

# DANIEL BOONE NATIONAL FOREST

## Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail

This trail traverses the length of the Daniel Boone National Forest from north to south. Sheltowee, meaning Big Turtle, was the Shawnee name given to Daniel Boone who explored the land where the trail passes.

The Sheltowee Trace links several developed recreation areas and offers overnight camping for through-hikers. Much of the trail is developed for multiple use, including hiking, horseback riding and off-highway vehicle use. The trail connects with other trail systems in the Red River Gorge Geological Area, Cave Run Lake, Laurel River Lake, Cumberland Falls State Resort Park and the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.



Photo by Boyd Shearer

Many of the photos in this publication are courtesy of Boyd Shearer, who provides photos and maps of the Sheltowee Trace at [www.sheltoweetrace.com](http://www.sheltoweetrace.com).

## Fishing on Your National Forest



Photo by Lois Juckstich

The lakes, streams and rivers on the Daniel Boone National Forest are for your use and enjoyment. All fishing must be done in accordance with state laws and regulations set by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. A state fishing license is required to fish on the national forest. Licenses may be acquired at local stores. Trout fishing requires a trout stamp.

Several creeks are stocked annually with trout for put-and-take angling sport. Excellent fishing opportunities can also be found on rivers and lakes. Cave Run Lake on the Cumberland Ranger District, Laurel River Lake on the London Ranger District and Lake Cumberland near the Stearns Ranger District are popular destinations for fishing and recreation.

For specific information concerning hunting and fishing regulations, contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601, or call 800-858-1549.

## Hunting on National Forest Lands and Wildlife Management Areas

A variety of game is hunted each year on the Daniel Boone National Forest. White-tailed deer, wild turkey, ruffed grouse, quail, woodcock, squirrel, rabbit, fox, raccoon, waterfowl and other game species can be found on the forest. Hunters on national forest land in Kentucky are required to have a valid state hunting license and follow all rules and regulations set forth by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

Most of the forest is open to hunters, except for developed recreation areas and

administrative sites. Hunters must stay at least 150 yards away from trails, roads, recreation areas, buildings and residences.

Pay close attention to land ownership and boundary lines. Tracts of private land are interspersed with national forest land. Maps are available at Forest Service office locations.

Five wildlife management areas are designated on the Daniel Boone National Forest and managed cooperatively with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. These areas—Pioneer Weapons, Mill Creek, Cane Creek, Beaver Creek

and Redbird—have special seasons and hunting regulations to improve wildlife populations. All WMA boundaries are marked with yellow paint and signs.



Photo by Joe Lacefield, KDEWR

### Fees and Passes

A fee is charged or a pass is required to use most developed campgrounds, shooting ranges, boat ramps and trails developed for motorized use. A permit is also required for backcountry camping in the Red River Gorge. Refer to on-site bulletin boards or call a district office to obtain site-specific information concerning fees and where to obtain a pass.

### Seasons

Most recreation sites are closed during the winter months. Contact the district office to obtain information regarding the seasons of operation for a specific site.

### Reservations

Some developed campsites and group use areas on the Cumberland and London ranger districts may be reserved through the National Recreation Reservation System at 1-877-444-6777 (toll free), TDD: 1-877-833-6777, International: 518-885-3639 or [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). Two picnic shelters on the Stearns Ranger District may be rented by calling 606-376-5323.

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# The Boone Trace



Photo by Boyd Shearer

## Welcome to the Daniel Boone National Forest

*Explore the Wonders*

Dense woodlands, towering cliffs and plunging waterfalls are just a few of the natural wonders found within the boundaries of this unique forest. Extending across mostly rugged terrain, the forest provides visitors with breathtaking scenery, clean water and an abundance of wood and wildlife.

## Getting to Know Your National Forest

The Daniel Boone National Forest encompasses nearly 708,000 acres across 21 counties of southern and eastern Kentucky. The forest is named in recognition of the adventurous frontiersman who once explored this region, Daniel Boone. The forest is divided into four ranger districts: Cumberland, London, Redbird and Stearns.

With more than 100 developed recreation sites, millions of visitors enjoy the forest each year. Two of the most popular destinations are Cave Run Lake and Laurel River Lake. Other areas of special interest include the Red River Gorge Geological Area, Natural Arch Scenic Area, Clifty Wilderness, Beaver Creek Wilderness and five separate wildlife management areas.

More than 600 miles of trails provide an escape to remote locations within the forest. Hikers and other trail users can get back to



Photo by Boyd Shearer

nature along the Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail that extends the entire length of the forest. Woodland wildflowers and glimpses of wildlife are some of the pleasures to encounter on the trails.

Four scenic byways transect portions of the Daniel Boone National Forest.

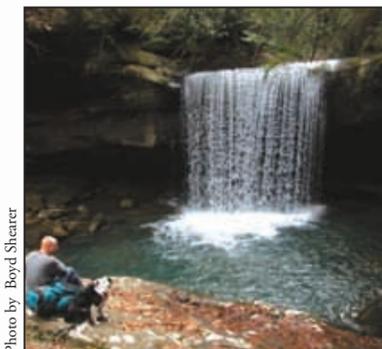


Photo by Boyd Shearer

The Red River Gorge Scenic Byway, Wilderness Road Heritage Highway and Cumberland Cultural Heritage Highway provide breathtaking scenery and a glimpse of Kentucky culture. The Zilpo Scenic Byway offers additional touring miles in the quaint countryside near Cave Run Lake.

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United States  
Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Southern Region

## Message from the Forest Supervisor

The Daniel Boone National Forest is one of Kentucky's greatest treasures. Millions of visitors come here each year to view the spectacular scenery and enjoy recreation in America's Great Outdoors.

