

EXHIBIT 26

Upper Chattooga River Visitor Capacity Analysis Data Collection Reports

The Forest Service is conducting a Visitor Capacity Analysis and is employing a modified “Limits of Acceptable Change” (LAC) planning framework for evaluating visitor use and potential impacts on the environment. Several types of information and analyses were needed as part of this analysis, as described in *Upper Chattooga River Visitor Capacity Analysis Implementation Plan for Data Collection Methods* (USFS, 2006). This document describes one element of those efforts ***Biophysical Monitoring Information on the Chattooga River*** is information about current conditions in the corridor, including maps of existing trails, and a summary of other biophysical-related information that is relevant to Chattooga River capacity issues.

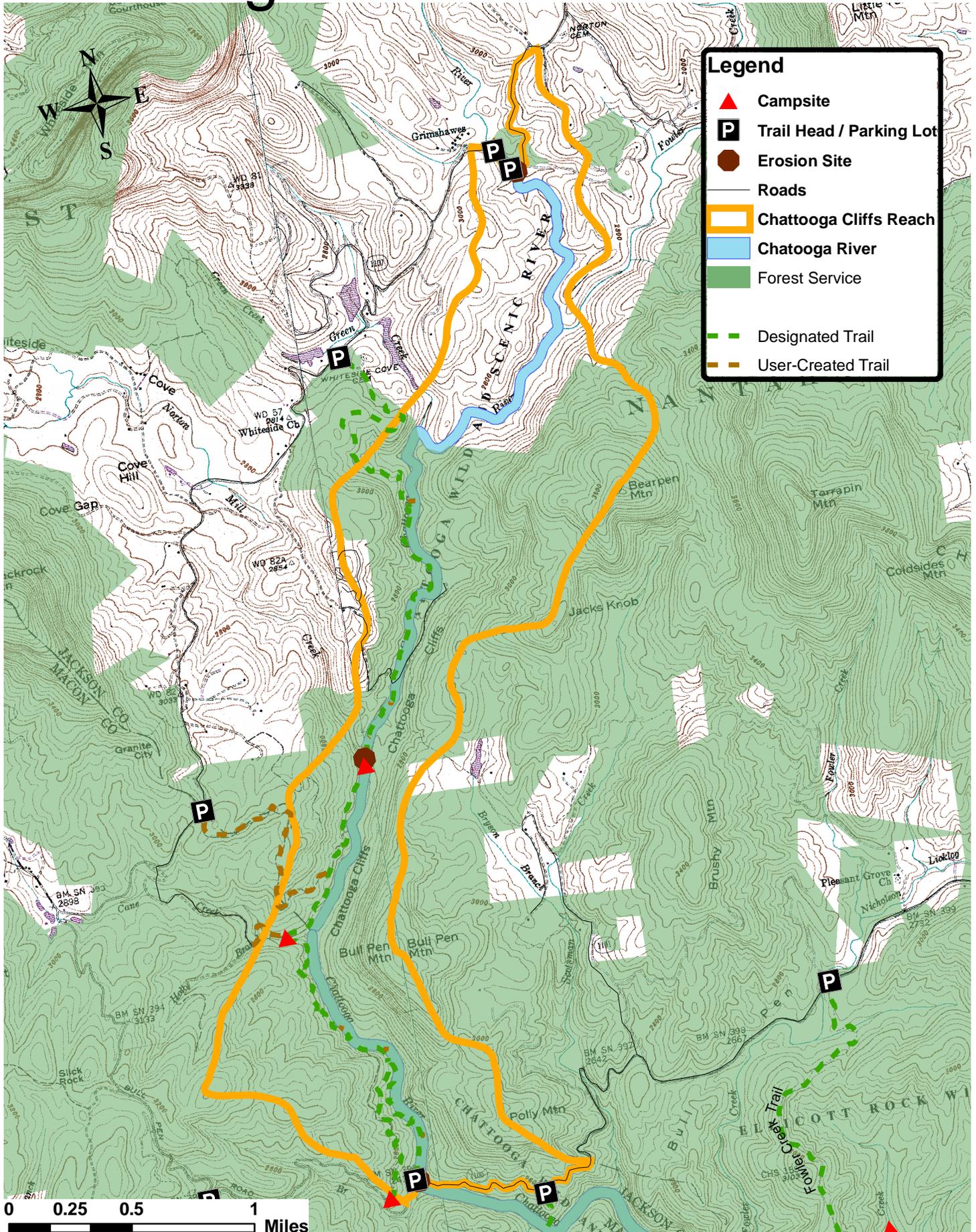
A summary and integration of key findings from these collective efforts is provided in *Assessing Capacity and Conflict on the Upper Chattooga River* (CRC, 2007). Information from these efforts will be incorporated into the LAC effort to assess visitor capacity decisions on the Upper Chattooga. At the conclusion of the LAC effort, the Forest Service plans to develop a proposed action and alternatives for review through a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process prior to implementation.

