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ForestWatch Successes in 2015

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From the Director

Celebrating 30 years of watching your forests: Our tumultuous beginnings

Georgia ForestWatch will be celebrating its 30th anniversary at our Fall Retreat at Vogel State Park on October 8th, 2016. I encourage those of you who are not familiar with our history to take some time and read the excellent account written by Bob Kibler and Charles Seabrook (Our History: 20 Years of Watching Your Forest, http://gafw.org/who-we-are/). Our tumultuous history is what drew me to ForestWatch and then to apply for the Executive Director position in 2011. And it was the story of the dedicated volunteers who never lost hope, fought hard, and spoke so eloquently on behalf of all the special and wild places in the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests (CONF) that made me want to be a part of ForestWatch's history. These forests would look very different today if ForestWatch had not been born. And our birth is quite the story. The following narration and excerpts are from Part One of our history, “The defense of public lands: The birth of Georgia ForestWatch”, by Bob Kibler and Charles Seabrook and was originally published in Fall 2006 Forest News.

In 1976, the National Forest Management Act directed the U.S. Forest Service to curtail clear-cutting in our national forests, provide for biological diversity, protect streams and water quality, limit uneconomical logging, and provide for public input. The first Land and Resource Management Plan for the CONF, released in October 1984, was written in response to these mandates. The 750-page draft plan was compiled without public input and clearly favored the timber industry. It left more than 70% of the Chattahoochee and 90% of the Oconee National Forests open to logging, and lacked sufficient safeguards against clear-cutting, road-building, and herbicide use.

Seven conservation organizations joined forces to review the mammoth plan: the Georgia Conservancy, The Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, Friends of the Mountains, Georgia Botanical Society, Atlanta Audubon Society, and the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited. With only 60 days to review the plan (later extended to 90 days), the coalition groups rallied and succeeded in alerting the public to speak up for Georgia’s national forests and for preserving still-intact wild places in the CONF from logging.

Although the Forest Service received more than 2,000 written public comments on the proposed management plan, the final draft took few comments into consideration and remained largely unchanged. The coalition groups were appalled at a plan they felt would not stop the destructive timber sales characterized by clear-cutting, runaway road building, siltation of trout streams, disruption of rare and endangered habitats, and the eventual loss of our last remaining wild and special places in the CONF. Consequently, they made the unanimous decision to appeal. The formal notice of appeal – a procedure required by federal law before filing an appeal itself – that the coalition submitted to the Forest Service was the first of its kind in the nation.

To the coalition’s surprise, the Forest Service notified the member groups that it wanted to negotiate a settlement. The agency was concerned that an appeal might open up a can of worms and set a precedent that would jeopardize management plans for other national forests. During the settlement negotiations, Forest Service officials themselves suggested that the way to make sure the agency was true to its word was to monitor forest management in the CONF, project by project, on the ground. To assure effective ground-level surveillance, the coalition inserted language in the settlement agreement that required the Forest Service to meet annually with them, and to disclose specific plans for logging and other activities in the forests. The coalition members, through their boots-on-the-ground monitoring, could then determine if the Forest Service was following acceptable courses of action, guaranteeing public participation.

The “Settlement Agreement” was submitted on April 1, 1986, a date Chuck McGrady (the coalition’s acknowledged leader, and an Atlanta-based lawyer and conservation chair for the Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club) chose as an in-house joke. Next steps were to develop a structure by which the groups would carry out their watchdog activities. It was decided that an organization would be formed called Georgia ForestWatch to perform these monitoring activities on behalf of the coalition members.

As told by Kibler and Seabrook:

On an apple-crisp day in September 1986, ForestWatch's first band of volunteers assembled at the old Tumbling Waters Camp in the serene mountains of Rabun County to kick off their monitoring effort. A pivotal decision they made that day was that at least one or two volunteers would be assigned to each of the Chattahoochee-Oconee forests’ eight ranger districts to keep a close eye on Forest Service undertakings. Also on that day, the volunteers underwent the first of several watchdog-training sessions. Some of the instructors were Forest Service employees ...

Thus, Georgia ForestWatch was born standing up. It would become a force to be reckoned with as it matured into an independent organization to protect Georgia’s national forests from wanton ruin.

