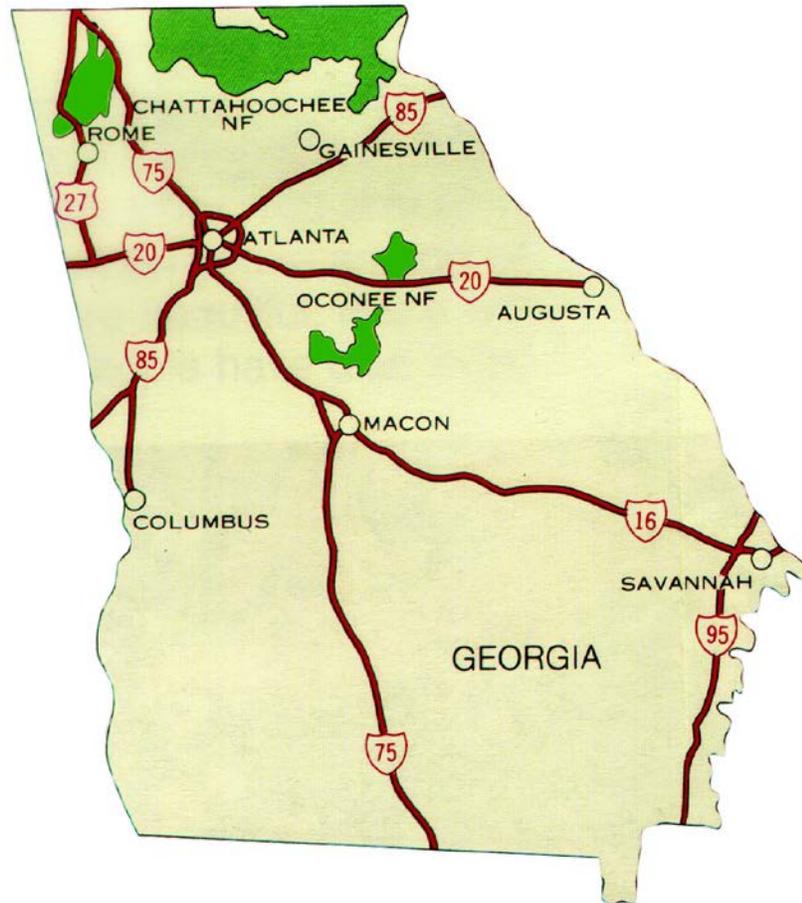


Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests 2012 Quick Facts



USDA FOREST SERVICE
1755 Cleveland Highway
Gainesville, Georgia 30501



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Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest Quick Facts for 2012

Chattahoochee National Forest Acres	750,779
Oconee National Forest Acres	116,731
Total Acres in Georgia	867,510

List of Georgia Counties Housing National Forest Land:

Chattahoochee National Forest

County	Acres	Ranger District
Banks	650	Chattooga River
Catoosa	6	Conasauga
Chattooga	19,390	Conasauga
Dawson	6,760	Blue Ridge
Fannin	106,130	Blue Ridge and Conasauga
Floyd	6,620	Conasauga
Gilmer	55,174	Blue Ridge and Conasauga
Gordon	8,076	Conasauga
Habersham	39,874	Chattooga River
Lumpkin	56,982	Blue Ridge, Chattooga River
Murray	51,696	Conasauga
Rabun	148,606	Chattooga River
Stephens	23,304	Chattooga River
Towns	57,538	Chattooga River
Union	97,839	Chattooga River, Blue Ridge
Walker	18,844	Conasauga
White	41,533	Chattooga River
Whitfield	11,719	Conasauga

Oconee National Forest

Greene	26,659	Oconee
Jasper	30,312	Oconee
Jones	17,130	Oconee
Morgan	308	Oconee
Oconee	157	Oconee
Oglethorpe	3,762	Oconee
Putnam	38,047	Oconee
Monroe	251	Oconee

Staffing

Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest Managers in the Forest Supervisor's Office in Gainesville:

Betty Mathews	Forest Supervisor
Vacant	Deputy Forest Supervisor
Ray Ellis	Staff Officer for Wildlife, Fisheries, Soil, Water, Air, Timber, Planning
Alan Polk	Staff Officer for Recreation, Engineering, Cultural Resources
Judy Toppins	Staff Officer for Public Affairs, Environmental Education, Interpretation
Lynne Howard	Staff Officer for Fire and Lands
Mailing Address:	1755 Cleveland Highway Gainesville, Georgia 30501
Phone:	(770) 297-3000
Fax:	(770) 297-3025

Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forest Managers on the Ranger Districts:

Conasauga Ranger District	Phone: (706) 695-6736
Jeff Gardner - District Ranger	Fax: (706) 695-1872
3941 Highway 76	
Chatsworth, Georgia 30705	

Blue Ridge Ranger District	Phone: (706) 745-6928
Andy Baker- District Ranger	Fax: (706) 745-7494
1881 Highway 515	
Blairsville, Georgia 30514	

Chattooga River Ranger District	Phone: (706) 754-6221
Edward Hunter - District Ranger	Fax: (706) 754-1021
9975 Highway 441 South	
Lakemont, Georgia 30552	

Oconee Ranger District	Phone: (706) 485-7110/1776
Ben Battle - District Ranger	Fax: (706) 485-7141
1199 Madison Road	
Eatonton, Georgia 31024	

Congressionally Designated Wilderness Areas in Georgia

Existing	Acres	County
Big Frog	83	Fannin
Cohutta	35,233	Fannin/ Gilmer
Ellicott Rock	2,073	Rabun
Southern Nantahala	12,949	Towns/ Rabun/ White/ Lumpkin
Raven Cliffs	9,113	Towns
Brasstown	12,949	Union/ Towns/ White
Tray Mountain	10,414	Towns/ Rabun
Rich Mountain	10,343	Gilmer
Blood Mountain	7,800	Lumpkin/ Union/ White
Mark Trail	16,880i	Towns
Total	117,837	

Proposed Wilderness Additions

Areas recommended in the Forest Land and Resource Management Plan to be added to the existing congressionally designated wilderness system. All areas are adjacent to existing wilderness.

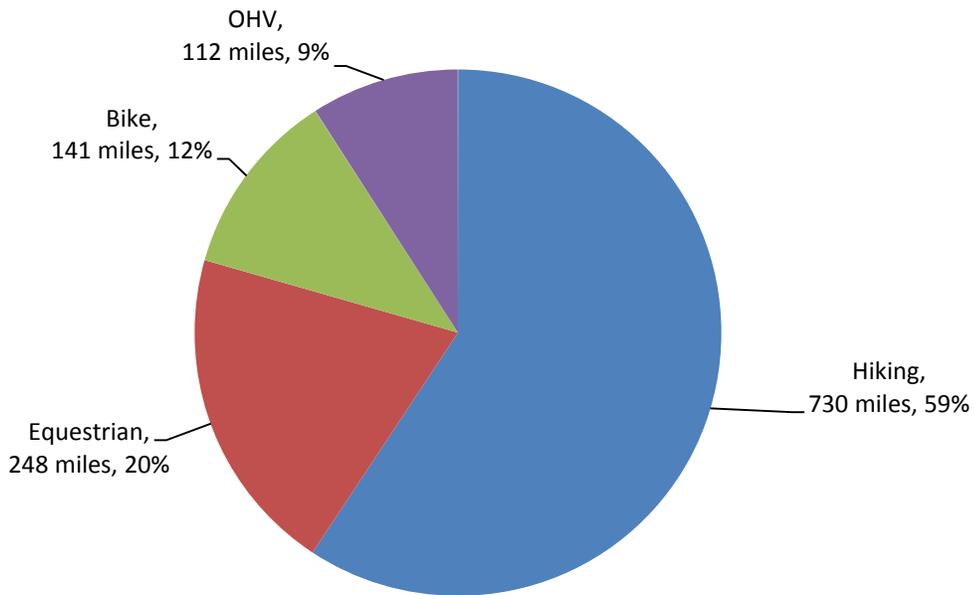
Area	Acres	County	Adjacent WA
Ben Gap	1,294	Towns	Southern Nantahala
Cedar Mountain	561	Lumpkin	Blood Mountain
Duck Branch	190	Union	Brasstown
Ellicott Rock Addition	562	Rabun	Ellicott Rock
Foster Branch	165	Fannin	Cohutta
Helton Creek	2,451	Union	Raven Cliffs
Ken Mountain	527	Fannin	Cohutta
Shoal Branch	412	Towns	Southern Nantahala
Tate Branch	1,085	Towns/ Rabun	Southern Nantahala
Tripp Branch	638	Towns	Tray Mountain
Wilson Cove	563	Towns	Brasstown
Total	8,448		

Recreation Information

Recreation Facts for the National Forests in Georgia

<u>Developed Facilities</u>	
Campgrounds	33
Day Use Areas	28
Swim Beaches	6
Visitor Centers	2
Shooting Ranges	5
Overlooks	7

Miles of Trails by Designated Primary Use



850 miles of all trails are open to hiking.
500 miles are designated only for hiking.
48 miles are designated for hiking and horseback riding.
191 miles are designated for horseback riding, biking, and hiking.
112 miles of trails are designated for motorized vehicles.

