

Pisgah Forest Established 25 Years Ago

50,000 Acres Are One Of W. N. C.'s Scenic Centers

Well Stocked With Deer And Wildlife, Is Proving Center Of Attraction

Prepared by Pisgah Ranger Service for The Mountaineer.)

The U. S. Forest Service has administered 90,000 acres of the upper watershed of the French Broad River and a small portion of the watershed of Pigeon River in Haywood, Buncombe, Henderson and Henderson counties. This land was acquired from George W. Vanderbilt, who had systematically reforested the area with deer and other wildlife.

The Pisgah National Game Preserve was created by Presidential proclamation October 17, 1916, following appropriate action by the legislature of the State of North Carolina and by the Congress of the United States to authorize the exercise of this power. Since 1916 the U. S. Forest Service has carefully protected the area acquired and completed the acquisition of land until the purchased area now includes 50,000 acres.

In 1926 the U. S. Forest Service in co-operation with the N. C. Conservation Commission set aside 30,700 acres of National Forest land as the French Broad Fish and Game Management Area. This area is protected by three game wardens in addition to the regular Pisgah personnel.

The Pisgah Ranger District then is made up of three separate areas, a National Game Preserve now containing 100,000 acres, a co-operative state federal area containing 30,700 acres, and approximately 20,000 acres of land not included in a game preserve. Six thousand acres on the French Broad watershed are used by the Appalachian Experiment Station for experimental purposes connected with forestry.

The Pisgah Ranger District is within a few miles drive of Waynesville, Swain, Hendersonville, and Asheville. The district in fact is the hub of a wheel made up of those towns. The Pisgah furnishes the towns of Swain and Hendersonville with pure drinking water from their reservoirs in the forest. Brevard uses the Kings Creek for their water supply and Hendersonville the headwaters of Lig Creek. Other towns such as Canton and Waynesville while not having their own reservoirs directly on the forest are materially aided by the flow of pure mountain streams that have their headwaters on the Pisgah district. Water protection is one of the most important of the many Forest Service activities and it is for this reason that forest fires are so vigorously combated. The water from the Pisgah has proven of such a pure quality that the Ecusta Paper Mill has purchased land adjacent to the district on Wilson River and will use this water in the manufacture of cigarette paper. This plant requires water almost 100 per cent pure.

Recreation facilities on the Pisgah include eight picnic and camping areas. Two of these campgrounds have swimming pools and two are adapted to accommodate trailers. Two hundred and forty miles of trails are available for the use of hikers and nature lovers. One hundred and twenty miles of trails are maintained for the use of horseback riders. These trails lead to scenic points of interest such as the famous Mount Pisgah, elevation 5749 feet, Lookingglass Rock, the Courthouse, Tennessee Bald, Bald, and the Hamilton Neill Falls.

The natural beauty of the Pisgah district can easily be enjoyed by taking a tour over one of the twelve roads maintained by the Forest Service and connected to State Highways 280, 281, and 284. The views from Pisgah Lodge and the view of the beautiful Lookingglass Falls are well worth the tour.

During the summer months regulated fishing is conducted on the streams of the Pisgah Ranger district. These are arranged to provide open season on all areas of the district and are closed for three day periods so that the streams will not be over-fished. A 22 days open season was provided, beginning on May 7th on the Sherwood Game Refuge and closing on August 1st on the Pisgah Game Preserve. Over a thousand fishermen participated during the 1938 season.

In the fall of the year controlled hunting is provided to reduce over-crowding conditions. In the fall of 1937, ten bear, seven hundred and nine deer and several hundred grey squirrels were killed. A further reduction of the deer herd is necessary and it is planned to do this by additional hunting in 1938. Other means of reducing the herd are by deer trapping and fawn rearing. In 1937, one hundred and fifty-three adult deer were shipped to other co-operative areas in North Carolina and one hundred and fourteen fawns were raised at the Pisgah Fawn Plant

and restocked on other areas in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia. This fawn plant is the only known farm of its kind in the world. Permission to see the fawns can be obtained from the Ranger's office at Pisgah Forest, or from the Forest Supervisor's office in Asheville.

The Pisgah district is one of the five similar districts composing the Pisgah National Forest of North Carolina. The total area is over one-half million acres in size. The ranger districts are: The Mt. Mitchell, with ranger headquarters at Marion; the French Broad, with headquarters at Hot Springs; the Grandfather with headquarters at Lenoir; and the Ucharie Purchase Unit with headquarters at Troy. H. E. Ochsner, Forest Supervisor of the Pisgah National Forest, has his headquarters in the Arcade building in Asheville.

The personnel on the Pisgah district is composed of Ranger John W. Foreman Cansler and Fowler. Super-

Squires in direct charge of this area, Assistant Ranger Huber; Forest Clerk Ashworth; five federal wardens, Edmondson at Davidson River, Eller at the Pink Beds, Ruffman at South Mills River, Davis at North Mills River, and Wilson at Bent Creek; three state refuge protectors, Hartley at Sunburst, Green at Sorrell's Creek, and Smith on Big East Fork of Pigeon River. The Bureau of Fisheries has two men at the Davidson River Trout Rearing Station, Supt. Knuth and Stream Investigator Chamberlain. The CCC camp under the supervision of Lt. E. Cole and Project Superintendent Maneval has 214 enrollees. An EAR crew under the supervision of Foreman Cromwell has 25 workers. Each lookout tower has a Forest Service guard and there are three on the district connected by a network of telephone lines. Road maintenance is under the care of part of the purchase price of the

new one.

intendent Nesbitt has charge of the Bent Creek Experiment Station at Bent Creek.

The handling of all special uses, free uses, trespasses, timber sales, EAR and CCC supervision, road construction, building construction and maintenance, recreational use, hunting and fishing, the control of forest fires, the reforestation of the great Sherwood burn of 10,000 acres, and the handling of all work requiring the co-operation of the Forest Service with other federal agencies such as the Bureau of Fisheries, state agencies such as the Department of Conservation, and all local governments are the direct responsibility of the district ranger. Yes, you are right, he is a busy man!

This business of buying a new navy wouldn't be so costly if the builders would accept the "used" ship as part of the purchase price of the new one.

Reynolds May Clip Hancock

Oxford Man Seeking Federal Job; Many Think Senator Reynolds Opposed

The Hancock-Reynolds feud seemed likely to break out again in North Carolina in a post-election fight over Representative Frank Hancock's appointment as a \$10,000-a-year member of the Federal Home Loan Board, as revealed by the talk in the rear ranks.

The North Carolina Congressman was represented from Washington as having a good chance of succeeding William E. Stevenson, of Cheraw, S. C., who was not reappointed. Likewise it came from the Capital that other North Carolina officials, in addition to Hancock, want the job, and

desire and expect to have the support of Robert K. Reynolds, who defeated Hancock for the Senate in the June primary.

But Hancock's friends here today made the point that if Hancock is not appointed by the President then the appointment certainly will go to another state, possibly Texas. If Reynolds opposes Hancock, they insisted, then he merely drives the job from North Carolina.

Reynolds' friends, however were still smarting from the Hancock campaign in which he declared that Reynolds was a political clown and not fit to be Senator. Hancock's friends insisted that was politics and that bygones should be bygones. In the meantime the appointment was expected within a few days and the situation was growing tense.

Read The Ads

LABOR DAY
 Wear Leather for Health
 "Junaluska Cut Soles Make Walking Economical"
 HAYWOOD COUNTY'S OLDEST INDUSTRY



A. C. Lawrence Leather Company

ENGLAND-WALTON DIVISION

JUNALUSKA TANNERY

HAZELWOOD