Many thanks to all the dedicated coalition members and ForestWatchers who commented on this first forest plan. They helped move management of Georgia’s national forests from a timber-first policy toward one that incorporates public input.
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Coming in 2017: $50 Family membership level

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Mary Kimberly
Melinda Langston
Len Foote Hike Inn
Priscilla Padron
Jami Pederson
Bill Pound
Janisse Ray
Andrew Smith

Thank You Forest Guardians!

EarthShare of Georgia
Lyn Hopper
Bob & Jane Kibler
John & Marilyn McMullan
Patagonia
Turner Foundation, Inc.
Keith & Melanie Vickers

Upcoming Outings & Events

April 23rd
Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in the Oconee
US Forest Service & Atlanta Audubon Society

April 30th
Wild & Woolly Forest Festival
Chateau Meichtry Family Vineyard & Winery

Email info@gafw.org to reserve your spot today!
We are finalizing the details for more hikes and will post them on our website. To receive hike alerts and registration information you need to join our email alert program found on our website at www.gafw.org.

Cover photo credit: Peter McIntosh
**Conasauga Ranger District**

The District held its second public meeting on the Armuchee southern pine beetle risk reduction project on February 17th. As described in the last “Around the Forest”, this project could set important precedence, because it is the first project on the forest conducted under an amendment of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act. The amendment exempts qualifying forest health projects from most public review with the purpose of streamlining responses to forest insect and disease epidemics. The meeting provided a good opportunity to discuss the goals of the project and how stands should be treated to reduce the risk of southern pine beetle infestation. As we expected, the current plans focus heavily on planted loblolly pine stands. With the Southern Environmental Law Center, we emphasized that these forest health projects must have a restoration basis to them, and discussed ways that this project could put stands on a trajectory towards native hardwood and native hardwood-pine mixes. The next step in this project will be reviewing drafts of the purpose and need, proposed action (stands and treatment types), and project design features (e.g. monitoring and best management practices).

**Blue Ridge Ranger District**

I’ll try not to repeat what has been said in numerous articles and alerts over the past two years, but our involvement with the Cooper Creek Watershed Project reached a peak this quarter with the release of the draft Environmental Assessment. We’d like to thank everyone who wrote to the Forest Service and told them how you felt about the project. Given how the Blue Ridge Ranger District has used unprecedented tactics to sell their vision of this project, public opinion will be critical in changing the most egregious aspects of the project. The District received over 1,300 comments during the official comment period, which ended February 5th. The majority of them were critical of the project.

ForestWatch submitted extensive comments on the draft Environmental Assessment with the Southern Environmental Law Center and the Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club. We focused on the proposed commercial logging in dispersed recreation areas designated “unsuitable for timber production,” the woodland “restoration” treatments on inappropriate sites, and the concentration of harvesting proposed around one of our finest trout streams. We also highlighted many other issues such as the need to fully consider climate change impacts, the mis-match between some treatments and their stated goals, and cutting in old-growth.

We recently met with the District to further discuss the issues raised in our comments. We are also continuing to visit the analysis area to locate stands that would better meet the stated goals of the project while simultaneously posing less environmental risk, and we intend to present them to the District as well.

**Trail Projects:** On a less controversial note, the District has recently proposed several trail work projects. At the Whissenhunt Off-Highway Vehicle Trail System in Lumpkin County, they are proposing trail closures, re-routes, heavy maintenance, and some new trails. The areas proposed for maintenance or closure are severely eroded and a clear threat to water quality. The new routes appear better sited than old ones, though one new traverse of a steep slope is a concern. We had also been concerned that a new route would cut through an old-growth stand, but visiting the site revealed the route will miss the stand. Overall, this project should reduce erosion, improve water quality, and move the trail network towards sustainability.

Re-routing about two miles of the Duncan Ridge Trail along the Union-Fannin County line should also help the sustainability of that long-distance hiking trail. Currently, the trail tightly follows the ridge line straight up and over each knob on the ridge. The new route will weave back and forth through the saddles on the ridge. That will keep the trail flatter and less prone to erosion. Finally, a new interpretive trail is proposed to connect Vogel State Park and the Byron Herbert Reece Center in Union County. About half a mile of the trail would be new construction and the other mile will be on an old Forest Service road.
Changes to the Georgia ForestWatch Board of Directors

by Robin Hitner : Georgia ForestWatch Board President

There were lots of changes to the Georgia ForestWatch Board in 2015. After long and excellent service, Kasey Sturm stepped down as Board President and rotated off the Board in July. I would like to personally thank Kasey for her six years of service on the Board. She served as President during the time when we had no Executive Director and helped ForestWatch find our current Executive Director, Mary Topa.