This region is steeped in legend, history and wild beauty. Daniel Boone and other early settlers spoke with fascination about this magnificent area, impressed by the abundance of wildlife and natural resources. Today, you can experience that same fascination when visiting the forest.

Whether you're looking for recreational challenge or a place to just relax with nature, come and discover what you've been missing in the Daniel Boone National Forest.

**Frank R. Beum**  
Forest Supervisor

# CONSERVING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

## Conserving Our Natural Resources

### Our National Forest History

In 1905, Congress established the Forest Service to conserve the nation's supply of water and timber for future generations. Today, the national forest system is comprised of 155 national forests and 20 grasslands that encompass 193 million acres of land in 44 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. These lands are managed by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Over the years, public expectations for our national forests and grasslands

have continued to evolve. Unlike national parks, the national forests are managed for multiple uses and for sustainable yields of renewable resources such as wood, water, forage and wildlife. These resources are managed to benefit the American people while ensuring productivity of the land and protecting the quality of the environment. Our national forests are the single largest source of outdoor recreation in the nation.

Gifford Pinchot, the first Chief of the Forest Service, set the standard for

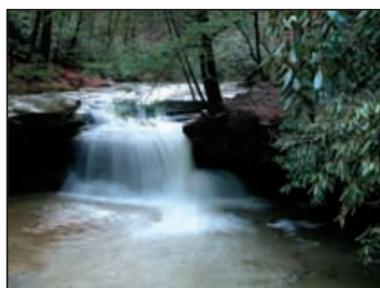


Photo by Boyd Shearer

forest management. "To provide the greatest amount of good for the greatest amount of people in the long run," was his vision.

## National Forest Management

**Wood** – Foresters use science to manage timber as a sustainable natural resource. These specialists keep a watchful eye on forest health threats, including invasive insects and disease. Timber sales are used to restore and maintain healthy forests and to attain the "desired future condition" for specific areas.

**Water, soil and air** - Stewardship of these most essential resources is a basic requirement on all national forests. The Daniel Boone National Forest manages these resources to conserve their intrinsic ecological function and value. In addition to providing suitable habitat for native plant and animal species, the forest provides clean air and water for the public to enjoy.

**Wildlife and fisheries** - The habitat for wildlife and fisheries is managed for both game and non-game species, including 22 species that are federally listed. Five wildlife management areas on the forest provide year-round hunting and fishing opportunities. Several creeks and streams are routinely stocked with trout.

**Minerals** – On the Daniel Boone National Forest, nearly 70 percent of mineral resources underlying the surface of national forest land is in private ownership. A Forest Service geologist oversees all mineral activities on the national forest. The primary minerals for extraction are coal, oil and natural gas.

## Non-native Invasive Species

The Daniel Boone National Forest is actively responding to the threat of non-native invasive species and preparing for their potential impacts. These invaders cause disruption in ecosystem functions, reduce biological diversity and degrade forest health.

The hemlock woolly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) is currently one of the greatest threats to the forest. This insect, native to Asia, has spread throughout the eastern United States. The adelgids appear as white cottony masses on the branches of



Hemlock woolly adelgid

hemlock trees. They defoliate the hemlocks, eventually causing the trees to die.



## Firewood from Local Sources Only

Forests are threatened by nonnative insects that can kill large numbers of trees. Three

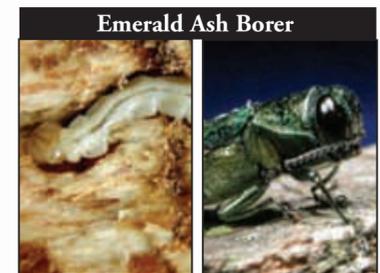
recently introduced insects—emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle and Sirex woodwasp—are wood-infesting species that can be transported long distances in firewood. Once moved into new areas, these insects can become established and kill local trees. We must stop the spread of these insects and protect our forests and trees.

**Don't give these hitchhikers a free ride to your national forest.**

Photos courtesy of: [www.bugwood.org](http://www.bugwood.org)



Photos by Kenneth R. Law, USDA APHIS PPQ



Photos by David Cappaert, Michigan State University



Photos by Paula Klasmer, Instituto Nacional de Tecnologia Agropecuaria

# FOREST OWNERSHIP PATTERNS

### Boundary line



National forest land is located behind this sign.

### Bearing tree



This tree points to the corner of national forest land.

### Line tree



National forest land is located behind this tree.

### Private land



Private property is located behind this tree.

## National Forest and Private Lands

The Daniel Boone National Forest consists of nearly 708,000 acres within a 2.1-million-acre proclamation boundary. The proclamation boundary was established in 1937 to focus land acquisition and ownership of the national forest to lands most in need of restoration. Within the proclamation boundary the Forest Service may acquire land from willing sellers as funds are available. The areas in green indicate areas managed by the Forest Service. The black line indicates proclamation boundary.

The National Forest System is highly fragmented and intermingled with other land ownership, including state and private. Visitors often travel in and out of national forest while on a road, lake, river or trail.

Maps commonly show proclaimed national forest boundaries. However, all land within these boundaries is not national forest land; some is privately owned. The user is cautioned to comply with state law and owner's rules when entering onto private land.

The boundaries between national forest land and private property are marked with signs and red paint. Recognition of these markings and the meaning of boundary signs will help the user be certain to stay on national forest land.

Entrance (portal) signs are placed along major roads entering the national forests, usually on the first tract of Forest Service land encountered.

Welcome signs are located on or just inside the boundaries of individual tracts of national forest land where the road enters. The sign will be oriented so that the land behind the sign is public land. Generally, they are not used on dead-end or woods roads or on small blocks of public land. Upon entering the woods on public land, these signs will not be present, and the user should then rely on property line markings.