This document is one of several describing methods and findings from the data collection efforts. It serves as one of several “supporting reports” to the *Capacity and Conflict Report*. The complete list of reports includes:

- ***Chattooga River History Project, Literature Review and Interview Summary*** (Tetra Tech, 2006) – a history of Chattooga recreation decision-making that documents the basis for the 1976 boating ban and similar issues in order to help frame issues in the current analysis.
- ***Capacities on other Wild and Scenic Rivers: seven case studies*** (Diedrich, 2007) - a review of capacity issues on seven W&S with similarities to issues on the Upper Chattooga. This report provides examples of how other planners have interpreted laws and mandates, conducted analyses, or arrived at capacity decisions on other rivers.
- ***Use Estimation Workshop Summary*** (Berger and CRC, 2007)– summary of workshop conducted with resource agency personnel to help consolidate and summarize use information by capitalizing on extensive agency knowledge as well as some existing user surveys and creel surveys.
- ***Limited Use Monitoring Summary*** (Berger, 2007) – summary of data collected through the use monitoring conducted by the public, Forest Service and contractor of vehicle counts within selected access locations along the Chattooga River Corridor.

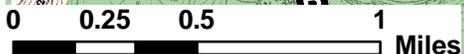
- ***Literature Review Report*** (Louis Berger, 2007) – Literature review and summary of information from existing studies on the Chattooga or studies /planning from other similar settings; includes the following components:
 - ***Recreation-Related Social Impacts and Standards*** - information related to the relationships between use and impacts and the “evaluative side” of the social impacts issue, including which impacts are most important, tolerances for those impacts, and which management actions tend to be used and supported to address them.
 - ***Recreation Related Trail/Site Impacts*** - information about relationships between use and biophysical impacts, potential standards for those impacts, and the acceptability of management actions to address them.
 - ***Recreation-Related Wildlife Impacts*** - information about relationships between recreation use and wildlife impacts, potential standards for those impacts, and the acceptability of management actions to address them.
 - ***Recreation Related Flow Preferences*** - information about opportunities and flow preferences, particularly related to other rivers similar to the Chattooga.
- ***Proxy River Information*** (USFS 2007) – summary of management and flow related information for “similar-type” rivers to the Chattooga River as identified through public input.
- ***Biophysical Monitoring Information on the Chattooga River*** (USFS 2007) - information about current conditions in the corridor, including maps of existing trails, and a summary of other biophysical-related information that is relevant to Chattooga River capacity issues.
- ***Hydrology Issues on the Upper Chattooga River*** (USFS 2007) - This report summarizes recreation-relevant hydrology information for the upper river, including (1) rating curves and basin areas for staff gages at all bridges; (2) relationships between the Burrells Ford gage and the USGS Highway 76 gage; (3) summary hydrology for the period of record at the Highway 76 gage; and (4) extensions to the Burrells Ford gage.
- ***Expert Panel Field Assessment Report*** (Louis Berger, 2007) – report for the expert panel field assessment conducted to gather information about boating and angling opportunities on the upper Chattooga River, with particular attention to boater and angler flow preferences for these flow-dependent activities.

