



**National Forests in North
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Alert

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Most Trails and Roads Reopened in Trace Ridge Area

PISGAH FOREST, N.C., June 18, 2014 -- The U.S. Forest Service has reopened most of the trails and roads in the Trace Ridge and Wash Creek areas of Henderson County in the Pisgah Ranger District, Pisgah National Forest.

The closures were necessary to implement portions of the [Brushy Ridge project](#), an ecosystem improvement project that will provide a number of [environmental benefits](#). Visitors will see evidence of the project where timber harvesting activities took place in the Trace Ridge Trailhead area and a portion of Trace Ridge and Wash Creek Trails.

The following areas are reopened to non-motorized use:

- Hendersonville Reservoir Road (FS 142);
- Fletcher Creek Road (FS 5097);
- Wash Creek (Trail 606);
- Trace Ridge (Trail 354);
- North Mills River (Trail 353) and
- Yellow Gap Trail (Trail 611).

Wash Creek Road remains closed to motor vehicle traffic to protect public safety and facilitate implementation of the project. The road remains open to non-motorized use with caution advised for logging truck traffic on the road. Seniard Mountain Road and Bear Branch Trail remain closed to all use. The Forest Service will reopen all roads and trails once timber harvesting and hauling are completed, which will most likely be late fall.

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