

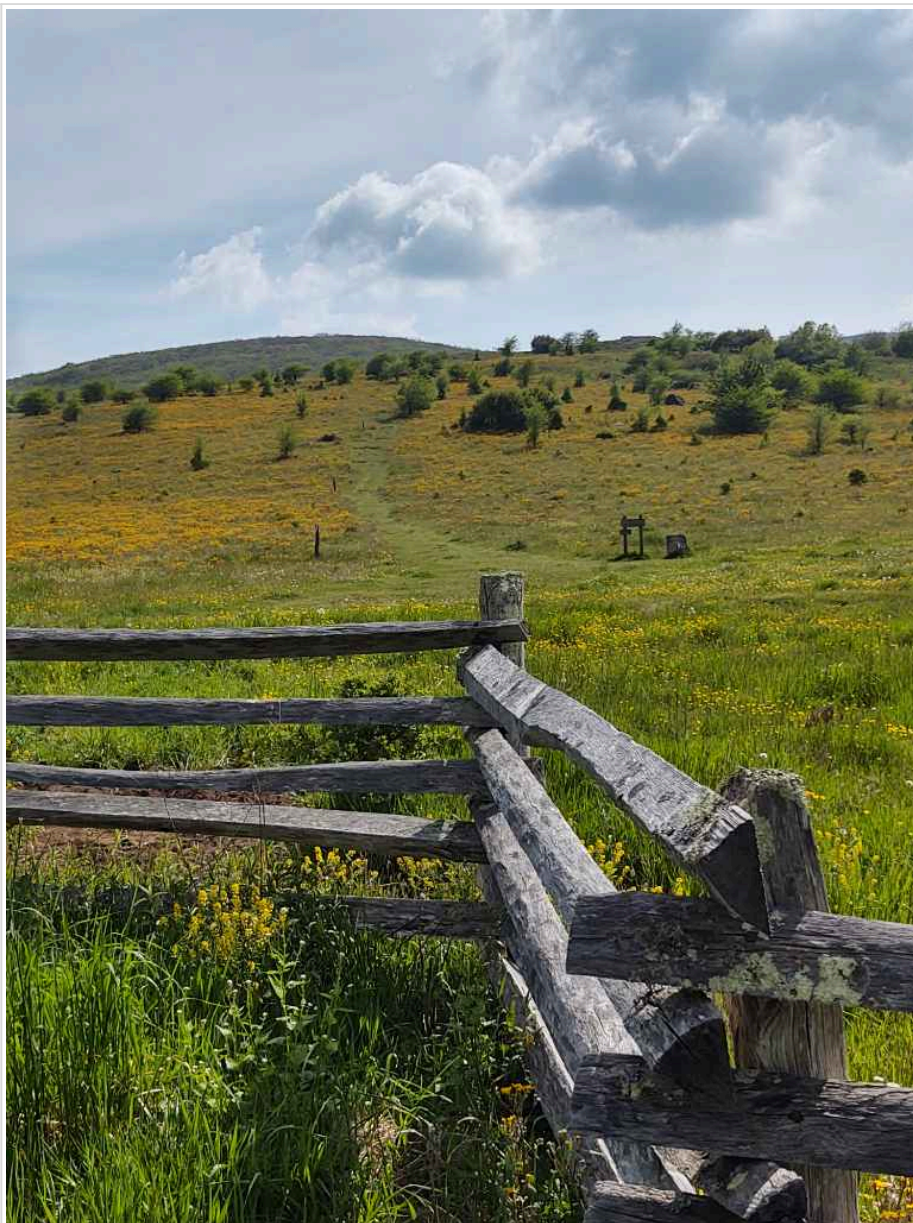
2021 Mount Rogers Ridgerunner Report

Weekly Report

Your Name	James Baum
Start Date of Patrol	05-20-2021
End Date of Patrol	05-24-2021
High priority items	The longhorns coming into the Rhododendron Gap camping area while guests are present, The cows are eating from the fire pits, maybe some salt in the coals. Just something I want to make sure you guys are aware of. Probably not a huge deal, but want to share the information.
General Comments & Overview	<p>A warm, dry week. The muddy sections in the Mt Rogers area are all dry. The springs are all flowing still, I will monitor those closely if we don't see some significant rain soon.</p> <p>No blow downs to report. Thanks Gray for arranging to remove the trees near Comers Falls and on the Slabtown Trail.</p> <p>Being that it is a holiday weekend I will likely focus on the busy Grayson Highlands area this week. My phone works most of the time so text me at 336.209.8799 if you need me.</p>

