



Priority 2

These are sites that receive a substantial amount of use and have some infrastructure in place to support the development of more in-depth interpretation. Additional print materials (visitor’s guide, brochures, tear-off maps, etc.) should be designed and printed as funding allows.

The sites to address first in this section receive significant use and have the infrastructure to support the development of an interpretive site (Table 3, Figure 12). Offering interpretation at *Summit Lake Recreation Area and North Bend Picnic Area* will help better establish the identity of the HSH along WV 39. Three interpretive trails listed here need only a fresh look, minor corrections, and updating to be consistent with the media design guidelines—*Cranberry Glades Overlook Trail, Black Mountain Fire Trail, and Tea Creek Meadow*. The *fishing pier* at the Williams River/HSH junction has historical, wildlife, and recreational significance.

Other interpretive opportunities are recommended for Undeveloped Pull-off on WV 150, the Williams River Trail, and at the Shearer Run South Grazing Allotment.

Table 3. Priority 2 Sites

#	Site Name
4	Summit Lake Recreation Area
5	North Bend Picnic Area/North Bend Trail
17	Cranberry Glades Overlook Trail
23	Black Mountain Interpretive Trail
26	Williams River Fishing Pier
32	Williams River Trail
35	Tea Creek Meadow Interpretive Trail



Figure 10. Tea Creek Meadow Interpretive Trail

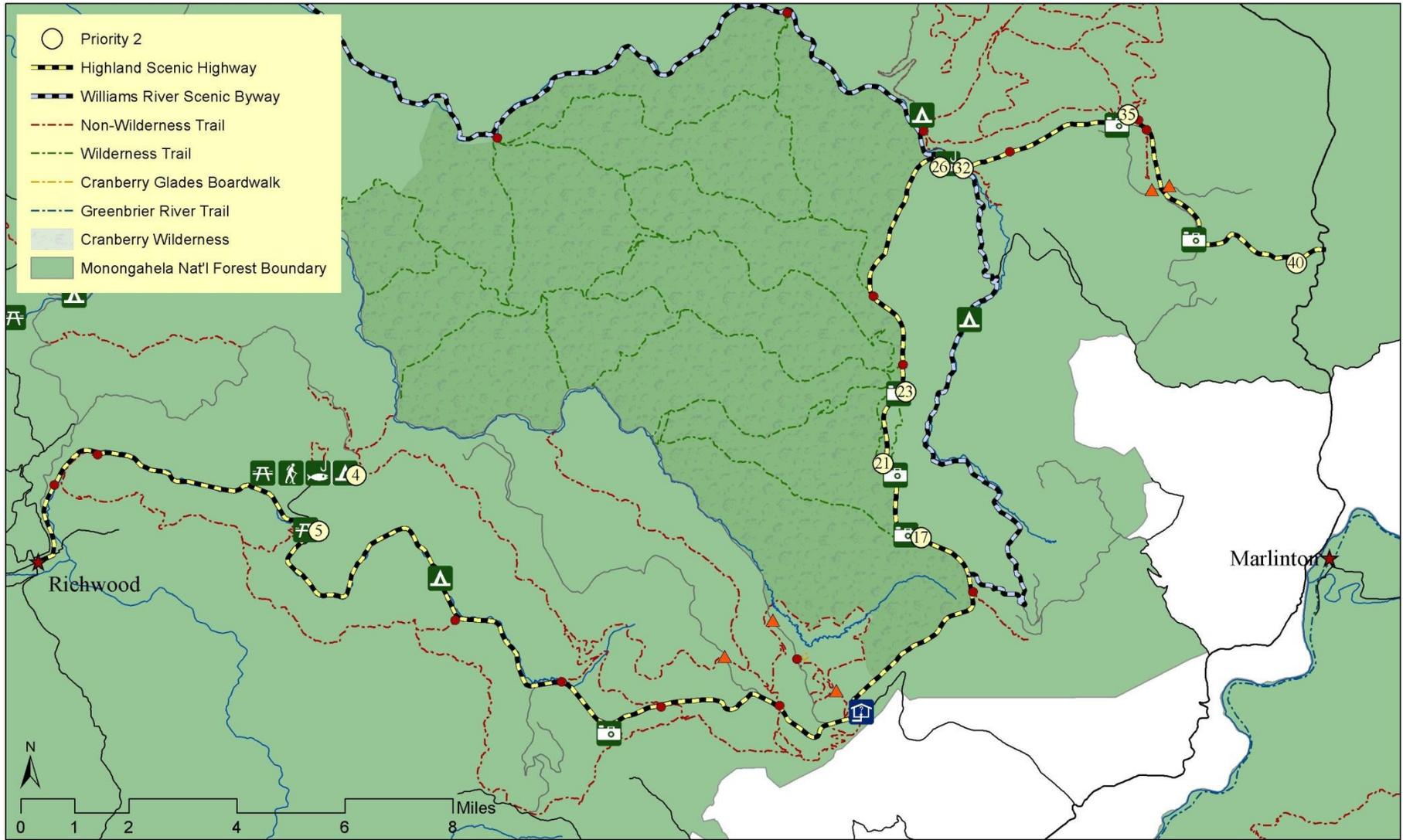


Figure 11. Geographic Locations of Priority 2 Sites



Site 4: Summit Lake Recreation Area

Topic: Conservation and management of water resources is important to wildlife and people.

Themes: 2 Present, 3 Future

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Learn about purpose and need for the liming efforts by WVDNR on Coats Run, the main stream that feeds Summit Lake
- Understand the connection between liming efforts, water chemistry, and fishing habitat
- Appreciate the careful management of Summit Lake as a water reservoir for Richwood, WV
- Improve knowledge of common wildlife and vegetation around Summit lake
- Be aware of area information and basic regulations
- See a food web common to water and forest ecosystems, similar to that found at Summit Lake



Figure 12. Summit Lake

Existing condition: Double-sided multi-panel information board located near parking area.

Desired condition: Interpretive signs are located along Summit Lake Trail, information board panels are updated.

Interpretive method recommendation: Interpretive trail, double sided single-panel to be installed on information board at parking area

List of graphic needs: None, see notes.

Notes: Forest Service is developing interpretive signs to locate along the Summit Lake Trail and the double sided single panel and will apply new media design guidelines.

Site 5: North Bend Picnic Area/Trailhead

Topic: Long before this was National Forest picnic area, a historic logging settlement covered the site.

Themes: 1 Past

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Learn about the historic settlement at North Bend



- Gain an appreciation for how the early timber industry shaped the land and economy of the area, including nearby Richwood, WV

Existing condition: Parking, restroom, picnic area.