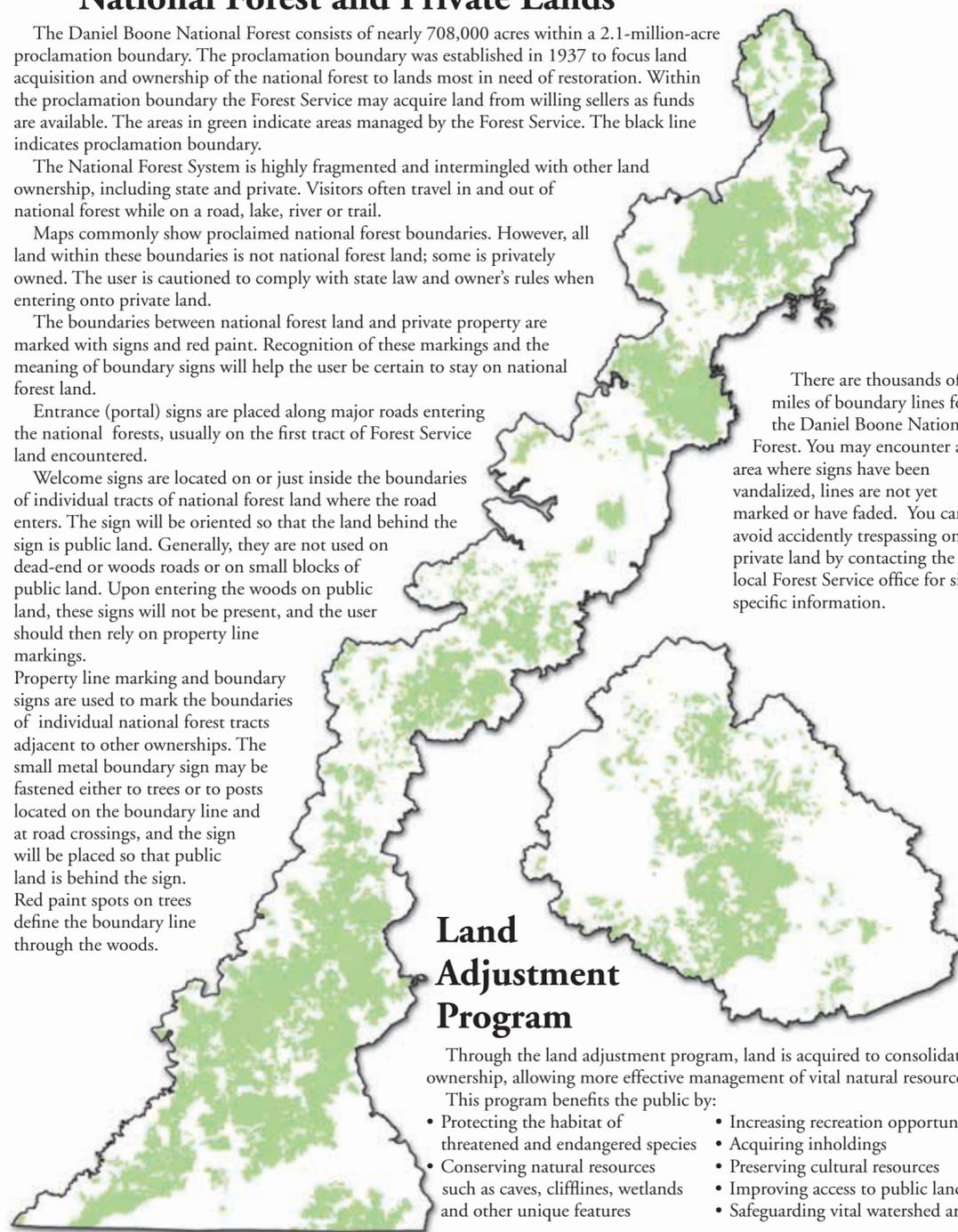
Property line marking and boundary signs are used to mark the boundaries of individual national forest tracts adjacent to other ownerships. The small metal boundary sign may be fastened either to trees or to posts located on the boundary line and at road crossings, and the sign will be placed so that public land is behind the sign. Red paint spots on trees define the boundary line through the woods.

## Land Adjustment Program

Through the land adjustment program, land is acquired to consolidate ownership, allowing more effective management of vital natural resources.

This program benefits the public by:

- Protecting the habitat of threatened and endangered species
- Conserving natural resources such as caves, clifflines, wetlands and other unique features
- Increasing recreation opportunities
- Acquiring inholdings
- Preserving cultural resources
- Improving access to public lands
- Safeguarding vital watershed areas



There are thousands of miles of boundary lines for the Daniel Boone National Forest. You may encounter an area where signs have been vandalized, lines are not yet marked or have faded. You can avoid accidentally trespassing on private land by contacting the local Forest Service office for site-specific information.

# REDBIRD CREST TRAIL

## REDBIRD RANGER DISTRICT



The **Redbird Ranger Station** was built in 1924 by the Fordson Coal Company, a subsidiary of the Ford Motor Company. The house served as living quarters for survey crews, engineers and draftsmen. Crafted by local woodworkers and stonemasons, the building features handmade wall paneling in walnut, oak, maple and American chestnut. The sandstone for the foundation and interior fireplaces was hand-cut from nearby sources.



### Picnic Areas

**Redbird Ranger District** maintains two picnic areas for the public. Come to **Big Double Creek Picnic Area** or **Cawood Recreation Area** to picnic in the cool shade of creekside woodlands. Also enjoy the softball fields, volleyball courts, horseshoe pits and trails. Both sites provide handicapped accessible toilets. Please help keep the picnic areas clean. Dispose of trash properly.