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Photos from patrol



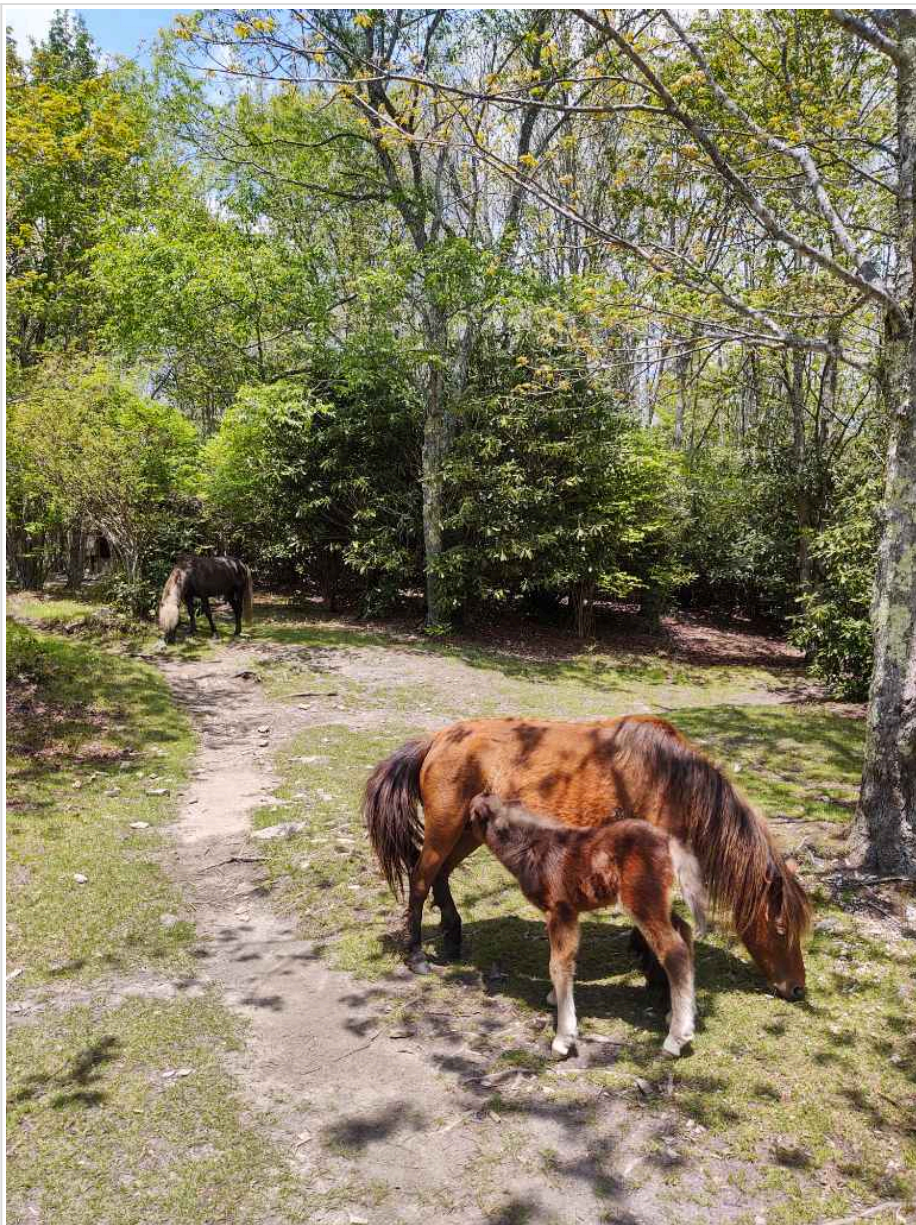