Desired condition: Two interpretive signs are located in the general use area.

Interpretive method recommendation: Two interpretive signs, audio tour

List of graphic needs: Historic photos of North Bend settlement, logging, and railroad operations.

Notes: Gauley District has historic map.

Site 17: Cranberry Glades Overlook Trail

Topic: The vista overlooks two unique and protected areas: the Cranberry Wilderness and the Cranberry Glades Botanical Area.

Themes: 2b, 2c, 3b, 3c

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Learn about what a congressionally designated Wilderness area is, what protection it affords, and how it impacts the public and land management
- Gain an understanding of the hydrology and geology of the Cranberry Glades Botanical Area

Existing condition: Parking, trail, vista.

Desired condition: Interpretive signs are mounted to the railing at the vista

Interpretive method recommendation: Two interpretive signs

List of graphic needs: Photos from overlook, geology and hydrology examples at the Glades

Notes: Refer visitors to the Cranberry Glades Botanical Area to learn more.

Site 23: Black Mountain Interpretive Trail

Topic: History of the Black Mountain Fire and subsequent restoration.

Themes: 1b Logging Era, 1c Post-logging

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Learn about the Black Mountain Fire and conditions that led to it
- Understand the relationship between historic logging and subsequent wildfires



- Realize the role that the Civilian Conservation Corps played in fire suppression and restoring the forested landscape

Existing condition: Interpretive signs along wooden boardwalk

Desired condition: Interpretive signs meet media and architectural design guidelines

Interpretive method recommendation: Replace signs to meet media and architectural guidelines

List of graphic needs: Incorporate existing graphics

Notes: None

Site 26: Williams River Fishing Pier

Topic: The Williams River area has received a variety of uses over time, and will continue to be important in the future.

Themes: All

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will learn the following, as specific to the Williams River area

- Past: Historical logging, the site of a splash dam and its influence on the river's development.
- Present: Use for recreation, issues for management, non-native invasive species, fisheries, wildlife, WV DNR stocking
- Future: Ecological restoration, further development of recreation, and continued enjoyment by the public

Existing condition: Existing pullout for fishing and access point to travel to nearby recreation sites

Desired condition: Multiple interpretive panels, arranged in a timeline fashion. Timeline brings visitors through the past, present and future of the Williams River and the surrounding area.

Interpretive method recommendation: Multiple panels, audio tour

List of graphic needs: No existing graphics, various needs

Notes: This site is a major junction of the Williams River Scenic Byway (FR 86) and the HSH. Many visitors stop to use the facilities, access the Williams River for fishing, and to travel to nearby recreation sites.

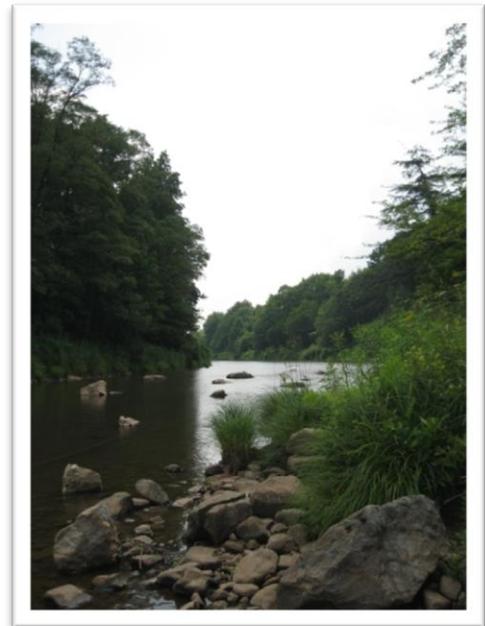


Figure 13. Williams River at the Fishing Pier



Site 32: Williams River Trail

Topic: The Williams River, and Deadwaters area, provide riparian and aquatic habitat to a variety of waterfowl, birds of prey, bats, and insects.

Themes: 2b Natural Resource Management

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Learn about common species of water fowl, birds of prey, and insects
- Gain knowledge about riparian and water ecology

Existing condition: Trail with duck boxes

Desired condition: Multiple small interpretive sign grouping along the Deadwaters



Figure 14. Williams River Deadwaters

Interpretive method recommendation: Multiple signs/interpretive trail

List of graphic needs: Photos or images of applicable wildlife species and/or their habitat type.

Notes: Along the Williams River Trail from the HSH trailhead, the Youth Conservation Corp installed duck boxes during the summer of 2012. Small interpretive signs should be installed adjacent to the Deadwaters section of the river.

Site 35: Tea Creek Meadow Interpretive Trail

Topic: Meadow habitat and forest habitat provide homes for a variety of plants and animals.

Themes: 2b, Natural Resource Management, 2c Ecosystem Benefits

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Learn about meadow habitat and forest habitat communities
- Understand the long term influence that an old beaver dam has had on the landscape

Existing condition: Interpretive trail and boardwalk with signs

Desired condition: Update interpretive message in the upper section of trail to focus on meadow habitat community, improve accuracy from current message. Maintain boardwalk focus on forest habitat communities.



Interpretive method recommendation: Interpretive trail

List of graphic needs: Incorporate appropriate existing graphics, may need additional images

Notes: While this trail was well-developed and the interpretation does a great job of telling visitors about the variety of habitats found throughout the Monongahela, some of the information is no longer accurate. See the below beaver pond that has since dried up.