Photo by Lois Juckesch

### Redbird Crest Trail

**Redbird Crest Trail** provides nearly 100 miles of recreation for hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking and off-highway vehicle use. Trailhead parking is available at three separate locations. One of the parking areas is located across the river from the Redbird District Office, and the other two areas are located at the trail junctions with Sugar Creek and Bear Creek.

This trail is popular with riders who enjoy the challenge of rugged terrain and the adventure of riding. The trail is open all year.

- No cross-country travel is allowed.
- You must wear a helmet.
- A fee pass is required.
- It is illegal to operate an ATV on most public highways and roads, including Forest Service roads. (KRS 189.515). Check status before riding an ATV on a public road.

### Redbird Wildlife Management Area

This 25,529-acre area in Leslie and Clay counties is mostly wooded with about 100 acres in developed wildlife openings. This wildlife management area is managed cooperatively with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to help sustain species populations for hunting and fishing.



Photo by Dave Baker, KDEFWR

### OHV Riders and Trail Privileges

Cross-country OHV use can cause soil erosion, spread of invasive species, damage to cultural resource sites, destruction of wildlife habitat and risks to public safety. Keep the privilege of riding on designated trails by observing the following:

- KEEP IT SAFE**
  - Wear proper safety gear, including a helmet.
  - Maintain a safe speed.
  - No passengers on single-rider vehicles.
  - Plan your ride. Prepare your vehicle.
- KEEP IT LEGAL**
  - Know where you can ride. Keep a current map.
  - Know what vehicles are allowed and what equipment is required.
  - Verify what trails are open and when.
  - Don't mix alcohol and drugs with riding.

- KEEP ON TRAILS**
  - Travel only on routes designated for your use.
  - Get maps of designated routes from the Forest Service.
  - Resist the urge. Mudbogging is prohibited.
  - Obey signs and temporary postings.
- KEEP THE PRIVILEGE**
  - Respect the environment.
  - Be courteous to other trail users.
  - Join a club and support OHV trails and projects.
  - Encourage others to "Ride 4 Keeps".



### Motor Vehicle Use Maps

Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM) display National Forest System routes (roads and trails) or areas designated and managed for motorized travel. The MVUM also displays allowed uses by vehicle class (highway-legal vehicles less than 50 inches wide and motorcycles), seasonal allowances, and provides information on other travel rules and regulations. These maps are available upon request at all Forest Service offices.

# CAVE RUN LAKE

## CUMBERLAND RANGER DISTRICT

**Cave Run Lake** provides 8,270 acres of open water for houseboats, sailboats, ski boats and fishing boats. The lake was created on the Licking River, primarily for flood control, and supplies water to local communities while offering habitat for many species of fish and wildlife. Cave Run Lake has long been considered the musky capital of the south. Bass and crappie are other popular catches.

Developed campgrounds around the lake offer nearly 400 campsites, including group-use camping and day-use sites. Two marinas on the lake conveniently offer boat rentals, groceries, fuel and other supplies for lake visitors. The boat ramps surrounding the lake provide easy access to the water.



Photo by Boyd Shearer

Developed recreation areas in this district include:

- campgrounds
- trails
- group use areas
- boat ramps
- picnic areas
- beaches
- marinas
- shooting range

### Places to Camp

The rolling hills and sparkling waters of Cave Run Lake provide a perfect setting for outdoor camping. **Zilpo and Twin Knobs campgrounds** offer tent and RV campsites, water and electric hookup, bath houses with showers, group-use areas, hiking and jogging trails, scenic overlooks, boat ramps and swimming beaches. Reservations are available by contacting the National Recreation Reservation System at 1-877-444-6777 (toll free), TDD: 1-877-833-6777, International: 518-885-3639 or [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).

**Claylick Boat-in Campground** offers primitive camping on the shores of Cave Run Lake, accessible only by boat or a short hike from a nearby boat ramp.

**White Sulphur Horse Camp** is conveniently located close to horseback riding trails and features parking slots for large rigs up to 50 feet long. This site offers pit toilets, picket lines and a pond with a water trough for horses.

Located near a quiet stream, **Clear Creek Campground** provides campsites, picnic tables, and boat ramp access to Clear Creek Lake. Visitors can hike the surrounding trails or view the historic iron furnace nearby.



Photo by Boyd Shearer

### Picnic Sites

Several picnic areas on Cumberland Ranger District can accommodate both large and small groups. Two of the group areas at Twin Knobs can be reserved.

### Recreational Trails

Hikers, horseback riders, mountain bikers and off-highway vehicle enthusiasts can enjoy the trail system surrounding Cave Run Lake. Each trail is signed to indicate the type of use allowed. Trail maps and information are available at the district office.

**White Sulphur OHV Trail** provides 20 miles of riding pleasure for off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. Vehicles must be 50 inches or less in width. A trail use pass is required. Passes may be purchased at local vendors or Forest Service offices. Helmets are required when riding ATVs on public land.



Photo by Boyd Shearer

### Historic Sites

**Clear Creek Iron Furnace:** In the 1830s, Kentucky ranked third in the nation for pig iron production, and this historic furnace was a contributing source. Today, the furnace stands as a reminder of days long past. A nearby picnic area provides a relaxing place for visitors. The area is closed during winter months. Foot travel is welcome all year.

**Tater Knob Fire Tower:** The tower is closed to the public after an arson fire destroyed the structure on December 3, 2008. The fire burned all of the supporting wood frame of the lookout cab underneath its metal exterior. The tower is no longer safe for visitors. Forest Service officials are uncertain at this time if the structure will be rebuilt.

### Areas of Interest

**Clear Creek Shooting Range:** Practice your aim with pioneer or modern weapons. This facility provides four shooting tables and four target ranges at 25, 50, 100 and 200 yards.