Chattooga Cliffs Reach

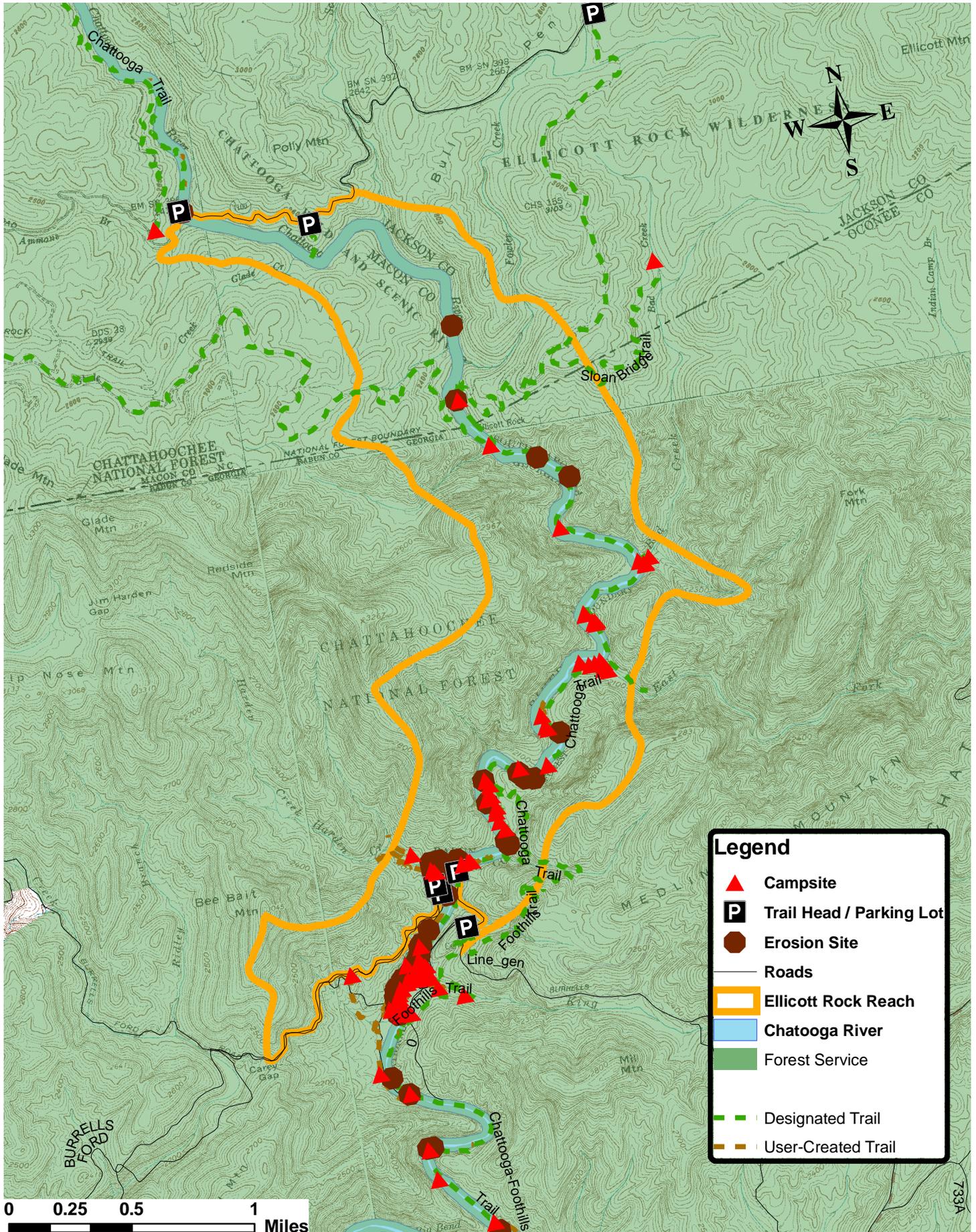


Legend

- ▲ Campsite
- P Trail Head / Parking Lot
- Erosion Site
- Roads
- Chattooga Cliffs Reach
- Chattooga River
- Forest Service
- Designated Trail
- User-Created Trail