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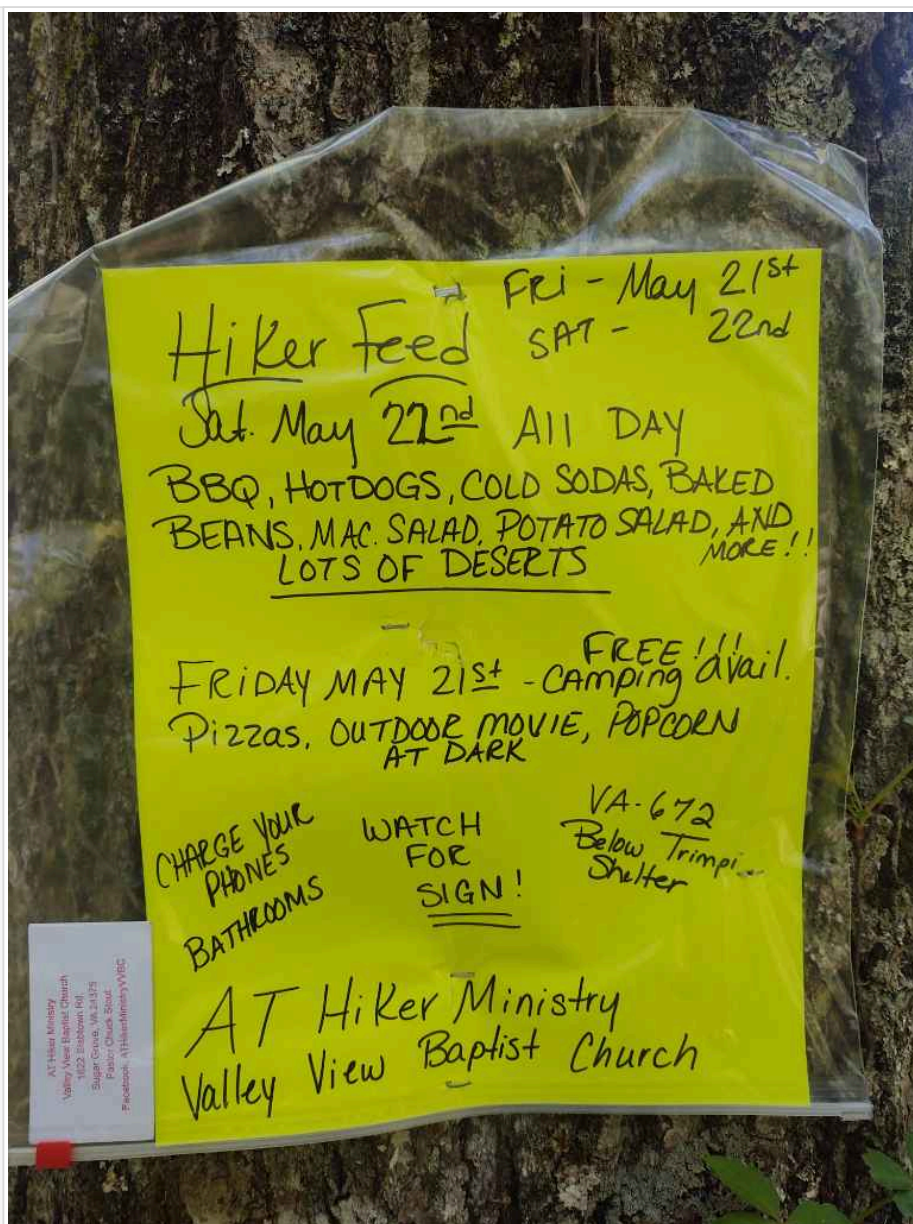