**Zilpo National Scenic Byway:** This 11-mile scenic route travels along a gently curving ridge with views of the forest and Cave Run Lake. Stops along the way include the historic Clear Creek iron furnace and Tater Knob Fire Tower.

**Pioneer Weapons Wildlife Management Area:** This 7,610-acre tract is set aside for hunting wild game with primitive weapons like muzzle-loading firearms, bows or crossbows. Hunting with modern, breech-loading firearms is prohibited in this area.

# RED RIVER GORGE CUMBERLAND RANGER DISTRICT

Red River Gorge Geological Area, a unique and scenic natural area, is designated a National Natural Landmark. It is managed for year-round public use and enjoyment and to protect its watershed, wildlife, spectacular geological features and primitive character.

Recreation opportunities in this district include:

- campground
- hiking trails
- picnic areas
- overlooks



*Daniel Boone* NATIONAL FOREST  
Gladie Learning Center  
KY 715, Red River Gorge  
606-663-8100

Cumberland Ranger District

## Picnic Areas

Grays Arch and Sky Bridge picnic areas provide scenic forest views, trails and handicapped accessible restrooms. Both sites are open all year and require no fee.

## Places to Camp

**Koomer Ridge Campground** is the only developed campground on national forest system land in the Red River Gorge. The campground features semi-primitive camping in a tranquil woodland setting. The area includes tent sites, RV sites, accessible vault and flush toilets, bath house with showers, drinking water and trailhead parking.

## The Red River

The Red River tumbles amid large rock boulders in a narrow, twisting and largely inaccessible hemlock gorge. Canoeists and kayakers can practice their skills while enjoying spectacular scenery.

A 20-mile stretch of the river is designated as a National Wild and Scenic River. A portion of this segment is also designated as a Kentucky Wild River. Paddlers should consider current water levels and class of difficulty before launching.

## Danger Near the Edge of Cliffs

One of the most unique features of the Daniel Boone National Forest is the thousands of miles of sandstone cliffs that vertically tower above the rivers and streams along steep wooded slopes. Unfortunately, these cliffs can pose a danger. To prevent accidents:

- Avoid camping near the edge of cliffs.
- Plan to arrive before dark.
- Avoid foot travel after dark; stay in familiar areas and use a flashlight.

## Food Storage Restrictions

Due to an increasing black bear population, visitors to the Red River Gorge must store food, garbage and odorous items that may attract bears in bear-resistant containers or suspend off the ground. See page 9 for more information.



Photo by Jon Walker

## Overnight Permits

A permit is required for overnight camping in the Red River Gorge Geological Area and Indian Creek. All vehicles on KY 15 or in the Red River Gorge and Indian Creek areas north of KY 15 must display a permit between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Permits are available at local stores, Gladie Center and Forest Service offices.

## Important Rules

**Camping and fire-building is prohibited** at the base of a cliff or in rockshelters within the Red River Gorge Geological Area. This protects valuable resources found in rockshelters: archaeological sites and the federally protected white-haired goldenrod.

- Watch your footing when walking near cliffs. Trees and shrubs cannot be trusted to hold you if you slip.
- Watch children carefully, and keep them close at all times.
- Avoid risky behavior or stunts. Use good judgement, and never cross barriers or ignore warning signs.
- Kentucky law prohibits the consumption of alcohol in public places and open containers of alcohol.

# NATURAL ARCH STEARNS RANGER DISTRICT



Photo by Murray Lee

**Natural Arch Recreation Area** has two picnic shelters for groups and a large outdoor amphitheater for public use. The geologic attraction in the area, known as Natural Arch, stands as an impressive monument to the creative forces of nature. Sculpted by wind, water and ice; this sandstone masterpiece arches dramatically across the landscape. Other nearby attractions include scenic overlooks, unique flora and fauna and more than nine miles of hiking trails.



Photo by Boyd Shearer

Developed recreation facilities on the Stearns Ranger District include:

- campgrounds
- picnic areas
- trails
- boat ramps
- shooting ranges
- amphitheater

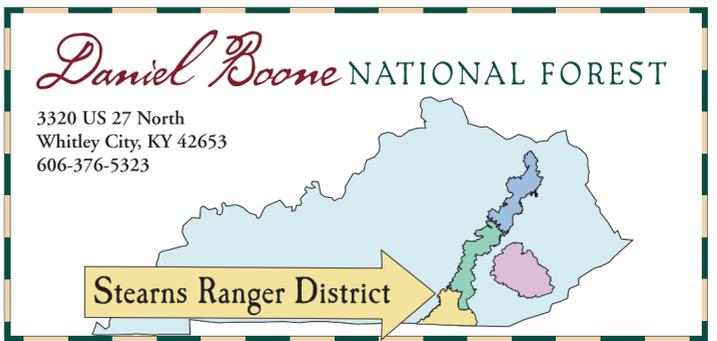
## Places to Camp and Picnic

**Barren Fork and Bell Farm Horse Camps** are popular camping destinations. Horseback riders come from miles around to enjoy the trails and other outdoor amenities. **Great Meadows Campground** does not provide for horses, but a portion of the site is open to campers all year.

**Hemlock Grove and Alpine Picnic Areas** each have a picnic shelter that is available for free use on a first-come, first-served basis. The shelters may be rented for a fee by calling the district office.

## Shooting Ranges

Whether you're getting ready for a season of safe hunting or just lining up the sights of your rifle, you can practice your skills at two shooting ranges on this district. **Appletree Shooting Range** has two large sheltered benches, two skeet boxes and target boards at 25, 50, 75 and 100 yards. Long rifle loading supports are provided at each bench. **Keno Shooting Range** offers a 100-yard rifle range and surfaced lanes to targets and shooting benches. A fee pass is required at both locations. Both ranges are open all year.