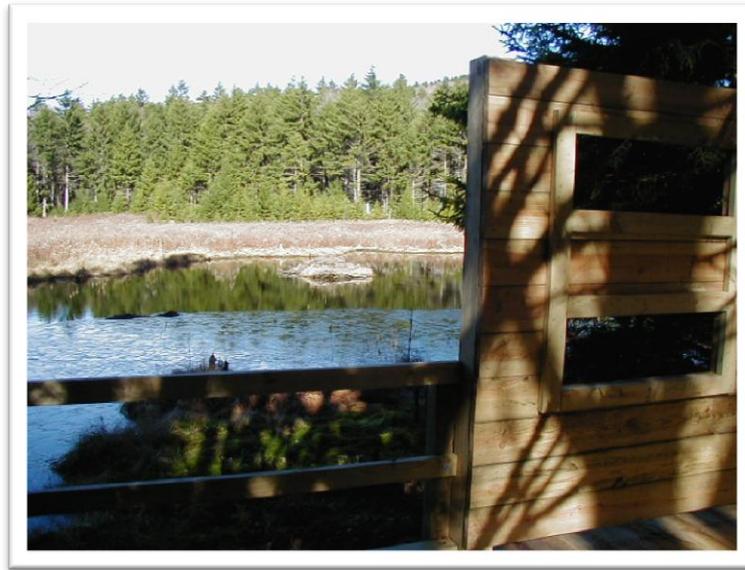


Figure 15. Beaver Pond on Tea Creek Interpretive Trail 2002

Priority 3

These sites include replacing interpretive information that was more recently installed and creating new interpretive opportunities at less prominent sites or locations. Interpretation at *Cranberry Mountain Nature Trail*, *Mill Point Prison Interpretive Trail*, and *Honeycomb Rocks Interpretive Trail* was more recently installed and is still in good condition. Work to be done includes replacement to fit the thematic color schemes/layouts and then the development of some new interpretive opportunities (see Table 4). Additional planning will be required for interpretive trails at *Day Run and Tea Creek Campgrounds*. While these are not priority sites, specific site plans and NEPA (as required) should be completed as realistically as possible so that when funding becomes available, the new interpretive trails can be implemented. Funding can be more easily attained through grants and partnerships with completed pre-work.



Table 4. Priority 3 Sites

#	Site Name
14	Cranberry Mountain Nature Trail
15	Mill Point Prison Interpretive Trail
21	Undeveloped pull-off on WV-150
27	Day Run Campground
28	Tea Creek Campground
33	Honeycomb Rocks Interpretive Trail
40	Shearer Run South Grazing Allotment

Site 14: Cranberry Mountain Nature Trail

Topic: Walk through the forest and learn about your surroundings through visual and tactile signs located along the trail.

Themes: 2c Ecosystem Benefits

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Read and touch tree identification signs that provide an introduction to the great variety of tree species found in this area
- Appreciate trees for their multitude of purposes, ecologically and for human benefit
- Learning interesting past and present uses of tree species along the trail



Figure 5. Black Cherry Sign along the Cranberry Mountain Nature Trail

Existing condition: Tree identification signs and descriptions located along accessible trail. Some of the signs are inaccurate.

Desired condition: Replace, when needed or funded, to meet recommended media and architectural design guidelines.

Interpretive method recommendation: Interpretive trail.

List of graphic needs: Incorporate existing graphics.

Notes: Corrections and updated information were given by the Forest Ecologist and are located in the project record.

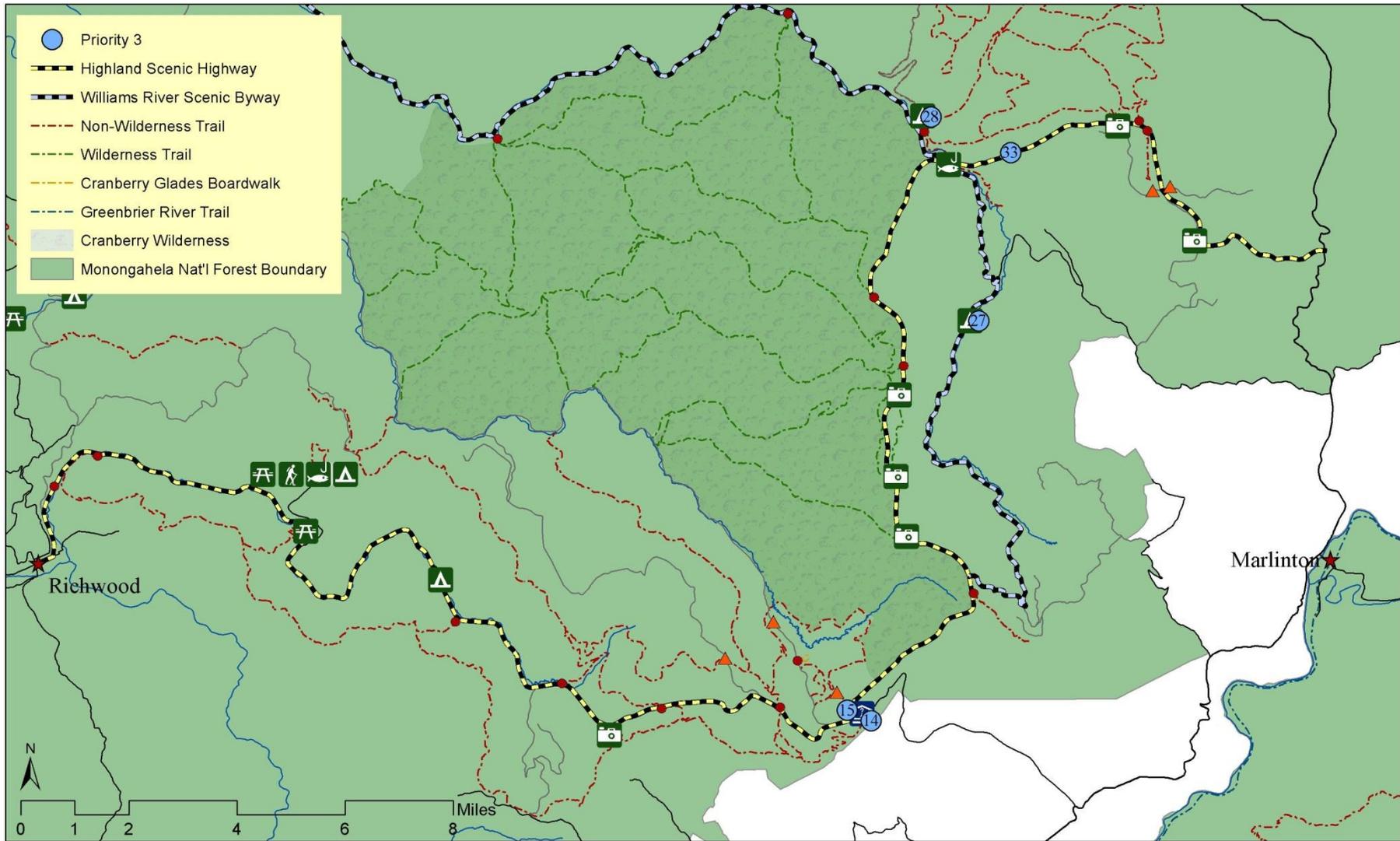


Figure 17. Geographic Locations of Priority 3 Sites



Site 15: Mill Point Prison Interpretive Trail

Topic: The historic Mill Point Prison had no walls, yet contained over 6,000 prisoners from 1938-1959.



Figure 6. Installed interpretation along the Mill Point Interpretive Trail.

