

Locust Stake OHV Trail System

***Partial reopening scheduled for April 4, 2014
Loops 6, 7 & 8 to remain closed***



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Southern Region

Beginning April 4, 2014, Loops 1-5 of the [Locust Stake OHV Trail System](#) will reopen when weather permits. All OHV trails on the national forest close during wet conditions when trail use can cause damage to trails and erosion into nearby streams.

Severe erosion over time on sections of the Locust Stake OHV Trail System created serious safety concerns and damage to natural resources, resulting in the complete closure of the trail system in January 2012.

Routine trail maintenance and repairs have taken place on approximately 5 miles of the Locust Stake OHV Trail System to address safety and environmental concerns. At this time, Loops 6, 7 and 8, which are located on the eastern side of the trail system, will not reopen because these concerns cannot be resolved. These sections include the Trestle Loop, which will be blocked to riders by boulders and other deterrents, as needed.

In 2012, the Forest Service contracted a [professional assessment](#) that identified particular concerns and provided recommendations for Forest Service managers to consider. Managers gathered additional technical expertise and collaborated with interested stakeholders to help determine whether and how the Locust Stake trail system could be made sustainable.

Now the Chattooga River Ranger District is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the [Locust Stake OHV Maintenance and Reconstruction Project](#). Through this process, the public has the opportunity to assist the Forest Service in better identifying concerns, issues and opportunities



before final decisions are made. The first notice to stakeholders and the corresponding 30-day comment period began on February 26, 2014.

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For more information:

Chattooga River Ranger District
Edward Hunter, District Ranger
9975 Highway 441S
Lakemont, GA 30552
Phone: 706 754-6221
ehunter@fs.fed.us

Check the
**Chattahoochee-Oconee
National Forests website
for current information
and updates on the
Locust Stake OHV Trail
System at**

[http://www.fs.usda.gov/
goto/conf/ohv-trails](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/conf/ohv-trails)



Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests