

# S tarr Mountain Recreation Zone



## Ocoee/Hiwassee Ranger Districe



3171 Hwy. 64  
Benton, TN 37307  
(423) 338-3300

Starr Mountain, at 2,500 feet in elevation, provides numerous trails and a scenic wooded backdrop near the town of Etowah, TN, just off US 411.

Along the extensive system of backcountry roads and trails, view this Recreation Zone's spectacular scenery, including Hiwassee State Scenic river, remote waterfalls and mountain streams.

Cherokee National Forest's smallest wilderness, 2,500-acre Gee Creek Wilderness Area is located about one mile off US 411.

The main routes into this Recreation Zone are US 411, TN 30, TN 310 and TN 315.

Nearby attractions include: Gee Creek State Park, Tennessee Overhill Heritage tourism sites, including an information station in Etowah, Historic Reliance, and downtown Etowah, TN.

**Follow the Trail!** Take your horse to Starr Mountain where 20 miles of trails and a number of Forest Service roads provide short day trips or long overnight rides. Featured trails in the system include Starr Mountain Horse Trail # 120, across the crest of Starr Mountain, or Chestnut Mountain Horse Trail #63 and #104 that wind along the border of Gee Creek Wilderness Area.

**Explore the Forest!** Study wildlife along Gee Creek Watchable Wildlife Trail #151. This 1/2 mile hiking trail begins at Forest Road 2013 and follows an old logging road. See if you can identify which animals have walked through the track pit, or watch for wildlife in the area's nest boxes and special wildlife plantings. Rest a spell on benches along the trail. Nearby, Gee Creek Trail #191 offers hikers a glimpse of the 2,500-acre Gee Creek Wilderness Area. In the spring, wildflowers are abundant! You'll cross the creek several times, so be prepared for wading.

**Go Hunting!** Starr Mountain is a favorite spot for hunting deer, bear, boar and turkey. The extensive system of Forest Service roads provides excellent access. Spring Creek Shooting Range is located on Forest Road 27, about six miles east of US 411.

**Sleep under the Stars!** Across Hiwassee River on TN 30 is Quinn Springs Recreation Area, where 25 sites offer tables, fire rings, lantern posts, flush toilets and showers. Equestrians may opt for Lost Corral Horse Camp, located across the road from the Gee Creek State Park office. Dispersed camping is allowed alongside Spring Creek Road or off one of the many horse trails on Starr Mountain. Camping is not allowed in Gee Creek Wilderness Area, but the campground at Gee Creek State Park is nearby.