Themes: 1c Post-logging

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Learn about the prisoners and daily life at the unique Mill Point Prison
- Appreciate and understand the reason behind the remote location for this minimum security facility
- Discover the historic extent of prison infrastructure

Existing condition: Interpretive signs and trails. Remnants of prison infrastructure, such as stairs and a well.

Desired condition: Media and architectural designs meet guidelines. Language is accessible to variety of visitors. Trail is accessible.

Interpretive method recommendation: Interpretive signs, audio tour topic

List of graphic needs: Incorporate existing graphics.

Notes: To ensure that persons of all abilities have the opportunity to enjoy this history site, the development of an accessible route to the Mill Point Prison Site should be completed as funding and personnel time allows.



Figure 19. Mill Point Prison Site



Site 21: Undeveloped pull-off on WV-150

Topic: History and geology of the rock field that dominates this site.

Themes: 1c Post-logging, 3c Geology

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Learn about the history and geology of the surrounding rock field

Existing condition: Parking area.

Desired condition: Interpretive panel and picnic site adjacent to parking area, overlooking rock field .

Interpretive method recommendation: Single interpretive sign.

List of graphic needs: Historic wildfire photos, geology diagram

Notes: Refer visitors to the Black Mountain Trail to learn more. Refer to Appendix B Planting Site Designs for parking and planting recommendations.

Site 27: Day Run Campground

Topic: The area surrounding Day Run Campground has an interesting and long history of settlement, resource management and recreational use.

Themes: All

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Foster an appreciation for the history and management of the campground and surrounding forest
- Learn about early settlement, past logging, and current natural resource management practices
- Have an opportunity for further exploration of the National Forest around the campground
- Learn that the Williams River and surrounding area have been used for relaxation and recreation for a long time

Existing condition: Developed campground and parking area.

Desired condition: ¼ mile looping accessible interpretive trail.

Interpretive method recommendation: Multiple interpretive signs for trail

List of graphic needs: Historic logging, settlement or recreation photos, area map



Notes: To offer recreational use of the area when the campground is gated and closed, a small 2-3 vehicle parking area should be established. This would also allow day-use parking and an access point for visitors wanting to explore the interpretive trail and the Williams River.

Site 28: Tea Creek Campground

Topic: Tea Creek Campground and the surrounding area was once the site of an active logging camp and associated operations.

Themes: All

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Foster an appreciation for the history and management of the campground and surrounding forest
- Learn about the long-term logging camp that was located where the campground lies
- Gain an understanding of early settlement life and culture along the Williams River
- Learn about the Tea Creek Fire
- Learn about life and management after logging ended, such as work by the Civilian Conservation Corps, and development of backcountry trails
- View the Williams River watershed and associated topography

Existing condition: Developed campground and parking area.

Desired condition: Short, looping accessible interpretive trail.

Interpretive method recommendation: Multiple interpretive signs for trail

List of graphic needs: Historic photos of logging camp, CCC, railroad operations. Map of Williams River watershed and topography

Notes: Signs should tell the stories related to the long-term logging camp, early settlement life and culture along the Williams River, the logging history and use of railroads to transport logs down-river to large mills, and the Tea Creek Fire that blazed through the area afterwards. A brief illustration of the work of CCC on backcountry trails.



Site 33: Honeycomb Rocks

Interpretive Trail

Topic: Honeycomb Rocks is a spectacular example of a unique geologic pattern.

Themes: 3c Geology

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Understand the factors that contributed to the formation of the Honeycomb Rocks
- Learn about the various stages of development of the hematite box work pattern



Figure 7. Interpretive Signs at Honeycomb Rocks

Existing condition: ½ mile accessible interpretive trail.

Desired condition: Signs meet media and architectural guidelines.

Interpretive method recommendation: Interpretive trail.

List of graphic needs: Incorporate existing graphics.

Notes: When replacing, some of the language should be reviewed and made more accessible to the general public. This is an outstanding interpretive site along the HSH.

Site 40: Shearer Run South Grazing Allotment

Topic: Grazing is a continued historic use that has many benefits.

Themes: 1a Historic Settlement, 2b Natural Resource Management

Objective: As a result of this exhibit, visitors will

- Realize that the historic use dates back to before the area was National Forest
- Gain knowledge about historic settlement and agriculture in the area
- Understand how grazing is a historic use that is practiced on many federal lands
- Learn how grazing is used as a tool to maintain wildlife openings

Existing condition: No infrastructure or pullout. Allotment visible from HSH.

Desired condition: Inform visitors of this distinctly open landscape.

Interpretive method recommendation: Single sign, audio tour topic



List of graphic needs: Historic and current photos of allotment.

Notes: This would be a great opportunity for an audio tour or a paragraph in a brochure. It may be difficult to establish safe pullout for a sign.

Priority 4 Trailheads

Although not specifically an interpretive site, trailhead signs can also offer visitors some of information about the area they are about to explore (Table 5). These signs should include consistent information: a brief trail description, an area map highlighting the trail, District contact information, and basic emergency contact information. One brief interpretive section should be added to help visitors form a connection to the theme and subthemes of the HSH. A single-panel, or double-panel (if appropriate), vertical information board should be used to display signage. All trailhead displays should have the HSH logo placard installed just below the base of the display board on the right support post.

Future trailhead development and displays to consider are included here, but have a lower priority than other sites. Site planning will be required for *Big Run Trailhead* and *Thomas Reserve Trailhead*. An interpretive display should be developed for *Black Mountain Trailhead* at the Williams River Valley Overlook. Suggested interpretive storylines for all other trailheads with developed parking along the HSH are included here. Currently, these trailheads have no signage.

Through the design efforts of recent AmeriCorps volunteers, newly developed Wilderness displays are ready to be installed. Newer trailhead displays have been installed at *Williams River Trailhead (HSH)*, *Gauley Mountain Trailhead*, and *Red Spruce Knob Trailhead*. Replacement of existing signs and displays listed here are to be completed as needed.



