Blue Ridge Mountains. Winding across deeply dissected ridges, the trails descend into the beautiful Chattooga Wild and Scenic River corridor. The Rocky Gap has several loops, while the Willis Knob Trail is designed as one large continuous loop. Each trail crosses several gravel roads.

The Whetstone Horse Camp in South Carolina serves as a base camp for many users of both trails. There is a fee for the Whetstone Horse Camp campground.

**Reservations:** Made at: [Recreation.gov](http://Recreation.gov) or 877-444-6777.

## Surrounding Area:

The Andrew Pickens Ranger District has miles of Hiking trails for your enjoyment. While you are here you can also enjoy hiking to Waterfalls, Wildlife Viewing, and Relaxation for miles.

**Length:** Rocky Gap (SC): 19 miles with several loops.  
Willis Knob (GA): one 15-mile loop. Several access points allow for trips of various lengths, with trails on both sides of the river.

## For more Information:

### Andrew Pickens Ranger District

112 Andrew Pickens Circle

Mountain Rest, SC 29664

Phone: (864) 638-9568

Fax: (864) 638-26396

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8 am to 12pm and 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm

on the web at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/scnfs>

# Sumter National Forest



U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service

Southern Region

September 2019

**Directions:** From Walhalla, go north six miles on Highway 28. turn left onto Whetstone Road for about five miles. Go straight at the four-way stop, and drive about 1.5 miles on Earl's Ford Road. The pavement will end and a gravel road will begin. The day-use parking area and trail head will be on the right. The Campground is found on the left.

**Difficulty Level:** Trail conditions and river crossings vary. Call the district office for specific information.

**Fees:** There are no fees for horse trails and day-use parking.

## Restrictions:

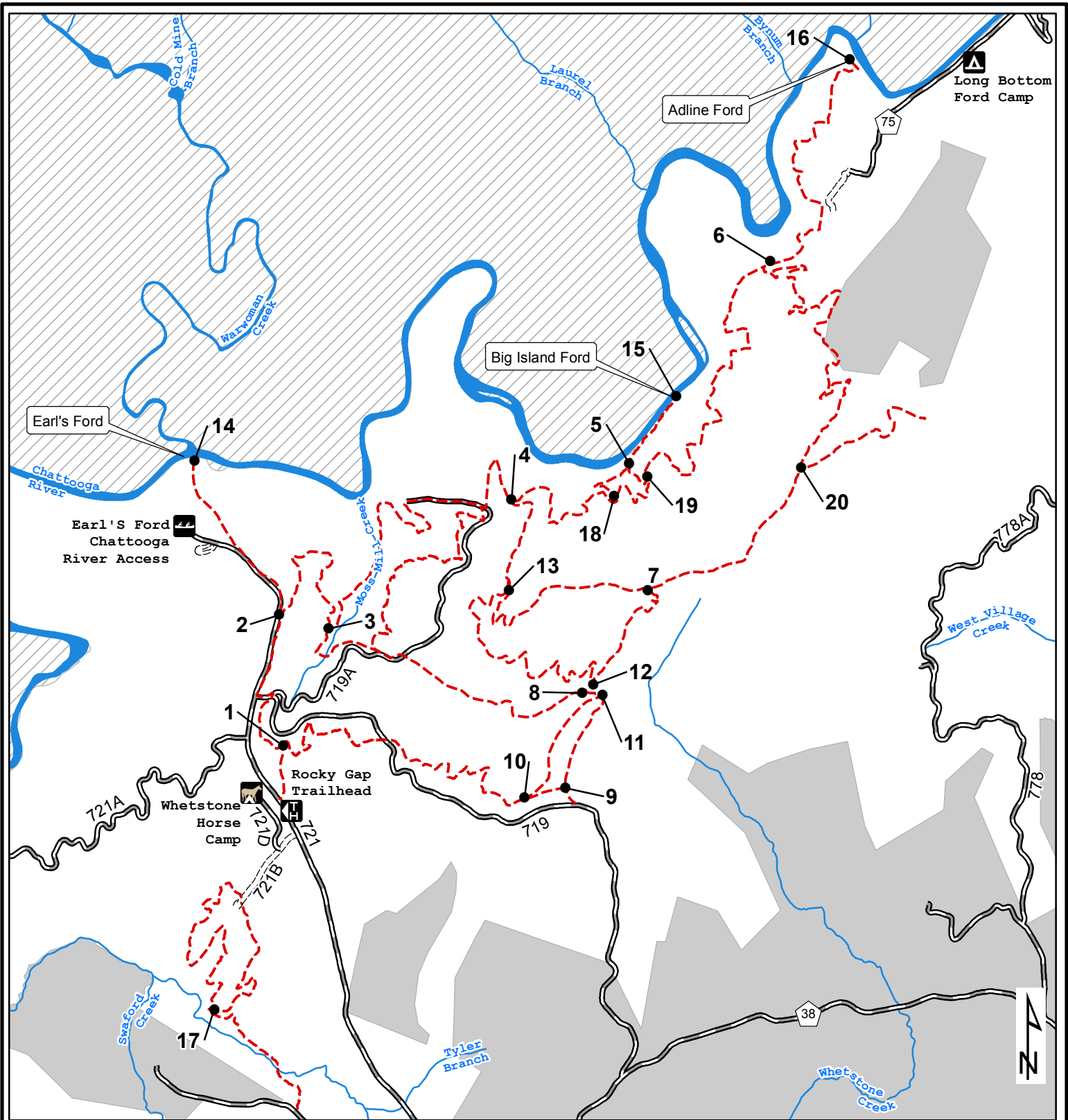
- Organized or advertised rides require a special-use permit and route approved by the district ranger.
- Within the Chattooga River Corridor, horseback riding is restricted to the horse trails & roads.
- Hiking Trails are off limits to horses and motorized vehicles.

## Safety

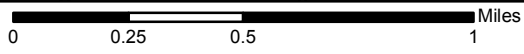
- ◆ High water levels may cause difficult and dangerous crossings.
- ◆ Earl's Ford, Big Island Ford and Adline Ford have access on the Chattooga River from the horse trail to connect to horse trails on both sides of the Chattooga River. BE AWARE of the level of the river the safety of you and your horse.
- ◆ Carefully select your crossings point.
- ◆ Check weather for heavy rain to prevent being trapped on the opposite side of the river from your vehicle.

**Season:** Year round—The busiest times are summer and fall

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- Intersection
- - - Rocky Gap Horse Trail
- Sumter National Forest
- Private/Other Land
- ▨ Other Federal Land
- == Gravel/Dirt Road
- === Primitive Road



## Rocky Gap Horse Trail

Sumter National Forest  
 Andrew Pickens Ranger District  
 p: (864) 638-9568  
 Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N



Disclaimer: The USDA Forest Service makes no warranty, expressed or implied, regarding the data displayed on the map, and reserves the right to correct, update, modify, or replace this information without notification.