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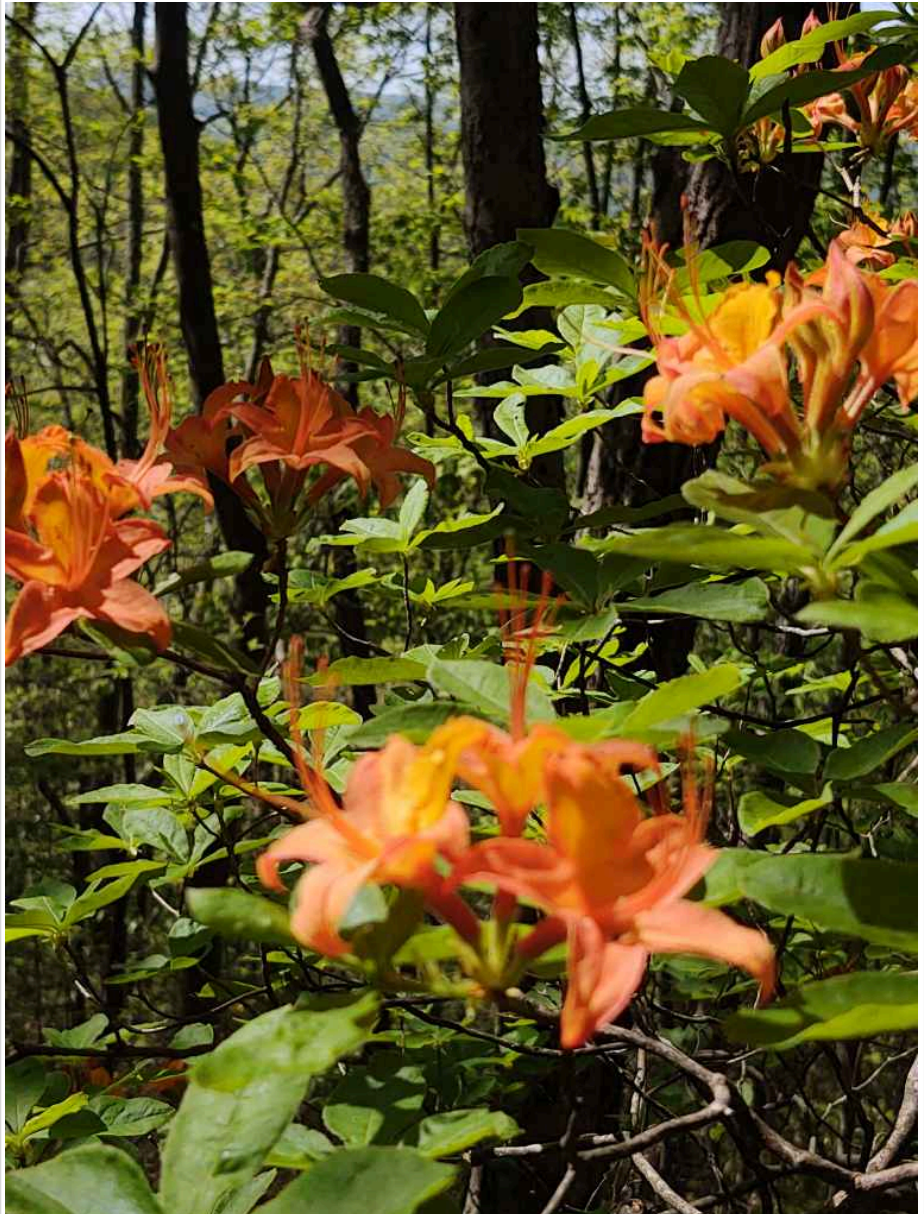
Daily Forms