*Daniel Boone* NATIONAL FOREST

3320 US 27 North  
Whitley City, KY 42653  
606-376-5323

Stearns Ranger District

## Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area and Wilderness

Nearly 18,000 acres have been set aside in the Beaver Creek drainage for the management of game and non-game wildlife species. Wildlife habitat is managed so the public can enjoy hunting, fishing and other recreation.

Nestled within the **Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area**, the wilderness is a favorite destination for nature lovers. The wilderness area offers both solitude and adventure in a distinctly remote setting. Visitors are free to explore, discover and enjoy the scenic beauty of this most unique place.

In keeping with the wilderness concept, no motorized vehicles or mechanized equipment are allowed within the wilderness boundaries. There are no developed facilities for camping, and existing trails in the area are primitive. Strenuous travel can be expected.

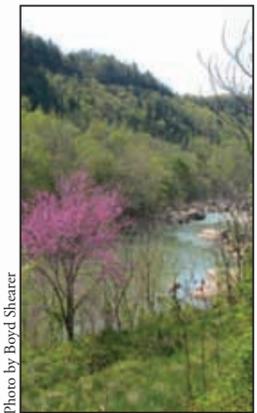


Photo by Boyd Shearer

## Black Bears in Our National Forests

Black bears have returned to Kentucky and expanded their territory to include the Daniel Boone National Forest. Typically, black bears are not aggressive and rarely pose a threat to humans, but forest visitors should always use caution around black bears.

- Don't feed the bears.
- Store food safely. Keep food items inside a hard-top vehicle or hang them from a tall branch as pictured below.
- Dispose of litter and food trash

properly. Trash containers with lids are provided at developed campsites and other recreation areas on the forest for proper trash disposal.

- Never approach a black bear. If you accidentally walk upon a bear, back away slowly. Do not run. Remain in a standing position and make loud, sharp noises.
- Report all bears observed in developed recreation areas, such as campgrounds and picnic areas, to the nearest district office.

## Food Storage Restrictions

The Red River Gorge and the Stearns Ranger District have strict regulations for food storage. All food, garbage and odorous items must either be stored in a bear-resistant container or suspended off the ground as depicted below. If you

are visiting these areas, you can be fined if you do not obey the food storage orders. Everyone's help is needed to contain food odors, so bears are not attracted to public areas.

### KEEP YOUR FOOD AWAY FROM BEARS BY:

...putting your trash in the bear-resistant trash can provided.



...taking food and trash with you when you leave.



...hanging food and trash from a tree, out of bear's reach.



...storing food and trash inside a closed vehicle with a hard top.



# LAUREL RIVER LAKE

## LONDON RANGER DISTRICT

### Laurel River Lake

Laurel River Lake offers more than 5,600 acres of deep, clear water and 192 miles of wooded shoreline. Visitors can enjoy boating, swimming, skiing, fishing, camping, hiking, picnicking or wildlife viewing. Look for bald eagles, great blue herons and various waterfowl that find suitable habitat on the lake all year. Deep waters provide excellent fishing for walleye, trout and smallmouth bass.

Several boat ramps provide access for lake users. Two full-service marinas operate on the lake near **Grove and Holly Bay campgrounds**.



Photo by Boyd Shearer

Developed recreation facilities on the London Ranger District include:

- campgrounds
- picnic areas
- trails
- group use area
- marinas
- boat ramps
- shooting range

### Places To Camp

Campground facilities are available at various locations on the London Ranger District. The campgrounds surrounding Laurel River Lake include drive-in, walk-in, boat-in, and group-use locations.

**Holly Bay and Grove campgrounds** feature the most amenities, including tent and RV campsites, water and electric hookups, bath houses with showers and trails for hiking and bicycling. **Craigs Creek Group Use Area** provides for camping and picnicking in large groups. Reservations are available at these campground locations during the open season.

For camping reservations contact the National Recreation Reservation System at 1-877-444-6777 (toll free), TDD: 1-877-833-6777, International: 518-885-3639 or [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).

**Rockcastle Campground** is set beneath the cool shade of towering beech and hemlock trees along the Cumberland River at the mouth of the scenic Rockcastle River.



761 S. Laurel Road  
London, KY 40744  
606-864-4163

Campsites are located along both sides of the Rockcastle River at **Bee Rock Campground**. Some sites are available for camping all year.

**S-Tree and Turkey Foot campgrounds** in Jackson County are located near the Shelton Trace National Recreation Trail in remote forest settings. Hiking, bicycling, off-highway vehicle use and horseback riding are permitted as designated on the trail.

**Little Lick Horse Camp** is open all year, offering horseback riders plenty of opportunities to see the natural beauty of the forest. Designed for horses, this primitive campground provides access to the Nathan McClure Trail. Loading and unloading areas for horses are located at the end of the trail, along with parking spaces for vehicles.

### Picnic Sites

London Ranger District provides several picnic areas for public use. Some picnic sites have recreation facilities such as softball fields, volleyball courts, horseshoe pits and trails. Near Laurel River Lake, picnic grounds are provided at **Laurel Bridge, Flatwoods and Bald Rock**. The picnic shelter at Laurel Bridge can be reserved.

Please help keep picnic areas clean by placing trash in proper containers or packing it out.

### Wildlife

#### Management Areas

**Cane Creek and Mill Creek Wildlife Management Areas** are managed cooperatively with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to provide the public with



Photo by Boyd Shearer

improved opportunities for hunting, fishing and other recreation. The emphasis is on sustaining species populations, especially game species like deer and turkey.

### Recreational Trails

More than 100 miles of trail will attract hikers, bikers, horseback riders and off-highway vehicle enthusiasts to the London Ranger District. Each trail varies in length and range of difficulty. Check with the district to determine which trail best fits your recreational needs.