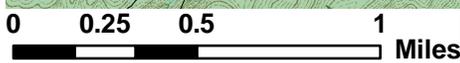


Ellicott Rock Reach

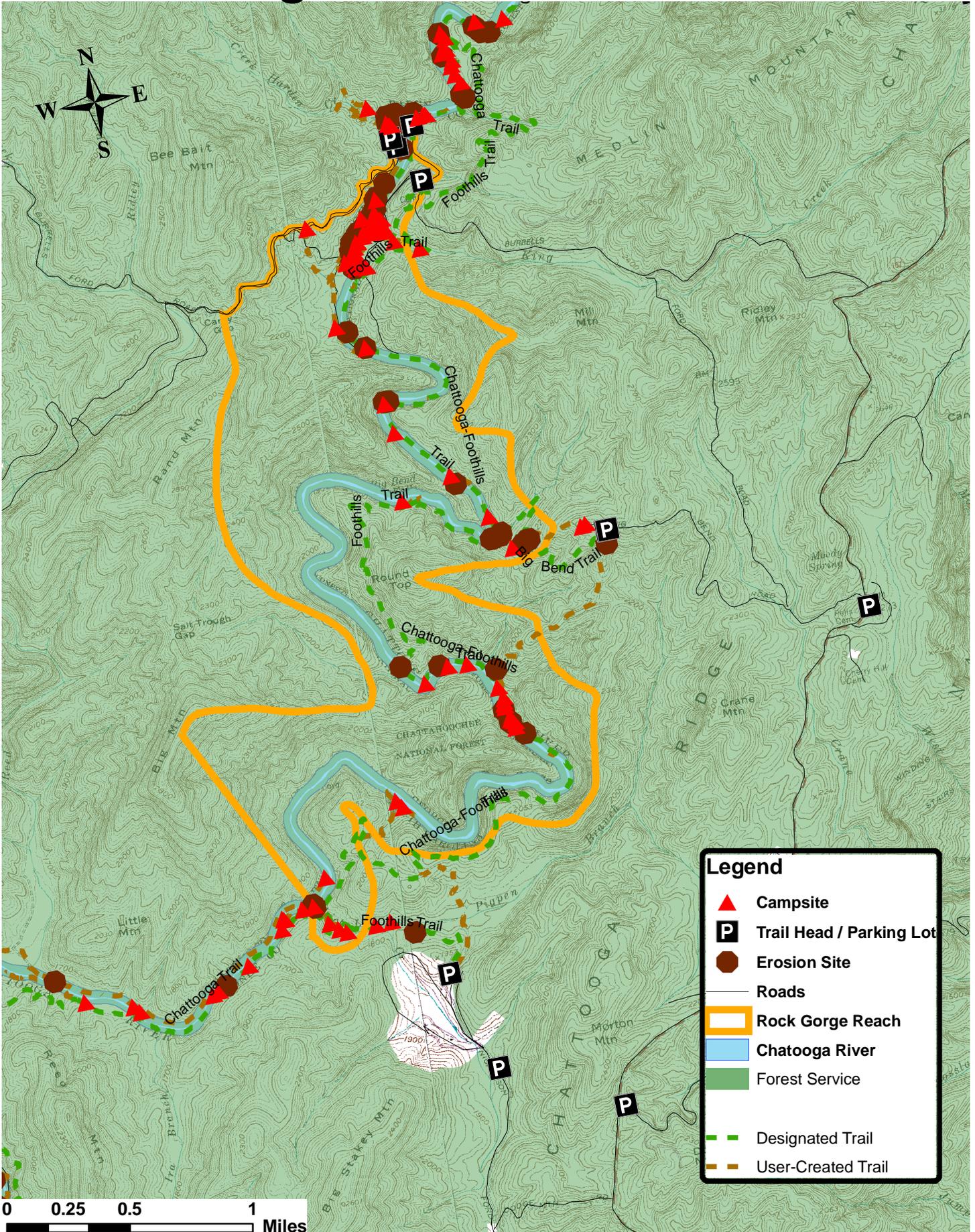


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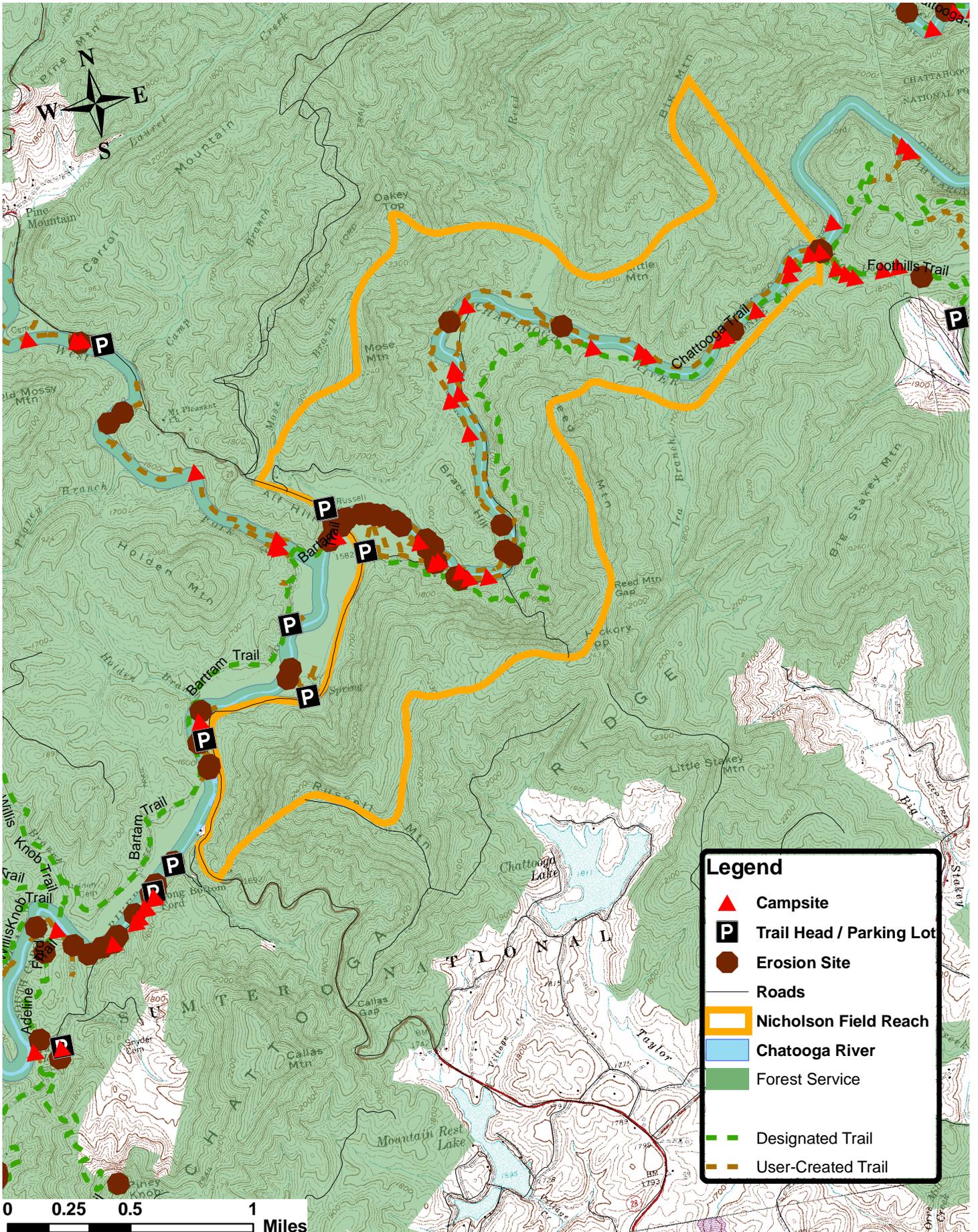
- ▲ Campsite
- P Trail Head / Parking Lot
- Erosion Site
- Roads
- Ellicott Rock Reach
- Chattahoochee River
- Forest Service
- Designated Trail
- User-Created Trail