Volunteers

The Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests receive an average of 20,000 hours of volunteer work per year. Approximately 90% of volunteer work is related to the trails and recreation programs.

CoTrails

CoTrails is a group of trail users work in collaboration to develop a sustainable and maintainable trail system on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests as well as improving the volunteer and trails programs. Many great relationship and partnerships have been developed through CoTrails.

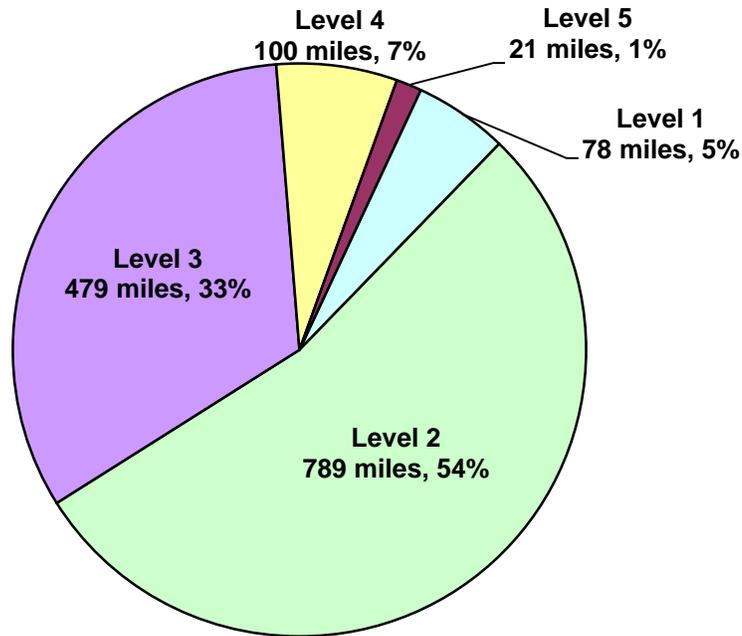
Top Ten Visitor Uses of the Forest

1. Relaxing
2. Hiking/ Walking
3. Fishing
4. Developed Camping
5. Other non-motorized activities
6. Primitive Camping
7. Driving for pleasure
8. Hunting
9. Biking
10. OHV Use

Road Information

Roads on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests

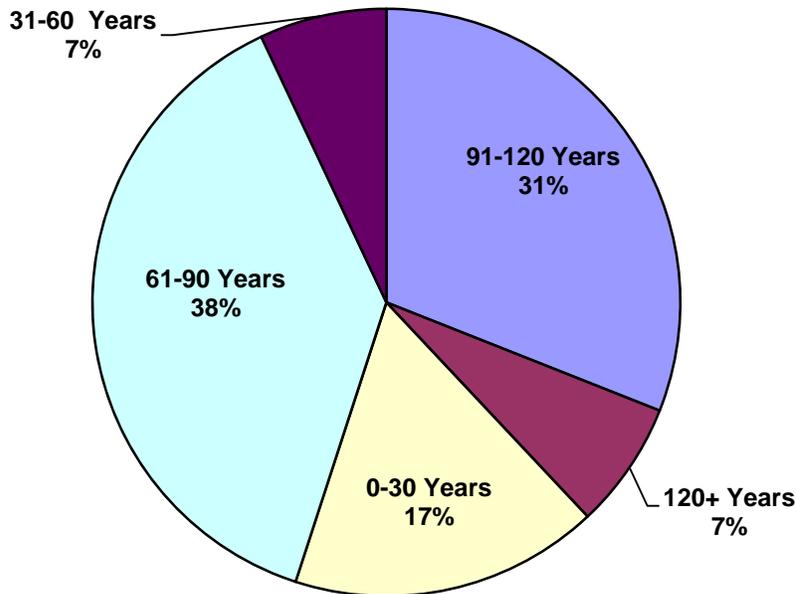
There are 1,467 miles of roads available on the national forests for use categorized from level one to level five roads.



Road Definitions

- Level 1** - Road closed for more than one year.
- Level 2** - High clearance vehicles.
- Level 3** - Passenger vehicles, the surface is not smooth.
- Level 4** - Passenger vehicles, the surface is smooth.
- Level 5** - Passenger vehicles, dust free, possibly paved.