It was almost comical that we played a game of tag in swapping presidencies over the past few years. I became the President in July 2011, when shortly thereafter, Wayne Jenkins, Executive Director, decided to take another job and move to Alaska. The Board convinced me that I should replace Wayne as Interim Executive Director while Kasey took my place as President. As fate would have it, Kasey finally persuaded me to take her place as President this past July.

During her service on the ForestWatch Board, Kasey was (and still is) an attorney at Stack and Associates, P.C. in Atlanta. Kasey was a tremendous asset to Georgia ForestWatch, serving as both Secretary and Board President. Her passion for the environment, professionalism, and legal expertise helped guide ForestWatch through some major projects in the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests, including boating on the upper sections of the Wild & Scenic Chattooga River. During her time with ForestWatch, Kasey and her husband Quentin Mostoller welcomed two new additions to their family, Wyatt and Emma. It has been my honor to work with Kasey over the past few years, and the ForestWatch family wishes her the best.

Other members who stepped off the Board in the last year include Sally Colkett (Board Treasurer), Michael Wall (Board Secretary) and Laurie Blackmore. Many thanks to Michael and Laurie – we wish you the best.

And an extra special thanks to Sally who stepped off the Board in January after four years of service. Sally has been an outstanding and incredibly dedicated Board Treasurer and Board Secretary, and member of the Executive and Personnel Committees. Although she is no longer on our Board, Sally continues to serve as a volunteer Co-District Leader on the Blue Ridge Ranger District.

At the October 2015 Board meeting, Brian Wills was re-elected to serve another two-year term as a Board member and as Vice President. Jim Dawson was also re-elected to the Board, and agreed to fill Michael’s shoes as Board Secretary. Tom Crawford, who joined the Board in July 2014, has agreed to fill Sally’s shoes as Board Treasurer. Kudos to both Jim and Tom as our newest members of the Executive Committee.

A new addition to the ForestWatch Board is Richie Deason, who joined in October. Richie is a native of Savannah, GA, but he has lived in the Atlanta area for over 20 years. Richie became interested in the environment while serving in the U.S. Navy from 1986-1992. As he was thinking about a post-Navy career, he decided that he wanted to pursue something that involved the environment and protecting natural resources. He attended Georgia Tech and received a Bachelor of Civil/Environmental Engineering. Richie has worked in the solid waste industry throughout his career helping his clients by delivering environmental solutions and maintaining regulatory compliance. Richie also has an M.B.A. in Finance from Georgia State University. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking the numerous trails in North Georgia with his kids. Welcome, Richie, and thanks for your willingness to serve!

The Board Development and Nominating Committee continues to seek new, qualified members for the board. Any member of Georgia ForestWatch may nominate someone to serve on the board. For more information about the process and desired qualifications, contact either of the Nominating Committee members, David Govus (dgovus@ellijay.com) or Ted Doll (theodore.doll@gmail.com), or other current Board members.

Kasey Sturm with husband Quentin Mostoller hiking in the Smokies
Looking back at 2015 with the benefit of hindsight, it is clear that Georgia Forest Watch had a very good year. To appreciate how important Georgia ForestWatch is, one has to imagine how our 867,510 acres of National Forests in Georgia would look without Georgia ForestWatch.

The past year saw the end to a long-running dispute over the management of recreation on the upper section of the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River. For over a decade, American Whitewater and other boating groups had pushed for opening the upper third of the river to unlimited boating. The lower two-thirds of the river is open for boating without restriction, and experiences over 80,000 visitor days a year. This amount and type of activity is inappropriate for the shallow, narrow upper Chattooga River. Georgia ForestWatch responded to every request for comments and both sued the Forest Service and intervened on behalf of the Forest Service in response to American Whitewater and other boaters’ lawsuits. When the smoke finally settled, a Federal judge ruled that contrary to the boaters’ assertions, the Forest Service does have the authority to manage recreation in the Wild and Scenic Corridor. The Forest Service’s plan to allow limited boating during the winter months during high flows was upheld. ForestWatch is very grateful for the dogged tenacity of our legal teams during this fight, Rachel Doughty from Greenfire Law, and Susan Richardson and Alex Bullock from Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP. We would not have been able to stay the course without their expert representation.