Table 5. Priority 4 Trailhead Sites

Location Number	Site	General Info & Theme
3	Fork Mountain Trailhead	2 b
6	Big Run Trailhead	1 b
7	Eagle Camp Trailhead	1 c
9	Pocahontas Trailhead (WV-39 access)	3 c
10	Kennison Mountain Trailhead	2 a & 2 b
12	Thomas Reserve Trailhead	
16	High Rocks Trailhead	3 c
18	Forks of Cranberry Trailhead	2 c
20	Black Mountain Trailhead (Williams River Overlook and Big Spruce Overlook)	2 b
24	North-South Trailhead	1
25	North Fork Trailhead	1
29	Williams River/Tea Creek Trailhead	1 a & 1 c
30	Bannocks Shoals Trailhead	1 b & 1 c
31	Williams River Trailhead (HSH)	1
36	Tea Creek Mountain/Right Fork of Tea Creek Trailhead	1 c
37	Gauley Mountain Trailhead	1
38	Red Spruce Knob Trail	1

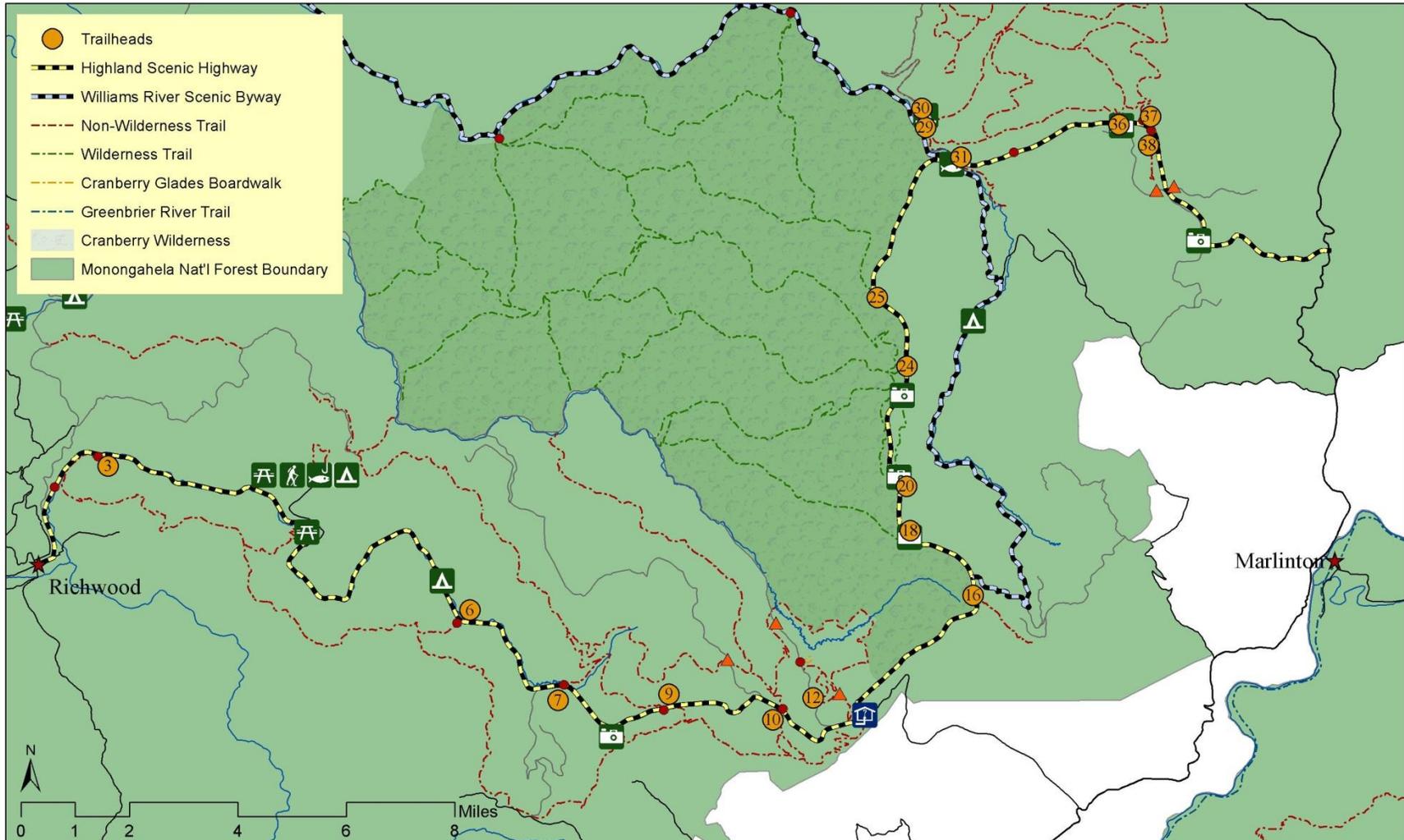


Figure 8. Geographic Locations of Trailheads.



Site 3: Fork Mountain Trailhead

Because this trailhead is tied to the Gateway Trail, the same double-panel layout could be used. The same information from the Gateway Trailhead that focuses on subtheme 2 should be included. The map should focus on the entire length of the Fork Mountain Trail and specific information about that trail should be included. (see *subtheme 2 [b]*)

Site 6: Big Run Trailhead

Currently, no developed parking exists at the trail's terminus on WV 39. A small 2-3 car parking area could be developed with a single-panel vertical trailhead display installed. Basic trail information and a brief historical look into the log plume that was located there during the early logging days should be included. (see *subtheme 1 [b]*)

Site 7: Eagle Camp Trailhead

Although currently a trailhead for Eagle Camp, this site would also lend itself well to an historical site dedicated to the local CCC camps including the one that was located here during the New Deal era. Refer visitors to other nearby CCC sites including Woodbine, Black Mountain Fire Trail, Red Spruce Knob Trail, Watoga State Park, and Droop Mountain State Park. This interpretation should be on display in an additional single-panel, angled sign located in a way to not detract from the site's function as a trailhead. (see *subtheme 1 [c]*)

Site 9: Pocahontas Trailhead (WV-39)

Due to length of this trail, brief description of the various forest cover types and microclimate changes along the way that influence what vegetative communities exist there should be included in the single-panel vertical display for the trailhead. Suggested loops and additional access points should also be described. (see *subtheme 2 [a]*)



Figure 9. Thomas Reserve Trailhead can serve other area trails.

Site 10: Kennison Mountain Trailhead

Kennison Mountain Trail would be an excellent setting to describe wildlife management and the concern with sensitive, threatened, and endangered species. In addition, a brief overview of red spruce forests and how they were once wide-spread and now restricted to the high elevations, such as those on Kennison Mountain and along the HSH should be included. This information should be developed into a single-panel vertical display. (see *subtheme 2 [a & b]*)

Site 12: Thomas Reserve Trailhead

This trailhead will serve as an information center for the series of looping trails that are found near the junction of WV 150 and WV 39. Parking should be expanded to



accommodate 3-4 vehicles. Because of the high concentration of interpretive opportunities in this area, this site should function as an orientation to Charles Creek, Thomas Reserve, Bruffey Reserve, and Cowpasture Trails. It should, however, refer visitors to nearby opportunities to learn about the Forest, its fascinating history, and management practices that guide its future. This information should be developed into a single-panel vertical display.