### Shooting Range

**Whitman Branch Shooting Range** has five shooting benches with two lanes at 100 yards, one lane at 50 yards and two lanes at 25 yards. Target holders are available at the site. Skeet shooting is prohibited.



Photo by Boyd Shearer

### Camp Wildcat

**Camp Wildcat** is a Civil War battlefield site where the first engagement of troops in Kentucky took place.

Begin your journey into the past at the interpretive shelter located at the parking lot. A gravel trail leads you to Hoosier Knob, where you can see faint outlines of old trenches that remain. The last portion of the trail is steep. Foot travel only is allowed on this trail. Horse and ATV use is prohibited. Please protect the trenches by staying on the trail.

Note: Camp Wildcat is reached by a single-lane gravel road that may not be accessible in low clearance vehicles. Vault toilets are located at the parking area.

# PROTECTING OUR UNIQUE RESOURCES

## Protection of Archaeological Sites and Our Heritage

The Daniel Boone National Forest has a rich archaeological heritage spanning at least 12,000 years. Native Americans were the first inhabitants of the region and used what the environment provided. They left no written records, but the land that once sustained their existence provides physical evidence of how they lived here in the past. This evidence exists in the form of "cultural resource" sites, where traces of previous activities can be found. Archaeologists have discovered the remains of pottery, arrowheads, stone tools and other artifacts throughout the forest.

From a more recent past, archaeologists have found hundreds of historic sites that represent the influence of early European explorers and settlers that once embraced the same land. The growth of America changed the way the land and its resources were used. With each new culture came new tools and technology.

Archaeological sites tell a story just as pages do in a book. With careful study



Photo by Boyd Shearer

Leave petroglyphs alone. They provide important clues to our past.

archaeologists can gain insights into the past that provide the foundation for our understanding of who we are, where we have been and where we are going. If these fragile resources are disturbed or destroyed, they can never be replaced.

We are all stewards of our heritage. Please help preserve Kentucky's past by not disturbing or collecting artifacts.

Rockshelters—large openings in clifflines—are the oldest "homes" used by prehistoric people in the Kentucky. Native Americans enjoyed using rockshelters for the same reasons we do. Rockshelters

provided shade from the sun and protection from wind and rain.

When we camp or build fires in rockshelters, we destroy the information archaeologist can learn from these sites. To protect these archaeological sites, camping and firebuilding is prohibited in rockshelters.



Photo by Boyd Shearer

Don't camp in rockshelters. These campers are destroying fragile archaeological resources by camping in a rockshelter.

## Fire: Controlled Burning Versus Wildfire

### What is a controlled burn?

A controlled burn is a planned fire used to accomplish specific land management goals. Forest managers often prescribe fire as a treatment to improve forest health and promote forest regeneration. Increasing evidence suggests that many plant and animal species rely on the occurrence of fire to maintain suitable habitat.

### What is a wildfire?

A wildfire is an unplanned, unwanted and often damaging fire. Because these fires have no set boundaries for control, firefighters are faced with the task of developing control lines to contain the blaze. Until control lines are securely established, wildfires can threaten lives, homes and personal property.



Wildfires threaten homes, farms and communities.

Wildfires often occur during periods of drought. These fires can quickly rage out of control and burn hot enough to destroy forest resources and habitat for wildlife and plants.

Kentucky law prohibits open burning by private citizens within 150 feet of woodlands during the fire seasons—February 15 through April 30 and October 1 through December 15—except between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. or when the ground is covered with snow (KRS 149.400).

Arson is the act of intentionally setting a wildfire. Arson is a crime. If you have information about arson in your community, please call 1-800-27-ARSON.



Smokey Bear says, "Only you can prevent wildfires." Control your campfire, and make sure it is dead-out when you leave.

## Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics

The millions of visitors that come to the Daniel Boone National Forest each year can have a tremendous impact on the land. It's up to all of us to minimize our impacts, to tread lightly and leave no trace of our visit so others may enjoy the beauty of nature.

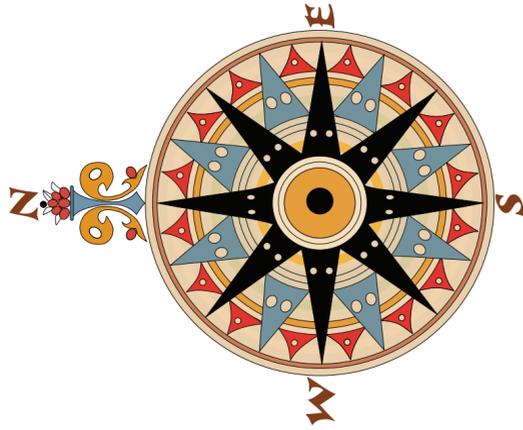
The seven principles of Leave No Trace:

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

To learn more about Leave No Trace and how you can help minimize recreational impacts on the land, go to [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org).



# Daniel Boone NATIONAL FOREST



## Forest Service Offices

The Daniel Boone National Forest is comprised of four ranger districts: Cumberland, London, Stearns, and Redbird. Each district has an office location that the public may contact for information. The forest headquarters, referred to as the Supervisor's Office, and the Gladie Cultural-Environmental Learning Center, are separate office locations.

- Supervisor's Office**  
1700 Bypass Road  
Winchester, KY 40391  
859-745-3100
- Gladie Cultural-Environmental Learning Center**  
3451 Sky Bridge Road KY 715  
Stanton, KY 40380  
606-663-8100

## Job Corps Centers

The Daniel Boone National Forest hosts two Job Corps Civilian Conservation centers, one in Frenchburg and the other in Pine Knot. Civilian Conservation Centers are educational and vocational training programs funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

This program helps young adults, ages 16 to 24, get a better job, make more money and take control of their lives. At Job Corps, students enroll to learn a trade, earn a high school diploma or GED and get help finding a job.