Age Distribution of Trees in the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest



Soil and Water Program

Water

The Chattahoochee National Forest has an estimated 2,763 miles of cold water perennial streams. In the Oconee National Forest there is an estimated 393 miles of warm water perennial streams. These streams are in five of the fourteen major river basins of Georgia. They are the Tennessee, Savannah River, Coosa, Oconee, and Ocmulgee River Basins.

Ecology

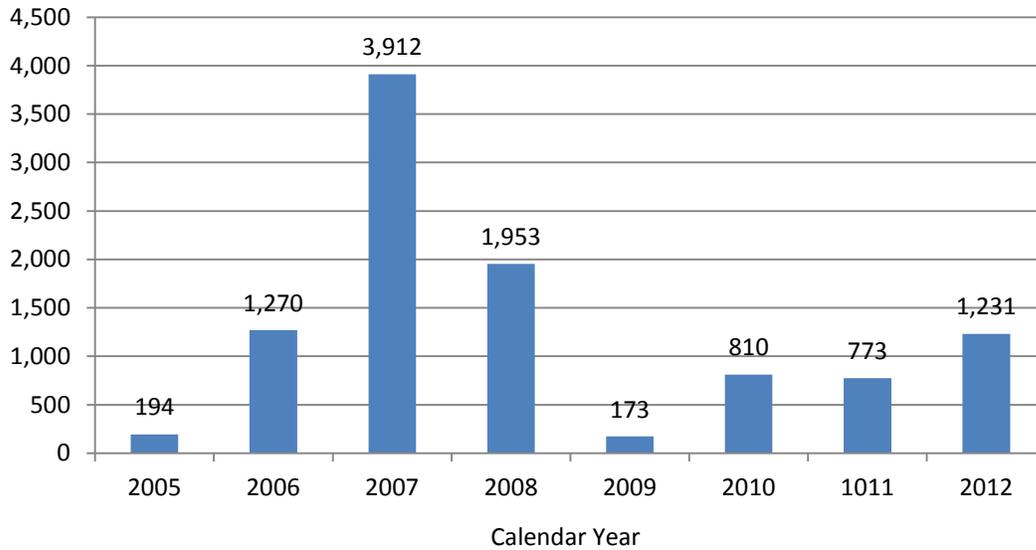
The lands of the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests occur in three diverse Ecological Sections; Blue Ridge Mountains, Southern Appalachian Piedmont, and the Southern Ridge and Valley. These Sections are characterized by different topography or terrain, climate, and vegetation communities. The Forests are underlain by over eighty different soil types classified by soil inventories across the Forest.

Elevations on the Chattahoochee-Oconee range from the lowest at 300 feet above sea level on the Oconee to the highest at 4,784 feet at Brasstown Bald. Annual rainfall ranges from a low of 50 inches on the Oconee to a high of over 70 inches or more in the northeast corner of Rabun County near the North Carolina state line.

Fire Management

Fighting Fire on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests

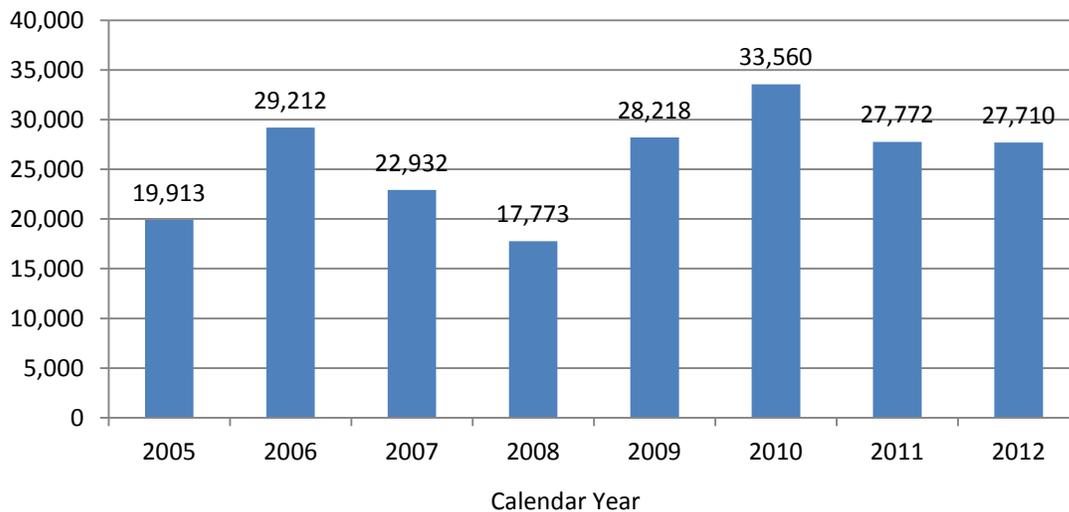
Acres burned by wildfire annually



Prescribed Burning

Prescribed burns are fires intentionally set in a specific area to promote forest health by reducing fuels or clearing habitat for threatened and endangered species.