Daily Patrol - Visitor Contact Sheet - # 1

On Trail Hiker Contact Chart

Trail Section Hiked	Dicky's Gap to almost Trimpi Shelter and back
Miles hiked	9.4
Date of collection	05-20-2021
Day of the Week	Thurs
Beginning time of collection	11:05 (-4 GMT)
Ending time of collection	19:20 (-4 GMT)
weather & conditions	Sunny, warm

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Comments & Observations	<p>Stopped briefly in Adkins and Partnership Shelter. Always a good place to catch hikers and see if anyone had issues between Damascus and Adkins. No issues reported.</p> <p>Hiked from Dickey's Gap North. Section in great shape. Removed a few small over hanging limbs with my pack saw.</p> <p>Had a great chat with some section hikers from Kentucky about hanging food.</p>
Photos	

Details

# Day Hikers	2
# Backpackers <1 week	4
# Backpackers > 1 week	1
# Thru-Hikers	20

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# Others	8
Description of other users	1 shuttle driver, 2 hiker's family, 5 biker
# Groups (> 5 people)	0
# within each group	
Total People Seen	35
Total People Contacted	35
Gallons of trash	2
Fire rings dismantled	1

Daily Patrol - Visitor Contact Sheet - # 2

On Trail Hiker Contact Chart

Trail Section Hiked	The Scales to Thomas Knob and back
Miles hiked	9
Date of collection	05-21-2021
Day of the Week	Fri
Beginning time of collection	08:05 (-4 GMT)
Ending time of collection	20:45 (-4 GMT)
weather & conditions	warm, sunny
Comments & Observations	<p>Tried to locate the PATH crew but had no luck.</p> <p>Removed graffiti on signs at Dicky's Gap and Fox Creek. Sharpie's seem to be an important piece of gear for the Class of 2021.</p> <p>Opened the 2nd bag of wood chips at Thomas Knob. Privy is getting plenty of use. With the Forest Service UTV being in the mountain during the weekends this Summer getting more wood chips should be easy.</p> <p>Garbage in both Rhododendron Gap and Thomas Knob bear box packed out, except for a bag of freeze dried food. Wasn't sure if it was left or had an owner.</p> <p>Everyone seems to be using the bear boxes. Many weekend guests have bear canisters.</p> <p>Dry conditions but water sources are running</p> <p>Found a group of lost hikers on the Crest Trail and got them heading in the right direction. Will try and be on the Crest Trail around 7pm, seems like a popular time to find folks unsure of where they are.</p>

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Photos



Details

# Day Hikers	14
# Backpackers <1 week	95
# Backpackers > 1 week	3
# Thru-Hikers	38
# Others	21
Description of other users	shuttle driver, 20 car campers at the Scales
# Groups (> 5 people)	0
# within each group	
Total People Seen	171

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Total People Contacted	149
Gallons of trash	14
Fire rings dismantled	1

Daily Patrol - Visitor Contact Sheet - # 3

On Trail Hiker Contact Chart

Trail Section Hiked	Scales to Wise and Rhododendron Gap and back
Miles hiked	11
Date of collection	05-22-2021
Day of the Week	Sat
Beginning time of collection	08:05 (-4 GMT)
Ending time of collection	20:40 (-4 GMT)
weather & conditions	warm, sunny
Comments & Observations	<p>Wonderful morning conversing with hikers at The Scales.</p> <p>Hiked the AT to Wise Shelter. Reports of copperheads at a stream crossing on the Park boundary. Thankfully, the Northern Water Snake was still alive and sun bathing when I arrived.</p> <p>Removed some trash, collected duff and did privy maintenance.</p> <p>Fire pit keeps re-appearing by the big log in the meadow. Too big for me to move. Would love to make the sofa looking log go away. I will be glad to help, text or e mail me if you want to help. Hoping camping at the shelter will stop now that thru hikers should be thinning out. Everyone knows the rules. I tell everyone going that way and they always stop me and say they know.</p> <p>Crossed 3 injured hikers in the next mile going South. All lower leg injuries but still moving. I told each that if their condition didn't improve I would be at Wise Shelter the next morning to help get them out to the road.</p> <p>Removed fire rings around Quebec Creek. Is there a social trail going down the North side of the Creek? Or is that just water from the water at?</p> <p>I field full of campers at Rhododendron Gap. All using good food storage. Had a longhorn eating out of the fire pit. Maybe salt from a prior guest?</p> <p>Found 3 more lost hikers on the Crest Trail. Got them straightened out and headed for Massie's Gap.</p>

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Photos



Details

# Day Hikers	77
# Backpackers <1 week	125
# Backpackers > 1 week	5
# Thru-Hikers	54
# Others	36
Description of other users	25 car campers, 4 boulderers, 7 horse back riders,
# Groups (> 5 people)	5
# within each group	7,6,6,8,6
Total People Seen	307

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Total People Contacted	160
Gallons of trash	5
Fire rings dismantled	3

Daily Patrol - Visitor Contact Sheet - # 4

On Trail Hiker Contact Chart

Trail Section Hiked	Scales to Wise Shelter, Seed House Road to the campground and back
Miles hiked	8
Date of collection	05-23-2021
Day of the Week	Sun
Beginning time of collection	07:30 (-4 GMT)
Ending time of collection	18:48 (-4 GMT)
weather & conditions	sunny, warm
Comments & Observations	<p>Helped a group of ladies from The Tidewater area follow the Scales Trail to Wise and then out to the AT Spur.</p> <p>Boy Scouts reported multiple cows were in the fire pits at Rhododendron Gap after I left. Not just cow #71.</p> <p>2 of my injured hikers were at Wise. An older gentleman with recent meniscus surgery and now a knee injury and a lady with a badly sprained ankle. I was told to call 911 when I called the State Park asking for assistance, maybe a truck on the Seed House Road to the Shelter area.</p> <p>I was able to recruit 2 hikers to assist, we split the injured hikers pack weight and slowly walked out.</p> <p>We made it out to the road and arranged for a shuttle out of the park. I notified State Park staff that the injured hikers I had called about were safely out of the woods.</p> <p>Packed up all the garbage in the Scales bathrooms and drove it off the mountain. I need to do a better job making sure weekenders who drive up, take their trash home with them. But the thru hikers are very thankful for the garbage cans.</p> <p>Stopped by Sufi Lodge and the Church Hostel in Troutdale to check on my injured hikers. Everyone was doing ok and planning to seek additional help in the morning.</p>