For more information concerning the Job Corps program, call 1-800-733-JOBS or 1-800-733-5627. An operator will provide general information about the program and refer callers to a local admissions counselor.

### Frenchburg Job Corps Center

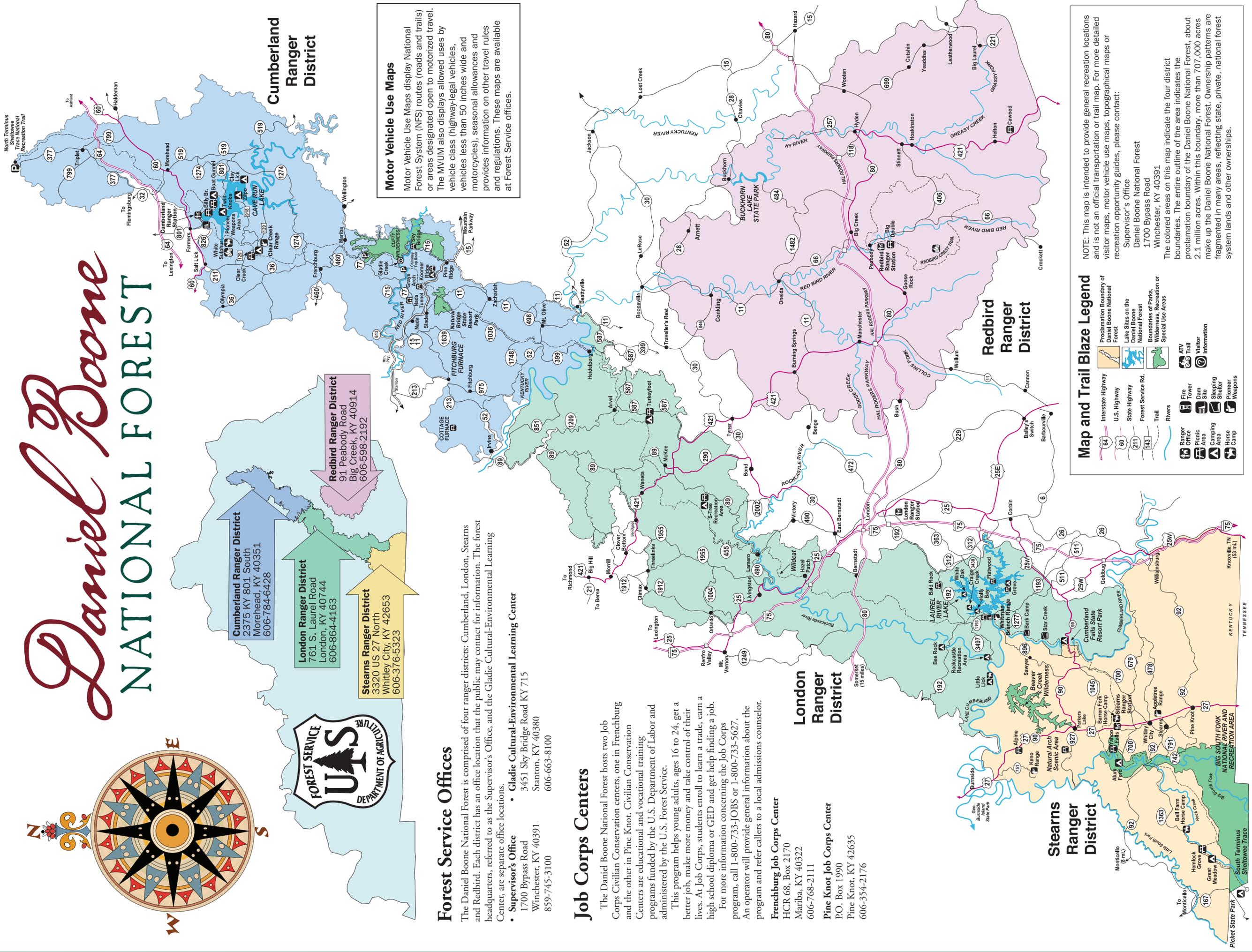
HCR 68, Box 2170  
Mariba, KY 40322  
606-768-2111

### Pine Knot Job Corps Center

P.O. Box 1990  
Pine Knot, KY 42635  
606-354-2176

## Motor Vehicle Use Maps

Motor Vehicle Use Maps display National Forest System (NFS) routes (roads and trails) or areas designated open to motorized travel. The MVUM also displays allowed uses by vehicle class (highway-legal vehicles, vehicles less than 50 inches wide and motorcycles), seasonal allowances and provides information on other travel rules and regulations. These maps are available at Forest Service offices.



## Map and Trail Blaze Legend

- Interstate Highway
- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Forest Service Rd.
- Trail
- Rivers
- Ranger Office
- Picnic Area
- Camping Area
- Horse Camp
- Fire Tower
- Dam
- Sleeping Shelter
- Pioneer Camp
- ATV
- Visitor Information

NOTE: This map is intended to provide general recreation locations and is not an official transportation or trail map. For more detailed visitor maps, motor vehicle use maps, topographical maps or recreation opportunity guides, please contact:  
Supervisor's Office  
Daniel Boone National Forest  
1700 Bypass Road  
Winchester, KY 40391

The colored areas on this map indicate the four district boundaries. The entire outline of the area indicates the proclamation boundary of the Daniel Boone National Forest, about 2.1 million acres. Within this boundary, more than 707,000 acres make up the Daniel Boone National Forest. Ownership patterns are fragmented in many areas, reflecting state, private, national forest system lands and other ownerships.