



File Code: 2450; 1230
Route To:

Date: 12/17/2025

Subject: Designation of Free Use Area for Disposal of Forest Products - Extension
To: Nick Larson, Grandfather District Ranger, Pisgah National Forest

In response to impacts from Hurricane Helene and the declaration of Western North Carolina as a disaster area, I am designating the entire Grandfather Ranger District as a free use area for the disposal of forest products in accordance with 36 CFR 223.6. The free use area is further defined as the area in and along all open roads for a distance of 75 feet measured from the bottom of the ditch line in a direction away from the traveled surface of the road. In situations where a ditch line does not exist, the area would include a distance of 100 feet measured in both directions from the center line of the road. Refer to the free use area designation map to identify all open roads. The map may be obtained from the local Ranger District office or on the internet [National Forests in North Carolina - Pisgah Ranger District](#).

Forest products that may be removed from this area include any dead or downed timber, specifically any trees that have been uprooted, windthrown, blown over, or broken off. Green standing trees shall not be felled. Trees that are standing but have had the top broken off and part of the main bole of the tree is still standing shall not be felled unless approved by the Forest Service. The part of the top that is broken off may be removed.

During the removal process, the following shall be obeyed:

- All motorized vehicles and equipment shall remain in the cleared right of way of the road.
- Traffic shall not be blocked at any time.
- All trash and litter resulting from the removal process shall not be left on site.
- All limbs, brush, slash, and other vegetative matter created by this process shall be removed from the road and ditch.
- On-site warming fires are not permitted.
- No digging or picking of any plants is allowed.
- Forest products may not be gathered from an active logging area.
- Forest products removed under this authority are for personal use only and may not be sold or exchanged.

This authorization will expire on December 31, 2026, unless specifically extended by letter and public notice.

This letter may be terminated at any time prior to the expiration date by letter and public notice.

CAVAN FITZSIMMIONS
Forest Supervisor
cc: Alice Brown, Scott Smith





File Code: 2450; 1230
Route To:

Date: 12/17/2025

Subject: Designation of Free Use Area for Disposal of Forest Products - Extension
To: Dave Casey, Pisgah District Ranger, Pisgah National Forest

In response to impacts from Hurricane Helene and the declaration of Western North Carolina as a disaster area, I am designating the entire Pisgah Ranger District as a free use area for the disposal of forest products in accordance with 36 CFR 223.6. The free use area is further defined as the area in and along all open roads for a distance of 75 feet measured from the bottom of the ditch line in a direction away from the traveled surface of the road. In situations where a ditch line does not exist, the area would include a distance of 100 feet measured in both directions from the center line of the road. Refer to the free use area designation map to identify all open roads. The map may be obtained from the local Ranger District office or on the internet [National Forests in North Carolina - Pisgah Ranger District](#).

Forest products that may be removed from this area include any dead or downed timber, specifically any trees that have been uprooted, windthrown, blown over, or broken off. Green standing trees shall not be felled. Trees that are standing but have had the top broken off and part of the main bole of the tree is still standing shall not be felled unless approved by the Forest Service. The part of the top that is broken off may be removed.

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CAVAN FITZSIMMONS
Forest Supervisor
cc: Alice Brown, Scott Smith





File Code: 2450; 1230
Route To:

Date: 12/17/2025

Subject: Designation of Free Use Area for Disposal of Forest Products - Extension

To: Jen Barnhart, Appalachian District Ranger, Pisgah National Forest

In response to impacts from Hurricane Helene and the declaration of Western North Carolina as a disaster area, I am designating the entire Appalachian Ranger District as a free use area for the disposal of forest products in accordance with 36 CFR 223.6. The free use area is further defined as the area in and along all open roads for a distance of 75 feet measured from the bottom of the ditch line in a direction away from the traveled surface of the road. In situations where a ditch line does not exist, the area would include a distance of 100 feet measured in both directions from the center line of the road. Refer to the free use area designation map to identify all open roads. The map may be obtained from the local Ranger District office or on the internet [National Forests in North Carolina - Pisgah Ranger District](#).

Forest products that may be removed from this area include any dead or downed timber, specifically any trees that have been uprooted, windthrown, blown over, or broken off. Green standing trees shall not be felled. Trees that are standing but have had the top broken off and part of the main bole of the tree is still standing shall not be felled unless approved by the Forest Service. The part of the top that is broken off may be removed.

During the removal process, the following shall be obeyed:

- All motorized vehicles and equipment shall remain in the cleared right of way of the road.
- Traffic shall not be blocked at any time.
- All trash and litter resulting from the removal process shall not be left on site.
- All limbs, brush, slash, and other vegetative matter created by this process shall be removed from the road and ditch.
- On-site warming fires are not permitted.
- No digging or picking of any plants is allowed.
- Forest products may not be gathered from an active logging area.
- Forest products removed under this authority are for personal use only and may not be sold or exchanged.

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This letter may be terminated at any time prior to the expiration date by letter and public notice.

CAVAN FITZSIMMONS

Forest Supervisor

cc: Alice Brown, Scott Smith

