

# Trout Adventure Trail

A program for independent learning in the great outdoors

[www.TroutAdventureTrail.org](http://www.TroutAdventureTrail.org)

## FOR LEADERS AND PARENTS

1. Use the map and the information below to plan your trout adventure hike. The hike may take 30 minutes to 2 hours depending on the route you take.
2. Review the information below so you can share and discuss it as you see and experience different things along the trail.
3. Your destination, Long Creek Falls, is a great spot to stop and reflect on your trout adventure.

## Concept of a Trout's World and Watershed Issues

Trout need plenty of CLEAN, COLD, water for a healthy habitat.

Dangers to trout: HOT WEATHER, DROUGHT, SEDIMENT or OTHER CONTAMINATION or POLLUTION.

Ways to help trout survive and thrive:

- PROTECT FORESTS
- PREVENT POLLUTION
- CLEAN UP POLLUTION OR TRASH

Rivers and streams that hold trout are part of WATERSHEDS.

Watersheds start at the highest mountains or hills with runoff from rain, snow or springs flowing to small streams that flow into larger streams that flow into rivers and eventually to the sea.

Every part of a watershed plays a part in the life of the plants and animals that live there.

On the Trout Adventure Trail, the streams are small, but they are cold and clean and there is enough water for trout to live. Some of the healthy streams here are Stover Creek, Long Creek and Noontootla Creek. Stover Creek and Long Creek flow into Noontootla Creek near Three Forks, and Noontootla Creek flows into the Toccoa River. Along with many other small streams, these creeks are part of Toccoa River Watershed.

The forest here is protected and managed by the U.S. Forest Service. It's part of the Chattahoochee National Forest. Shade from trees and shrubs helps keep the water cold enough for trout, even in the summertime.

In addition to cold, clean water, trout need FOOD and SHELTER, also known as COVER. Cover helps them hide from predators.

FOOD for trout in a stream comes to them by drifting on or under the water or crawling on the bottom.

Trout will eat insects, small animals, fish eggs, and other fish.

Some streams have lots of food for trout, but small mountain streams usually have less food, which means trout need the best places to find food, like below riffle areas where there are a lot of aquatic insects.

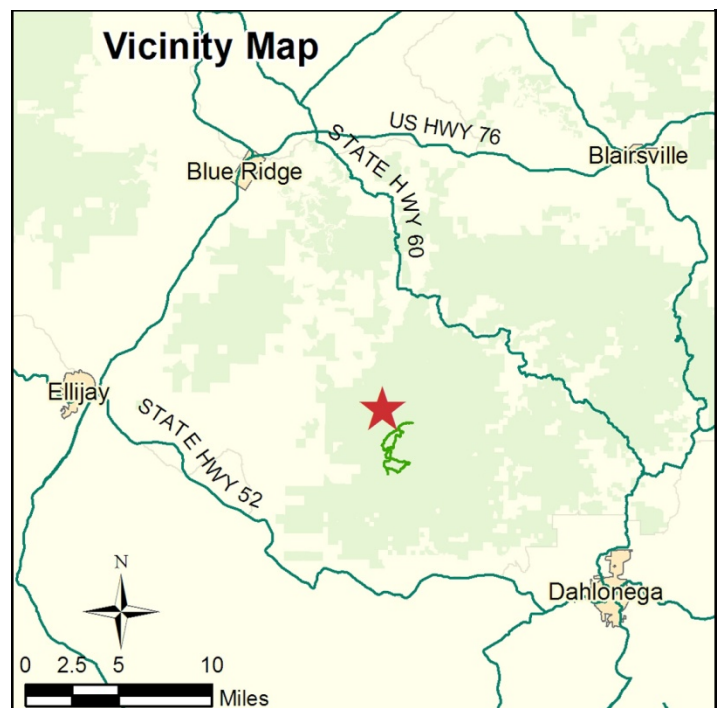
## For More Information

Learn more about our trout waters and their conservation at these websites which provide additional educational materials.

Blue Ridge Trout Unlimited: [blueridgetu.org](http://blueridgetu.org)

Chattahoochee Natl. Forest: [fs.usda.gov/conf](http://fs.usda.gov/conf)

**Directions to the Three Forks Parking Area:** From Blue Ridge, go south on Aska Rd. 13.5 miles. Turn right on Newport Rd, go 4.5 miles. Turn left on Doublehead Gap Rd. Go 0.8 miles to intersection with Forest Service Road 58. Turn right onto FS 58 and continue 5 miles to Three Forks.



2.25 miles to Doublehead Gap Road and Blue Ridge

4.3 miles to Doublehead Gap Road and Ellijay

