

File Code: 2700
Date September 24, 2025

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY

Prospectus for Outfitting & Guiding on the Appalachian and Unaka Ranger Districts

Dear Interested Party,

The Appalachian and Unaka Ranger Districts of the Pisgah and Cherokee National Forests are announcing an opportunity to apply for a priority outfitting & guiding special use permit for guided whitewater rafting (III/IV rapids) and other secondary services such as kayaking instruction and fishing through a competitive selection process.

The route available in this offering is located within the Nolichucky River Gorge area, see appendix 1 and 2 (maps). The Nolichucky River Plan sets the maximum number of service days at 480 per day. The total available service days for this offering will be a portion of the allowable service days, calculated based on estimated use and averages of current permit holders' use.

All prospective applicants are advised to read the prospectus carefully. Applicants must submit one (1) hard copy and one (1) electronic copy of their application package and supporting documents to the Forest contact listed below. Applications must be received by close of business (4:30 p.m. EST) on **Monday, November 10, 2025**. Please mail completed application package to:

Jennifer Barnhart - District Ranger
Pisgah National Forest
Attention: Shawn Cloutier
632 Manor Road
Mars Hill, NC 28754

Applications submitted in response to this prospectus are subject to cost recovery pursuant to 36 CFR 251.58 (c)(1)(ii) and (c)(3)(iii). Applicants must submit the processing fee (**\$500**) required by the prospectus to cover costs of the application package review.

The prospectus is available on the Forest website at [Nolichucky River Gorge Prospectus](#). For specific questions regarding this opportunity please contact Shawn Cloutier at Shawn.Cloutier@usda.gov by October 20, 2025.

Thank you for your interest in the Pisgah and Cherokee National Forests.

Sincerely,



JENNIFER BARNHART
District Ranger
Pisgah National Forest