Rock Gorge Reach



Nicholson Field Reach

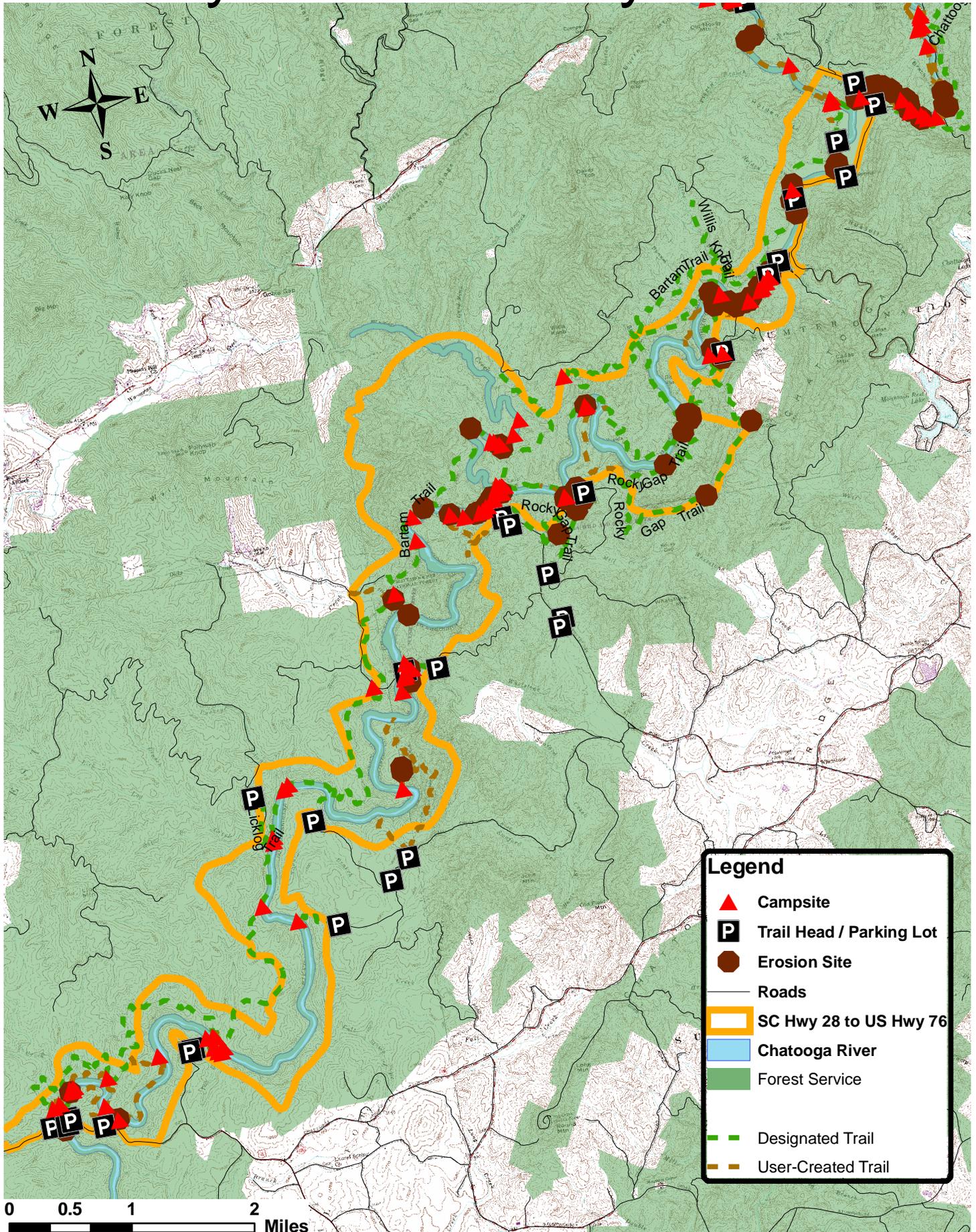


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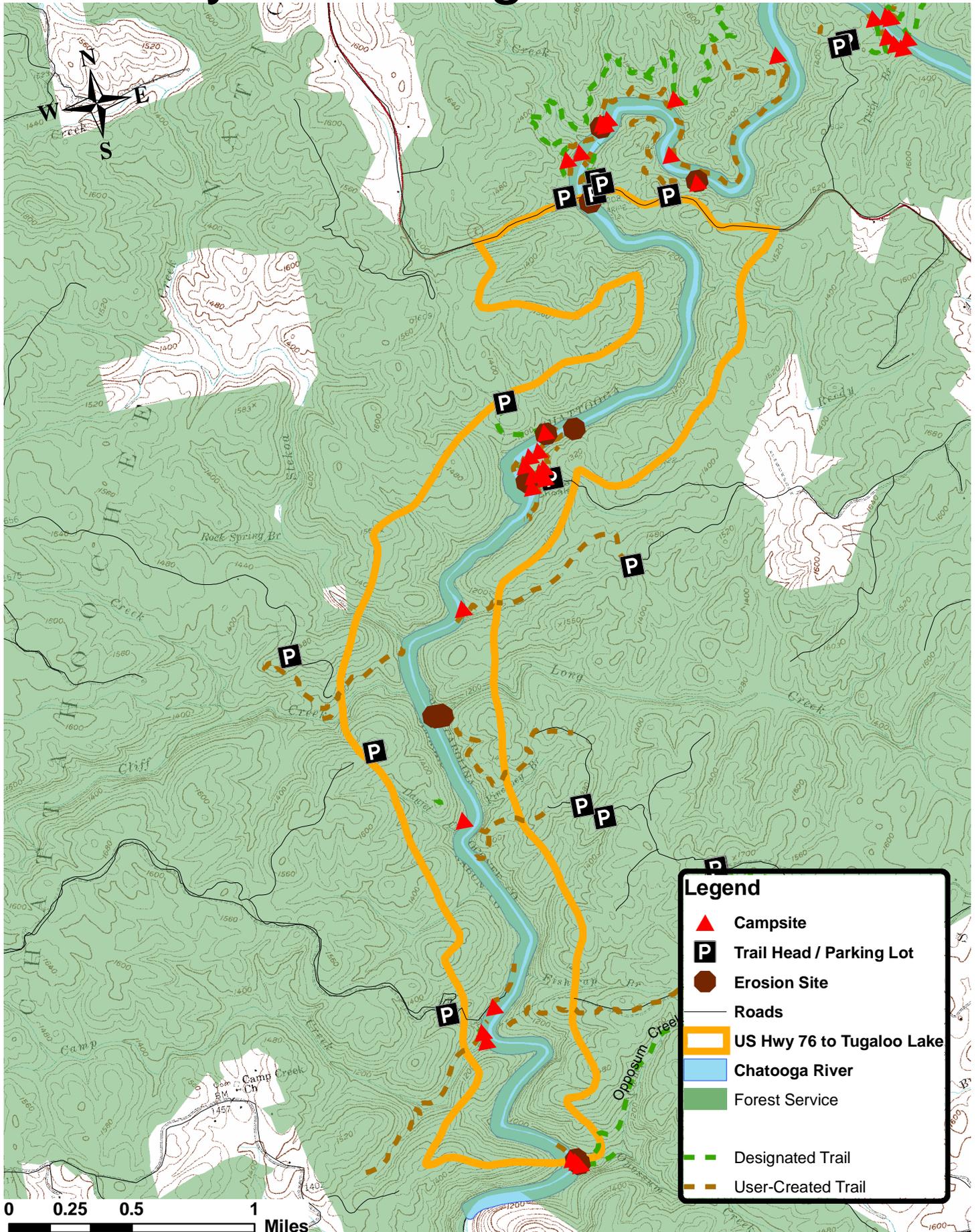
- ▲ Campsite
- P Trail Head / Parking Lot
- Erosion Site
- Roads
- Nicholson Field Reach
- Chattooga River
- Forest Service
- Designated Trail
- User-Created Trail