Site 16: High Rocks Trailhead

Along with the required basic trail information, a brief description of the geology should be included in a single-panel vertical display. At the overlook, an additional sign should be installed to help visitors identify features and mountains in the viewshed. (see *subtheme 3 [c]*)

Site 18: Forks of Cranberry Trailhead (Wilderness); Site 24: North-South Trailhead (Wilderness); Site 25: North Fork Trailhead (Wilderness)

Attracting visitors from around the country, the Cranberry Wilderness is rich in history, as well as beauty. While the new trailhead displays provide much needed information for those enter the Wilderness area, some additional topics could be included or elaborated on—historical railroad grades that some of the trails follow, the timber that was removed from this hard-to-reach area, and how the replenished forest provides a variety of ecosystem services. These considerations as well as the incorporation of thematic colors and fonts should be integrated into future displays. (see *subtheme 1 [b], 2 [b & c]*)

Site 20: Black Mountain Trailhead (Williams River and Big Spruce Overlooks)

Black Mountain Trail is unique in the sense that it is almost equally divided into front country trail management and wilderness management. This offers an opportunity to educate visitors about the difference in these two management strategies and how wilderness restricts some types of recreational use to offer a more primitive experience for visitors. A single-panel vertical display should be installed at the access point located at Williams River Valley Overlook and at the sign where the trail merges with the Black Mountain Fire Trail boardwalk. A wilderness boundary sign should be installed at the trail access point on the Wilderness-side of the trail to notify visitors that they are entering a different management area with restricted use and no formal trail blazing. (see *subtheme 2 [b]*)

Site 29: Williams River/Tea Creek Trailhead

From Tea Creek Campground, visitors can access both trails from a single trailhead. Aside from basic trail and area information, an interpretive section of the sign should be dedicated to the rich history related to historical logging camps, railroads, and the Tea Creek fire. A double-panel vertical display is currently being developed and will be adapted to meet the needs of this interpretive plan. (see *subtheme 1 [a & c]*)

Site 30: Bannock Shoals Trailhead

A double-panel vertical display should include all basic trail and area information. A brief note to visitors that FR 135 was created from a historic railroad grade by the Black Mountain CCC



should be included. Once an open road, this route connected Tea Creek Campground to the top of Gauley Mountain. It was greatly impacted by the Flood of 1985. The rushing waters washed out major culverts and drainage structures. Damage was so great that the Forest Service decided to maintain it only as a trail and close it to vehicular traffic. (see *subtheme 1 [b] & c] and/or 2 [a]*)

Site 31: Williams River Trailhead (HSH); Site 37: Gauley Mountain Trailhead

Recently installed, these trailheads share information about the logging history of each site. The section of the Williams River that visitors first see as they access the trail from the HSH trailhead is known as ‘Dead waters’. A brief history of the splash dam that was located there as well as a note that the trail follows a historic railroad line is included in the trailhead display. The Gauley Mountain Trail also follows a railroad grade. The trailhead display gives a brief history of the pre-USFS ownership, logging, and railroad history of the trail.

As replacements are needed, the color scheme and fonts should be changed to meet the standards described in this plan. (see *subtheme 1 [b]*)

Site 36: Tea Creek Mountain/Right Fork of Tea Creek Trailhead

In addition to the basic trail information, the double-panel vertical display should compare and contrast the two types of environments through which these trails traverse. A note that the Tea Creek Mountain Trail was constructed by the Black Mountain CCC as a fire trail and that a wooden fire tower was constructed along the trail would be a good tie to post-logging history of the area. (see *subtheme 1 [c]*)

Site 38: Red Spruce Knob Trailhead

As with the recently installed Williams River and Gauley Mountain Trailhead displays, Red Spruce Knob Trailhead offers historical information about the fire tower that was built and staffed by the Black Mountain CCC men in the 1930s. As replacements are needed, the color scheme and fonts should be updated to be consistent with those specified in this plan. An additional interpretive sign should be developed and installed at the fire tower’s foundation. The storyline should focus on the life of CCC enrollees and the role that they played in fire suppression. (see *subtheme 1 [c]*)

Scenic Byway Signage

All entrance signs, trailhead signs, and information boards should have the HSH logo routed placard installed just below the base of the main display board on the right supporting post. Logos for the WV Scenic Byway designation, National Scenic Byway, and National Forest Scenic Byway designations (See HSH CMP Figure 27) should be visible when entering the HSH from any of the portal sites, such as the Gauley Ranger District Office outdoor kiosk, the CMNC, and the US 219 Gateway. If applicable at any site, other national or state designations should be incorporated into the display/signage.



Additional brochures, maps, and electronic media

To help guide visitors on their journey across the HSH, mile markers representing the HSH logo should be installed beginning at the Richwood gateway. These markers will serve as landmarks to assist in sharing interpretation as specified in brochures and other media. Planning and installation should be coordinated with the West Virginia Division of Highway.

HSH Visitor's Guide

To help market the HSH and the communities of Richwood, Hillsboro, and Marlinton, a detailed guide should be developed to provide information about recreational opportunities and locations of interpretive sites based on subtheme. It would also provide an outlet to provide more details about storylines that may have not have been formally developed at sites along the HSH. This publication would help further develop partnerships with local visitor centers, businesses, and organizations, such as Pocahontas County Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Tear-off map of HSH, highlighting interpretive sites and attractions

Similar to the Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Center produced tear-off map of the County, an 11"x17" map of the HSH should be developed and available at the local Richwood and Marlinton Visitors Centers, as well at the CMNC, and the Ranger District Offices. Other venues supporting tourism in these and surrounding counties should be distribution points as well. Information about the HSH, attractions, community information and annual events, and interpretive sites should be included. Suggested itinerary could be broken into one-day and weekend trips.

Children's Environmental Education

To encourage interaction with attractions and natural features along the HSH, a series of youth-friendly brochures should be developed that would act as a guided 'scavenger hunt' or activity sheet for families with children, school groups, Boys/Girls Scouts, and other similar organizations touring the area. Brochures should be broken down into age groups: Ages 4-7, Ages 8-10, and Ages 11-15.

Additional brochures

Based on the storylines carried throughout the span of the HSH, brochures for specific topics depicted at sites could be developed as funding and staffing allows—early settlements and cultural background of the history, logging and historical railroads, current management of this second growth forest, common flora and fauna of the Forest, recreation along the HSH, value of conservation and preservation, 'Birthplace of Rivers', threats to forest health, and places to learn about geology.