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Photos



2021 Mount Rogers Ridgerunner Report



Details

# Day Hikers	6
# Backpackers <1 week	13
# Backpackers > 1 week	
# Thru-Hikers	13
# Others	23
Description of other users	23 car campers
# Groups (> 5 people)	1
# within each group	8
Total People Seen	55
Total People Contacted	55
Gallons of trash	10
Fire rings dismantled	0

Daily Patrol - Visitor Contact Sheet - # 5

On Trail Hiker Contact Chart

Trail Section Hiked	Elk Garden to Buzzard's Rock and back
Miles hiked	7.8
Date of collection	05-24-2021
Day of the Week	Mon
Beginning time of collection	08:10 (-4 GMT)

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Ending time of collection	05:40 (-4 GMT)
weather & conditions	sunny, warm
Comments & Observations	<p>Stopped by Dickey's Gap. Tent set up by the kiosk and some poor food storage. Had a nice chat about doing better with food storage.</p> <p>Onesimus or the Ice Cream Dude pulled in the lot. I have seen him ever year I have been a Ridgerunner. See Trail Magic section</p> <p>Gave a hiker a ride back to the trailhead from near Troutdale.</p> <p>Stopped by Fox Creek. Removed some more Graffiti and checked on the smell of smoke. Put water on the warm fire pit.</p> <p>Elk Garden lot. All the parking areas have been very clean. Great job everyone!</p> <p>Trail was in great shape. Met Logan who had previously worked as an intern on the Tye River and Mt Rogers section. Nice guy that had just finished his police academy course. He would be a great addition to the team if anyone is hiring.</p> <p>Beautiful lunch at Buzzard's Rock. I did noticed what appeared to be automobile tracks coming down from the road near the Whitetop summit to Buzzard's Rock.</p>

2021 Mount Rogers Ridgerunner Report

Photos



Details

# Day Hikers	2
# Backpackers <1 week	4
# Backpackers > 1 week	5
# Thru-Hikers	20
# Others	1
Description of other users	trail magic guy,
# Groups (> 5 people)	0
# within each group	
Total People Seen	32

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Total People Contacted	31
Gallons of trash	1
Fire rings dismantled	2

Additional Forms

Organized Group Information - # 1

Group Details

Group Name	Troop 275
Group size	10
Group Type	
Group Leader Name	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
City, State	Greensboro, NC
Intended Itinerary	Thomas Knob loop from Massie's Gap

Organized Group Information - # 2

Group Details

Group Name	Troop 845
Group size	24
Group Type	Boy Scouts of America
Group Leader Name	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
City, State	Chapel Hill, NC
Intended Itinerary	Camp at Rhododendron Gap and back to Massie's Gap

Organized Group Information - # 3

Group Details

Group Name	Troop 202
Group size	32
Group Type	Boy Scouts of America
Group Leader Name	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
City, State	Locust, NC

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Intended Itinerary	younger members short hike to Rhododendron Gap,. older kids big loop to Rhododendron Gap. very well organized, and split into small groups
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Organized Group Information - # 4

Group Details

Group Name	Troop 181
Group size	19
Group Type	
Group Leader Name	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
City, State	Forest, VA
Intended Itinerary	camp at Rhododendron Gap and hike out to Fix Creek, younger kids via Pine Mountain and older kids via AT SOBO

Hiker Feeds

Hiker Feeds/Magic

Date of Feed / Magic	05-24-2021
Hiker Feed Location	Dickey's Gap
Group / Contact Information	
Description of feeding	Ice Cream from Onesimus
Other information	

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Pictures