A 20-year struggle over management of the Warwoman watershed, a tributary of the Chattooga River, was also resolved. The Forest Service announced plans to cut a significant amount of timber and construct, at a cost of $1,000,000, three miles of road up Tuckaluge Creek. This road, according to the Forest Service’s own analysis, would contribute significant amounts of silt to Tuckaluge Creek for over a decade. ForestWatch discovered that the overriding reason behind the plan to build the road was to allow access by large trucks to accommodate future timber sales. Georgia ForestWatch, the Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club, and our long-time legal partner, the Southern Environmental Law Center, responded to these plans in writing, and in an April 2015 meeting with the Forest Service. In June the Forest Service released their decision on Warwoman. The new road construction was dropped and the planned timber harvest was not only significantly reduced, but over 300 acres was converted to a non-commercial harvest, sparing the area the damage which inevitably results from ground-based logging operations.

On the other side of the Forest, in the ridge and valley region of the Armuchee area west of Dalton, a decision was released on the Upper West Armuchee Creek Project (UWAC) in September 2015. Once again Georgia ForestWatch’s participation and extensive comments resulted in significant improvements to the project. Over two hundred acres of logging was dropped, and another 115 acres was reduced to non-commercial logging. The Armuchee region has been heavily cut over and a significant portion of the area is in planted loblolly pine plantations. This combination has resulted in very few scenic areas in the region. One that does exist is the drive along Ponder Creek to the head of the Chickamauga Creek Trail. This area was slated for cutting, but Georgia ForestWatch protested, and the timber harvest was dropped. Plans to allow mountain biking on the narrow Chickamauga Creek Trail were dropped from the UWAC project and will be considered in a separate project. Georgia ForestWatch strongly opposed mountain biking on this narrow trail because it has a significant riparian component. Many mountain bikers travel at high speeds, and in addition to being a danger to pedestrians on narrow, steep trails, the inevitable braking and skidding that is involved does significant damage to riparian areas.

In October 2015, Georgia ForestWatch surveyors examined the results of a timber cutting project in the Etowah watershed located nearly in the middle of the forest in the Blue Ridge Ranger District. Georgia ForestWatch had commented extensively on this project when it was proposed in 2007 and the project was significantly improved as a result. Upon examining the area, it appeared that the project had been carried out as
planned, but surprisingly several stands had not yet been cut and had recently been marked for cutting. A call to ForestWatch from a mountain biker informed the staff about this. When these stands were examined it was discovered that several large, mature shortleaf pines were marked. This despite the fact that the intention of this part of the project had been thinning overstocked Virginia pine and prioritizing restoration and protection of shortleaf pines. Georgia ForestWatch protested this mistake verbally and was initially rebuffed with the comment that nothing could be done as the timber was already marked. ForestWatch responded with a strongly worded e-mail pointing out that cutting shortleaf pines was contrary to the project as planned and to the overall goals of the Forest Plan. The District, to their credit, changed their minds and, for the first time to my knowledge, agreed to remark the timber. Saving the forest one tree at a time.

Last year, as always, saw a continuation of ForestWatch’s decades-long campaign against illegal off-road vehicle (ORV) use on the forest. Surveys of the former Anderson Creek ORV area showed it to be ORV-free. Cashes Valley, at the eastern end of the Mountaintown Roadless Area, also showed marked improvement, with almost no signs of illegal activity. And in 2015, the Forest Service finally began to take the steps necessary to deal with its shrinking road maintenance budget and its deteriorating road system. After years of comments and complaints from Georgia ForestWatch, the Forest Service gated FS 665-2, a badly eroding road beneath Springer Mountain. Even more significantly, the Forest Service gated a section the Frosty Mountain Road that parallels the Appalachian Approach Trail from Amicalola Park to Nimblewill Gap. Georgia ForestWatch had long complained about this and documented the fact that groups of jeeps had turned this section of road into a mudbogging course, which was entirely inappropriate because it is within hearing distance of the approach to the Appalachian Trail at Springer Mountain.

A good year indeed.

Georgia ForestWatch will be hosting its 12th Wild & Woolly Forest Festival at CHATEAU MEICTRY FAMILY VINEYARD & WINERY near Ellijay, Georgia on Saturday, April 30th, 2016 2 pm until 5 pm

Author Janisse Ray will be headlining the event and hosting a book signing. Live entertainment will be provided by Bill Pound.