Audio Tour

To offer unique interpretive opportunities, an audio tour should be developed to highlight the storylines that are carried across the HSH. Visitors could select from the subthemes depending on what topics they would like to explore—settlement history and culture, logging and railroads, and influences on forest development/health and the importance of sound



management practices. All Priority I sites should be considered for as audio features, as well as the below potential topics:

- Shearer Grazing Allotment
- Pearl S. Buck
- Hammons family
- Logging: the life of a logger, different logging camps
- Spruce ecosystem and restoration
- Civilian Conservation Corps
- Wildfire Role & History: Fire tower / fire histories/values of natural fires
- Non-native Invasive Species
- Bear Sanctuary

Website

A website dedicated to the Highway should be developed to offer access to printable brochures, maps, and audio files. Website appearance should reflect the thematic ideas, fonts, and colors. The website should provide links to partnering organizations and provide information or links about nearby area attractions such as the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace and Watoga State Park.



Section 7 Evaluating success of interpretation

Inappropriate or ineffective displays can become costly investments. They may attract vandalism, reflect poorly on the site, or result in low use. Prior to final publication, interpretive materials should be reviewed by interested parties, specialists, and recreation site management. If a HSH Steering Committee has been established, this should be one of their responsibilities. A fresh set of eyes can do wonders to catch typos, poor formatting, and other common errors. Additional things to consider when developing interpretive materials are included in Section 9.

After installation, a variety of methods should be used to understand how visitors are reacting to newly installed interpretation. It would be ideal to conduct a study of the HSH visitors, their satisfaction with site quality, as well as interpretation, granted there is Forest/agency approval and funding becomes available in the future. Other informal and formal evaluation techniques will provide some information at the site-specific level.

Informal Methods

On-site observations and informal conversations with visitors can give a lot of information about their satisfaction with newly developed interpretation. Whenever possible field notes should be taken to record these events so that trends could be established. Much insight could be gathered at the CMNC because of the higher probability for interaction with visitors.

Formal Methods

Small cardstock comment cards should be available at the Marlinton RD and Gauley RD Offices, as well as at the CMNC, to encourage visitors to relay their comments about interpretation as each Priority stage is completed. A comment section on the newly developed website will also allow visitors to provide feedback about the HSH and interpretation.

As previously mentioned, if funding and administrative support for a HSH Visitor Survey is established, a section of the questionnaire should be dedicated to visitor's reactions to new interpretive opportunities.

Addressing Issues

If unforeseen problems with accessibility arise, they should be addressed as soon as possible. If certain qualities are found to be more attractive or not very appealing, those characteristics should be considered in the development of future interpretation. The first attempts can always be improved in the future.



Section 8 References

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Section 9 Additional Considerations

Comprehensive Site Recommendations and Prioritization

The below provides an at a glance view of all existing and potential interpretive sites along the HSH.

Table 6. List of Recommended Interpretive Sites.

Number	Site	Priority	Site Type	Existing Interpretation	Interpretive Method Recommendations	List of Graphic Needs	Themes
1	Gateway Trailhead	1	Trailhead	No	Double-panel trailhead display	Trail info, photos	General Info, 2b, c
2	Gauley Ranger District Office	1	Portal	Yes	Replace three panel kiosk and update signs	HSH map, nearby attractions, photos, seasonal info	Orientation, All
3	Fork Mountain Trailhead	4	Trailhead	No	See Gateway Trailhead	See Gateway Trailhead	General Info, 2b
4	Summit Lake Recreation Area	2	Multiple use	No	Interpretive trail, update information boards	Incorporate existing graphics	2, 3
5	North Bend Picnic Area/North Bend Trail	2	Day-Use Area	No	Two interpretive signs, audio tour	Historic photos of settlement, logging, railroad operations	1
6	Big Run Trailhead	4	Trailhead	No	Single-panel trailhead display	Trail info, log plume photos	General Info, 1b
7	Eagle Camp Trailhead	4	Trailhead	No	Single-panel trailhead display	Trail info, CCC	General Info, 1c
8	Falls of Hills Creek Scenic Area	1	Interp. Trail	Yes	Update interpretive trail and three panel kiosk, brochure, audio tour	Various	3a, 3b, 3c
9	Pocahontas Trailhead (WV-39 access)	4	Trailhead	No	Single-panel trailhead display	Trail info	General Info, 2a
10	Kennison Mountain Trailhead	4	Trailhead	No	Single-panel trailhead display	Trail info, red spruce info	General Info 2a, 2b
11	Cranberry Glades Botanical Area	1	Interp. Trail	Yes	Updated interpretive trail, trailhead information board, audio tour, brochure	Various	2a, 2b, 3c
12	Thomas Reserve Trailhead	4	Trailhead	No	Single-panel trailhead display	Trail info	General Info
13	Cranberry Mountain Nature Center	1	Portal	Yes	Replace kiosk and update information	HSH map, nearby attractions, photos, seasonal info	Orientation, All
14	Cranberry Mountain Nature Trail	3	Interp. Trail	Yes	Update interpretive signs	Incorporate existing graphics	2c
15	Mill Point Prison Interpretive Trail	3	Interp. Trail	Yes	Update interpretive signs, audio tour	Incorporate existing graphics	1c