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

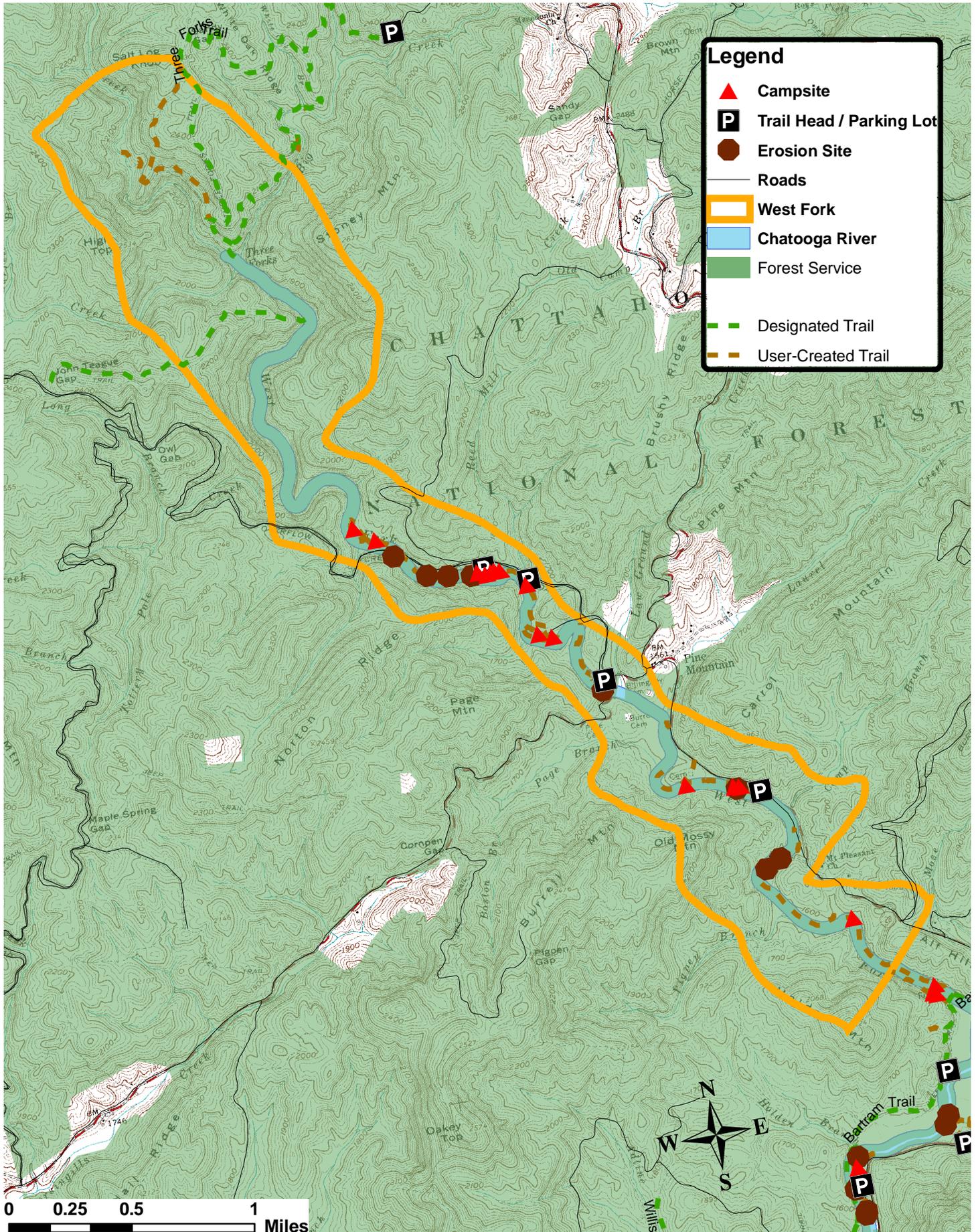
SC Hwy 28 to US Hwy 76



US Hwy 76 to Tugaloo Lake



West Fork



Legend

- ▲ Campsite
- Ⓟ Trail Head / Parking Lot
- Erosion Site
- Roads
- ▭ West Fork
- ▭ Chatoga River
- ▭ Forest Service
- - - Designated Trail
- - - User-Created Trail

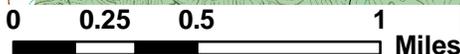


TABLE 1. TRAIL SUMMARY

Stream Reach	Data	Trail Designation		Grand Total
		Designated Trail	User-Created Trails	
Chattooga Cliffs Reach	Sum of length (miles)	6.1	1.9	8.0
	Sum of section within 20 feet of river (feet)	1,300.0	360.0	1,660.0
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	2.0	26.0	28.0
Ellicott Rock Reach	Sum of length (miles)	13.4	2.5	15.9
	Sum of section within 20 feet of river (feet)	1,580.0	1,033.0	2,613.0
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	9.0	12.5	21.5
Nicholson Field Reach	Sum of length (miles)	4.4	8.4	12.8
	Sum of section within 20 feet of river (feet)	0.0	3,170.0	3,170.0
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	1.0	49.5	50.5
Rock Gorge Reach	Sum of length (miles)	11.1	6.5	17.7
	Sum of section within 20 feet of river (feet)	3,536.0	2,901.0	6,437.0
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	11.0	30.5	41.5
SC Hwy 28 to US Hwy 76	Sum of length (miles)	36.8	18.6	55.4
	Sum of section within 20 feet of river (feet)	2,648.0	8,344.0	10,992.0
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	80.5	169.5	250.0
US Hwy 76 to Tugaloo Lake	Sum of length (miles)	3.0	7.5	10.5
	Sum of section within 20 feet of river (feet)	307.0	1,690.0	1,997.0
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	4.5	35.0	39.5
West Fork	Sum of length (miles)	5.4	7.0	12.4
	Sum of section within 20 feet of river (feet)	312.0	10,517.0	10,829.0
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	1.5	65.5	67.0
Total Sum of length (miles)		80.2	52.5	132.7
Total Sum of section within 20 feet of river (feet)		9,683.0	28,015.0	37,698.0
Total Sum of trash amount (gallons)		109.5	388.5	498.0