Other activities include a pre-festival hike, a native plant sale, silent auction, light appetizers and selections of Chateau Meichtry wine for tasting.

Order tickets now & get advanced ticket prices! Call 706-867-0051

$20 on or before April 22nd; $30 after $10 for students; children 12 and under free

Be sure to make plans to attend!
Here at Georgia ForestWatch, we often say that “it takes a village” to do what we do, and that statement couldn’t be more true. If you look at the history of Georgia ForestWatch (http://gafw.org/project/history/), you will find an underlying thread that has kept us tightly woven together over the past 29 years. That thread is made up of the people who consistently support our organization - our members. Our members contribute to the betterment of Georgia’s national forests in so many ways, and I’d like to highlight all the opportunities available so you can help protect the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests.

The most direct way members can make a positive change in our national forests is to speak up for them. When our members comment on projects proposed by the Forest Service, you are letting the U.S. Forest Service know how our national forests should be managed. Every voice counts, and the more our members are involved in the commenting process, the greater the chance for seeing more sustainable, ecologically-appropriate management of our forests. Haven’t commented on a project yet or don’t know how? Sign up for our email alerts and get easy, step-by-step instructions on how to comment on projects that need your feedback. Visit www.gafw.org and scroll to the bottom of our homepage. There you will see the button to click on to sign up for our alerts. It’s that easy!

Another way members can get involved in protecting our national forests is to become a Volunteer District Leader (http://gafw.org/project/volunteer-district-leaders/). District Leaders help gather information on projects in their specific District of the forest (the Blue Ridge, Conasauga, Chattooga River, or Oconee). Working with our Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle, these “boots-on-the-ground” volunteers take a first-hand look at Forest Service projects, provide field information, and assist in writing responses to projects. We are always engaged in ongoing conversations with our District Leaders, and it’s a fun way to get involved and really get to know your forests well. Interested in learning more about the program? Contact our Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle at jriddle@gafw.org.

As hard as we all work to protect the forests, it’s equally important
to get out there and just enjoy them. Some of our members are so enthusiastic about getting out that they like to bring a group of folks along with them! Our outing leaders are members who lead hikes for us in their favorite areas of the forests. Hike leaders don’t have to be forest experts, just experts in having a good time. They lead destination outings to waterfalls, vistas, and summits; specialty outings like nature photography, poetry and music, and wildflowers; and even trips up to the Conasauga River to snorkel with the U.S. Forest Service. Interested in leading a hike? You can contact me at llemay@gafw.org and I’ll get you on the calendar! Whether you lead or join us on a hike, it’s a great way to maximize your membership in a fun and easy way – with the added bonus of meeting like-minded people.

Other ways our members get involved is by volunteering with our annual spring and fall events. It can be anything from playing a favorite instrument to baking cookies or other delicious treats to share with the group to hoisting up tables and chairs. There’s not a single event I’ve been involved with at ForestWatch that didn’t succeed because of the help of our dedicated members. What’s stronger than the heart of a volunteer, right? Our next event will be our Wild & Woolly Forest Festival at Chateau Meichtry Family Vineyard & Winery near Ellijay, GA on April 30th from 2-5pm. If you are interested in lending a hand, please let me know at llemay@gafw.org.

As a member of Georgia ForestWatch, there are multiple ways you can help us protect the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests. We are blessed that membership donations in 2015 provided half of our annual income – thank you all for believing in our mission and for sharing our passion for protecting Georgia’s national forests! But just as important, we ask our members to speak up about forest issues, interact with potential members at our outings and events, and spread the word about why it’s so important to preserve, protect and restore Georgia’s national forests.

It is a pleasure getting to know more and more about our members and we encourage you to reach out to us. Let us know if you’d like to get more involved, or need help with the commenting process. You are the folks that keep us ticking and we want you to know that your membership matters. Thank you, Georgia ForestWatch members!

Learning About Fire
By Jess Riddle : Forest Ecologist

Prescribed fire is one of the most powerful tools available to forest managers. In a single day, a small group of people can use fire to dramatically alter the trajectory of a forest for decades. Prescribed fire can eliminate one group of species while simultaneously creating habitat for another. It can turn a thicket of mountain-laurel into an open understory. A shady closed canopy can even be turned into an open one. And the Forest Service is steadily increasing use of prescribed fire on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests.

