



File Code: 2300

Date: May 25, 2006

Route To:

Subject: Tellico River Corridor Recreation Facility Improvement Project - Update

To: Forest Users

The Tellico River Corridor recreation facilities improvement project is progressing on schedule. Although construction is not 100% complete, Holder Cove (formerly known as Campground #7) was reopened on May 19, 2006. The permanent vault toilet, bear resistant trash cans, and picnic tables will be installed once they are delivered by the manufacturer. We may need to close Holder Cove again for a few days to finish off the work. We will provide as much advance notice as possible. There is no user fee to camp at Holder Cove at this time; however on January 1, 2007 we will implement a \$10/night/site user fee.

At 3:00 PM on Monday, May 29, 2006 we will close Rough Ridge (Campground #8) to start construction on that site. The work could take up to 2 months, depending on the weather. We will reopen Rough Ridge for the 4th of July holiday even if the construction is incomplete.

Once completed, Rough Ridge Campground will consist of 4 accessible sites, each with a picnic table, fire ring, and lantern post. An accessible vault toilet and bear resistant trash cans will be installed. Each site at Rough Ridge will be large enough to accommodate several vehicles and trailers. The campsite design has been modified to accommodate small group gatherings. All vehicles and camping equipment must be located on the impact area. Starting January 1, 2007 the user fee will be \$20/night/site.

For an overview of the entire Tellico River Corridor recreation facility improvement project, visit the "**Latest Recreation News**" page Cherokee National Forest website at: www.fs.fed.us/r8/cherokee/recreation/latest_rec_news.shtml.

The corridor improvement project will enhance the camping experience for all Forest users and will allow the Forest Service to provide and maintain camping facilities that are safe, sanitary, and protect the natural resources of the Tellico River corridor.

/s/ Keith B. Lannom
KEITH B. LANNOM
District Ranger