Number	Site	Priority	Site Type	Existing Interpretation	Interpretive Method Recommendations	List of Graphic Needs	Themes
16	High Rocks Trailhead	4	Trailhead	No	Single-panel trailhead display, single-panel display	Trail info, geology, viewshed feature photo	General Info, 3c
17	Cranberry Glades Overlook Trail	2	Interp. Trail	No	Two interpretive signs, audio tour	Photos from overlook, geology and hydrology of Glades	2b, 2c, 3b, 3c
18	Forks of Cranberry Trailhead	4	Wilderness Trailhead	Yes	Incorporate info in to existing Wilderness trailhead kiosk	Historic railroad and logging maps or photos	General Info, 1b, 2b, 2c
19	Williams River Valley Overlook	1	Overlook	Yes	Single angled interpretive panoramic sign	Incorporate existing graphics	2c, 3b
20	Black Mountain Trailhead (Williams River Valley Overlook and Big Spruce Overlook)	4	Wilderness Trailhead	No	Single-panel vertical display at Williams, Wilderness boundary sign	Trail/Wilderness info	General Info, 2b
21	Undeveloped Pull-off on WV150	3	Single Interp. Site	No	Single angled interpretive sign	Historic wildfire photos, geology diagram	1c, 3c
22	Big Spruce Overlook	1	Overlook	Yes	Single angled interpretive panoramic sign	Incorporate existing graphics	1b, 1c, 2b
23	Black Mountain Interpretive Trail	2	Interp. Trail	Yes	Replace signs to meet media and architectural guidelines	Incorporate existing graphics	1b, 1c
24	North-South Trailhead	4	Wilderness Trailhead	No	Incorporate info in to existing Wilderness trailhead kiosk	Historic railroad and logging maps or photos	General Info, 1b, 2b, 2c
25	North Fork Trailhead	4	Wilderness Trailhead	No	Incorporate info in to existing Wilderness trailhead kiosk	Historic railroad and logging maps or photos	General Info, 1b, 2b, 2c
26	Williams River Fishing Pier*	2	Single Interp. Site	No	Multiple interpretive panels, audio tour	Various	All
27	Day Run Campground	3	Multi-use	No	Interpretive trail, multiple signs	Historic photos of logging camp, CCC, railroad operations, map of Williams River watershed/topography	All
28	Tea Creek Campground	3	Multi-use	No	Interpretive trail, multiple signs	Historic logging, settlement or recreation photos, area map	All
29	Williams River/Tea Creek Trailhead	4	Trailhead	No	Double-panel vertical display	Under development by Forest Service	1a, 1c
30	Bannocks Shoals Trailhead	4	Trailhead	No	Double-panel vertical display	Trail information/map, photos of	General Info, 1b, 1c,



Number	Site	Priority	Site Type	Existing Interpretation	Interpretive Method Recommendations	List of Graphic Needs	Themes
						historic logging railroad grade and Black Mountain CCC crew	2a
31	Williams River Trailhead (HSH)	4	Trailhead	Yes	Replace as needed, meeting media and architectural guidelines	Incorporate existing graphics	General Info, 1b
32	Williams River Trail	2	Interp. Trail	No	Interpretive trail with grouping of signs	Wildlife photos and habitat	2b
33	Honeycomb Rocks Interpretive Trail*	3	Interp. Trail	Yes	Replace as needed, meeting media and architectural guidelines	Incorporate existing graphics	3c
34	Little Laurel Overlook	1	Overlook	Yes	Single angled interpretive panoramic sign	Incorporate existing graphics	2b
35	Tea Creek Meadow Interpretive Trail	2	Interp. Trail	Yes	Replace and update signs along interpretive trail	Photos of species associated with meadow community	2b, 2c
36	Tea Creek Mountain/Right Fork of Tea Creek Trailhead	4	Trailhead	No	Double-panel vertical display	Trail info, CCC, fire tower photos	General Info, 1c
37	Gauley Mountain Trailhead	4	Trailhead	Yes	Replace as needed, meeting media and architectural guidelines	Incorporate existing graphics	General Info, 1b
38	Red Spruce Knob Trail	4	Trailhead	Yes	Replace as needed, meeting media and architectural guidelines	Incorporate existing graphics	General Info, 1c
39	Red Lick Overlook	1	Overlook	No	Single angled interpretive panoramic sign	Panoramic of viewshed	2a, 2c
40	Shearer Run South Grazing Allotment	3	Single Interp. Site	No	Single sign, audio tour	Historic and current photos	1, 2b
41	US-219 Gateway	1	Portal	Yes	Three-panel kiosk signs need to be updated,	HSH map, nearby attractions, photos, seasonal info	Orientation, All



Accessibility Considerations and Suggestions

Please note that all signage, brochures, and written material should be available in audio format and large print upon the request of the public to meet accessibility needs of visually-impaired or hearing-impaired individuals.

The 1968 Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act require all new or updated facilities/structures to meet the accessibility standards established in the American Disability Act/ABA guidelines. Refer to the Forest Service Outdoor Recreation Accessibility Guidelines (FSORAG) for guidance.

Adapted from the Guanella Pass Scenic and Historic Byway Revised Interpretive Plan (2008), additional considerations include:

1. Involve people with disability in planning and design.
2. Include captioning on all films/videos. Captioning must be visible when video is shown in public.
3. Make brochures available in alternate formats, including large print (18 point/0.25" minimum height), and available in audio and computer disc format
4. Make web sites fully accessible in compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act
5. Offer an accessibility guide, available in alternative formats, and include the guide on your website
6. Make sure all signage related to accessibility are appropriately posted and use appropriate language and terminology (i.e. "Accessible Parking" rather than "Handicap Parking").
7. Use audio description in high use areas where visual media tells the story
8. Provide written scripts wherever audio information is presented
9. Create accessible routes to exhibits
10. Display content of information redundantly or in part –aurally, tactually, and visually.
11. Eliminate obstructions to viewing exhibits (i.e. high pedestals, railings, etc.)
12. Use high contrast colors and matte or low glass finish
13. Use large sans or slab serif, high contrast print
14. All materials for distribution or examination are to be within the reach ranges stated in the accessibility guidelines –maximum forward reach of 48", maximum side reach of 48". All controls must be operable with one closed fist and a force no greater than 5 pounds.
15. Consider the "Cone of Vision" that will be the most visible to the most people, with midpoint of visual material falling at 48" from ground.

ADA/ABA Accessibility Guidelines: <http://www.access-board.gov> and HSH CMP Project Record CDIAccessibilityGuidelines.pdf



General Rules on Updating and Design

Additional suggestions and things to consider:

- Ask for help, suggestions, and expertise as needed.
- Ask for multiple fresh eyes to double-check for typos, grammatical errors, and confusing sentences.
- Font size can restrict accessibility! Follow guidelines provided in the Forest Service Outdoor Recreation Accessibility Guideline (FSORAG).
- Use language that everyone can understand and avoid technical jargon.
- Do NOT use hyphenation (turn 'Auto-hyphenation' OFF).
- Utilize Rule of Thirds: 1/3 Text, 1/3 Graphics, 1/3 White Space
- Interpretive displays should use a variety of language to encourage the viewer to continue reading (i.e. making the theme personal and relevant to the viewer, use descriptive words, add humor, use an example or compare theme to other common items, use similes and metaphors, paint a visual picture with words, etc.).
- Consider the idea developed by George Miller in 1956 (as adapted from Ham, 1992): On average people are capable of making sense of only 7+/- 2 ideas at a time. Under the main topic of a sign, presentation, or other interpretive material, organize subthemes in a way that doesn't overwhelm the viewer and limit the amount of information you are trying to portray at a single site to hold their attention.
- Refer to HSH CMP Project File CD\InterpMediaDesignGuidelines.pdf