TABLE 2. TRAIL SEGMENT WITHIN 100 FEET OF RIVER SUMMARY

Stream Reach	Data	Trail Designation		
		Designated Trail	User-Created Trails	Grand Total
Chattooga Cliffs Reach	Sum of length (miles)	1.7	0.3	2.0
	Sum of section within 100 feet of river (feet)	8898.4	1560.4	10458.8
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	4.0	4.0	8.0
Ellicott Rock Reach	Sum of length (miles)	2.6	1.2	3.8
	Sum of section within 100 feet of river (feet)	13467.5	6571.5	20038.9
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	5.5	6.5	12.0
Nicholson Field Reach	Sum of length (miles)	0.9	5.9	6.8
	Sum of section within 100 feet of river (feet)	4727.6	31235.9	35963.5
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	1.0	48.5	49.5
Rock Gorge Reach	Sum of length (miles)	3.8	2.4	6.2
	Sum of section within 100 feet of river (feet)	20004.3	12523.4	32527.7
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	9.0	23.5	32.5
SC Hwy 28 to US Hwy 76	Sum of length (miles)	5.4	8.3	13.8
	Sum of section within 100 feet of river (feet)	28644.7	44089.0	72733.7
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	62.5	138.5	201.0
US Hwy 76 to Tugaloo Lake	Sum of length (miles)	0.2	1.2	1.4
	Sum of section within 100 feet of river (feet)	1000.9	6135.1	7136.0
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	4.0	30.0	34.0
West Fork	Sum of length (miles)	0.0	3.2	3.2
	Sum of section within 100 feet of river (feet)	253.9	16704.3	16958.2
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	0.5	65.0	65.5
Total Sum of length (miles)		14.6	22.5	37.1
Total Sum of section within 100 feet of river (feet)		76997.3	118819.6	195816.9
Total Sum of trash amount (gallons)		86.5	316.0	402.5

TABLE 3. CAMPSITE SUMMARY

Stream Reach	Data	Total
Chattooga Cliffs Reach	Count of campsites	3
	Sum of campsites within 20 feet of river	1
	Sum of cleared area (sq feet)	3,850
	Sum of bare soil (sq feet)	3,500
	Sum of damaged trees	14
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	1
Ellicott Rock Reach	Count of campsites	40
	Sum of campsites within 20 feet of river	4
	Sum of cleared area (sq feet)	60,113
	Sum of bare soil (sq feet)	13,944
	Sum of damaged trees	238
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	35
Nicholson Field Reach	Count of campsites	22
	Sum of campsites within 20 feet of river	6
	Sum of cleared area (sq feet)	20,853
	Sum of bare soil (sq feet)	5,076
	Sum of damaged trees	121
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	31
Rock Gorge Reach	Count of campsites	62
	Sum of campsites within 20 feet of river	15
	Sum of cleared area (sq feet)	105,309
	Sum of bare soil (sq feet)	46,642
	Sum of damaged trees	343
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	59
SC Hwy 28 to US Hwy 76	Count of campsites	70
	Sum of campsites within 20 feet of river	12
	Sum of cleared area (sq feet)	82,552
	Sum of bare soil (sq feet)	26,788
	Sum of damaged trees	373
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	111
US Hwy 76 to Tugaloo Lake	Count of campsites	17
	Sum of campsites within 20 feet of river	1
	Sum of cleared area (sq feet)	15,099
	Sum of bare soil (sq feet)	4,414
	Sum of damaged trees	79
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	84
West Fork	Count of campsites	14
	Sum of campsites within 20 feet of river	2
	Sum of cleared area (sq feet)	40,188

	Sum of bare soil (sq feet)	940
	Sum of damaged trees	111
	Sum of trash amount (gallons)	20
Total Count of campsites		228
Total Sum of campsites within 20 feet of river		41
Total Sum of cleared area (sq feet)		327,964
Total Sum of bare soil (sq feet)		101,304
Total Sum of damaged trees		1,279
Total Sum of trash amount (gallons)		340

TABLE 4. EROSION SITE SUMMARY

Stream Reach	Count of erosion sites
Chattooga Cliffs Reach	3
Ellicott Rock Reach	17
Nicholson Field Reach	27
Rock Gorge Reach	44
SC Hwy 28 to US Hwy 76	72
US Hwy 76 to Tugaloo Lake	11
West Fork	8
Grand Total	182