Acres of Prescribed Burning Accomplished Annually



Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest Health Issues

Traditionally forest health has meant tree death, reduced growth, or lowered resistance to other stressors caused by insects or disease. Recently it has been gradually broadened to include the effects from all causes such as air pollution, human land uses, weather events, competition and other factors.

Overall the Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests are at risk not just from one specific organism but from a wide range of pests including native and non-native plants, insects and diseases. Non-native species are of greatest concern and can enter the forest through a variety of means from transmission via animals to being imported by people from other areas, such as Sudden Oak Death from California.

The significance of the effects of pests can be measured in a variety of ways including the land area affected, proportion of forest vegetation community affected, ecological values lost or cultural values lost (i.e. the association of hemlock trees with the Blue Ridge Mountains). Pests do not have to kill large numbers of trees over a wide area to be a serious threat.

Forest Health Concerns

1. Tree Decline	Oak Decline
2. Non-native Diseases	dogwood anthrachnose, beech bark disease, butternut canker, Dutch elm disease, chestnut blight
3. Native Insects	Southern Pine Beetle
4. Non-native Insects	Hemlock Wooly Adelgid, European and Asian Gypsy Moths, Asian Oak Weevil
4. Non-native Plants	55 plants are listed in the forest plan as potential threats including kudzu

Major Pests

1. European Gypsy Moth
2. Oak Decline
3. Southern Pine Beetle
4. Hemlock Wooly Adelgid

Threatened and Endangered Species in the National Forests in Georgia

Fifteen federally listed Threatened and Endangered Species are known to exist on the Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests.

2013 CHATTAHOOCHEE-OCONEE NATIONAL FOREST THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST (Species with either potential to occur or known to occur on the Forest)

Plants

Species	Common Name	Federal Status
<i>Echinacea laevigata</i>	Smooth purple coneflower	Endangered
<i>Gymnoderma lineare</i>	Rock gnome lichen	Endangered
* <i>Helonias bullata</i>	Swamp pink	Threatened
<i>Isotria medeoloides</i>	Small whorled pogonia	Threatened
* <i>Sarracenia oreophila</i>	Green pitcher plant	Endangered
<i>Scutellaria montana</i>	Large flowered skullcap	Threatened
<i>Trillium persistens</i>	Persistent trillium	Endangered
<i>Trillium reliquum</i>	Relict trillium	Endangered

* = these species are not naturally occurring on FS land, but were planted to FS land from local genetic stock to aid in recovery of the species.

Vertebrates

Species	Common Name	Federal Status
<i>Picoides borealis</i>	Red-cockaded woodpecker	Endangered
<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Woodstork (on list for foraging habitat only)	Endangered
<i>Myotis grisescens</i>	Gray bat (foraging only)	Endangered
<i>Myotis sodalis</i>		Indiana myotis
	Endangered	
<i>Cyprinella caerulea</i>	Blue shiner	Threatened
<i>Etheostoma etowahae</i>	Etowah darter	Endangered
<i>Percina antesella</i>	Amber darter	Endangered
<i>Percina aurolineata</i>	Goldline darter	Threatened
<i>Percina jenkinsi</i>	Conasauga logperch	Endangered

Reptiles

Species	Common Name	Federal Status
<i>Glyptemys muhlenbergii</i>	Bog turtle	Threatened (Similarity of Appearance)

Molluscs

Species	Common Name	Federal Status
<i>Hamiota altilis</i>	Fine-lined pocketbook	Threatened
<i>Medionidus acutissimus</i>	Alabama moccasinshell	Threatened
<i>Medionidus parvulus</i>	Coosa moccasinshell	Endangered
<i>Pleurobema decisum</i>	Southern clubshell	Endangered
<i>Pleurobema georgianum</i>	Southern pigtoe	Endangered
<i>Ptychobranhus foremanianus</i>	Triangular kidneyshell	Endangered

Snails

Species	Common Name	Federal Status
<i>Leptoxis foremani</i>	Interrupted rocksnail	Endangered