



NEWS RELEASE



Talladega National Forest – Talladega District

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For Immediate Release

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PORTERS GAP TRAILHEAD TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Talladega, Alabama – October 16, 2006. Forest Service officials are temporarily closing the Porters Gap Trailhead until further notice. Hikers planning to access the Pinhoti National Recreation Trail from the southern terminus will need to use an alternative parking area.

“We understand this may be an inconvenience for some who park and hike from the southern end of the trail, but hopefully the work being done on Highway 77 will be completed soon and parking can resume at the trailhead”, said Kent Evans, ranger for the Talladega District.

Evans said the temporary closure of the trailhead is due to the Alabama Department of Transportation Highway 77 realignment project. The southern terminus of the Pinhoti Trail begins at Alabama Highway 148 about 9 miles east of Sylacauga at Bulls Gap and continues northward toward Porters Gap and through the Talladega National Forest.

Anyone needing additional information can contact the Talladega Ranger District Office at 256-362-2909.