



# Tennessee News



Scenic overlook. Photo:NPS

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2015



■ NPS Unit  
★ State Capital

### CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Grundy County Recreational Trail Development**  
Grundy County Conservation Commission and Friends of South Cumberland State Recreation Area
- 2. Hiwassee Blueway**  
Southeast Tennessee Tourism Association

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

### ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. Program staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

*“The NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program has been critical in helping to organize partners to develop the Hiwassee River Blueway in Southeast Tennessee as an outdoor recreation resource and tourism driver within the region.”*

- Jenni Frankenberg Veal, Tourism Coordinator, Southeast Tennessee Tourism Association



Hiking under the Suter Falls, South Cumberland State Park.  
Photo: Friends of South Cumberland State Recreation Area, Inc.

## We're Here For You.

Could your project benefit from NPS Staff Assistance? Contact us to find out.

**Alison Bullock**

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## 2014 Nationwide Partnership Success

3,278.74 Miles of Trail Developed

2,046.25 Miles of River Conserved

9,411.06 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

Find more information online at [www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca)



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# Current Projects

## 1. Grundy County Recreational Trail Development

Project Partners: Grundy County Conservation Commission and Friends of South Cumberland State Recreation Area

NPS Contact: Alison Bullock  
Location: Grundy County  
Congressional District: TN - 4

### Project Goal

Increase trail opportunities in Grundy County to promote more active lifestyles and recreation outlets. Through the development of mountain bike trails and possibly equestrian trails, the Grundy County Conservation Commission and its partners expect that the new trails will increase tourism and other economic opportunities in the South Cumberland area.

### NPS Role

Work with project partners to provide planning, technical assistance, and funding guidance on the design and implementation of new recreational trails.

## 2. Hiwassee Blueway

Project Partner: Southeast Tennessee Tourism Association

NPS Contact: Alison Bullock  
Location: Polk, McMinn, Bradley and Meigs Counties  
Congressional District: TN - 3

### Project Goal

Develop a nationally recognized water trail to provide opportunities for recreation, conservation, tourism and education while preserving the natural, historic, and cultural resources along the Hiwassee River. Increase and improve river access, market the Hiwassee Blueway as a tourism and recreation outlet, and improve visibility of the river as a natural treasure. Develop an implementation plan, a public outreach and partnership development strategy, and an ongoing entity to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project.

### NPS Role

Assist the project partners in strategic planning for the blueway, including planning additional recreational access to the river, expanding partnerships, developing marketing tools such as a website, signage and mapping, and creating a long-term organizational structure to sustain the project.



Hiwassee Blueway. Photo: Southeast Tennessee Tourism Association