For all those reasons, Georgia ForestWatch believes it is important for us to have a firm understanding of not only the ecological role of fire in north Georgia’s forests, but also how fire is actually applied on the ground. Toward that end, I’ve undergone standard wildland firefighter training. This spring, I’ll be participating in some Forest Service prescribed fires across north Georgia. I’ll observe how the Forest Service actually implements burns and how approaches vary among Districts. I’ll also observe how the fire changes as it moves up slope or down slope, as the weather changes, and as it encounters different types of vegetation. This firsthand information will give us a better basis for evaluating Forest Service projects that involve prescribed fire and determining how they could be improved.

Detailed knowledge of Forest Service projects and the areas they will affect has always been one of ForestWatch’s strengths. ForestWatch checks each project on the ground, reads the environmental assessment, and reviews scientific literature before writing comments, so our positions are based on the facts and not knee-jerk reactions. Observing prescribed fires as they burn continues that tradition.

Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle attends prescribed fire on the Blue Ridge Ranger District
2015 Supporters, thank you!

The Georgia ForestWatch Directors, Advisors, District Leaders, and Staff want to thank you for your generosity and support for protecting Georgia’s national forests. This important work could not be accomplished without each and every one of you.

(If you have made a $100+ donation and your name is not listed, please accept our apology and call us so we can correct our records. Thank you!)

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Leckie & Bill Stack
Jan & Dennis Stanessell
Marilyn & Ted Stapleton
Mary Louise & Homer Stark
Kathryn Stege

Hike to Grassy Ridge with District Leader Ben Cash
Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers:

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Ben Cash
Sally Colkett
Tom Colkett
Marie Dunkle
David Govus
Robin Hitner
JP Schmidt
Dennis Stansell
Jim Walker
Larry Winslett

Advisors
William “Butch” Clay
Sarah Francisco
Bob Kibler
Charlie Seabrook
James Sullivan

2015 Hike Leaders
Ben Cash
Tom Colkett
Marie Dunkle
Lisa Ezzard
Brooks Franklin
Sue Harmon
Malcolm Hodges
Laurence Holden
Laura LeMay
Jess Riddle
Brenda Smith
Laure LeMay
Dr. Stephen Spear
Mark Zemmin

And Our Event Speakers & Volunteers!
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Moses Cotton
Tom Crawford
Mark Dalusky
Jim & Hedy Dawson
Lynda & Ted Doll
Marie Dunkle

Melinda & Andy Edwards
Sarah Francisco
David Govus
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Richard Judy
Josh Kelly
Laura LeMay
Tom MacMillan
Doug Riddle
Jess Riddle
Mary Topa
Jim Walker

Distribution of GFW Income Sources in FY 2015

- Members – 51%
- Program Fees, Sales & Sponsorships – 6%
- Grants – 41%
- Earthshare of GA – 2%

Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle leading Winter Tree ID outing from the Len Foote Hike Inn

Wild & Woolly guests enjoy a reading from *THRU: An Appalachian Trail Love Story* authored by Hike Inn Board President Richard Judy

Hikers enjoying a stroll out to Raven Cliff Falls with volunteer Sue Harmon
JOIN NOW! Complete this form and mail to:
Georgia ForestWatch, 81 Crown Mountain Pl., Building C, Suite 200, Dahlonega, GA 30533;
Join online at www.gafw.org/join_give.html or call 706-867-0051 to join via phone. Either way is paperless!

Georgia ForestWatch Membership Form

Name: _________________________________________________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip: __________________________________________________________________________
Phone: _______________________________________ E-mail: ___________________________________

Make your conservation statement – go paperless and receive your newsletter via email:
☐ Yes! I want to go paperless! How did you hear about us? ______________________________________

CHOOSE YOUR GIVING LEVEL
☐ $2,500 President’s Circle
☐ $1,000 Benefactor
☐ $500 Forest Guardian
☐ $250 Supporter
☐ $100 Friend or Small Business
☐ $50 Family (coming in 2017)
☐ $35 Individual
☐ $20 Student
☐ $ _________ Other amount

PAYMENT INFORMATION
☐ Enclosed is cash or check payable to Georgia ForestWatch
☐ Charge my credit card: ☐ AMEX ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA
Signature: ____________________________________________
Account Number: _____________________________________
Expiration Date: _____________ CVV _____________

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