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## Contact Information

**Supervisor's Office**  
 Carl Petrick, Forest Supervisor  
 2946 Chestnut Street  
 Montgomery, Alabama  
 36107  
 334-832-4470  
 334-239-3741 (Videophone)  
[Email](#)

**Bankhead National Forest**  
**Bankhead Ranger District**  
 Andy Scott, District Ranger  
 1070 Highway 33  
 Double Springs, AL 35553  
 205-489-5111  
[Email](#)

**Conecuh National Forest**  
**Conecuh Ranger District**  
 Tim Mersmann, District Ranger  
 24481 Alabama Hwy 55  
 Andalusia, AL 36420  
 334-222-2555  
[Email](#)

**Talladega National Forest**

## Bankhead National Forest



USDA United States Department of Agriculture

**"Connect to Nature"**

Experience Dispersed Recreation in Alabama's National Forests: Hiking, Bird Watching, Walking, Picnicking, Swimming, Canoeing, Mountain Biking, Primitive Camping, Hunting, Horseback Riding

Bankhead (Double Springs), Conecuh (Andalusia), Talladega (Brent), Talladega (Hoffin), Talladega (Talladega), Tuskegee (Tuskegee)

www.fs.usda.gov/alabama | free mobile app download - NF maps (www.avenza.com/pdf-maps/store) | PHONE: 334-832-4470

Share the Trail | Share the Responsibility  
 National Forests are managed for multiple uses and protecting natural resources. It's a shared responsibility. Be considerate. Leave No Trace™ and Trod Lightly™.

Forest Service Southern Region National Forests in Alabama 2017

### Helpful Links

[Bird Watching in the Bankhead National Forest](#)

[Quail Habitat in the Bankhead National Forest](#)

[A Guide to Hunting Feral Swine in the Bankhead National Forest](#)

Fish Habitat Enhancement GPS Coordinate Sites for Alabama Power Company Reservoirs: [fishdata](#)

The [WFRP website](#) which contains a database of wildlife, fish & rare plant projects on National Forests

The [Winston County Natural Resources Council's blog](#)

[Help Us Stop the Invasion - Hemlock Woolly Adelgid](#)

### Information

To request information, pamphlets, ask questions or submit comments, email the Bankhead National Forest: [bkinfo@fs.fed.us](mailto:bkinfo@fs.fed.us)

### Meetings

The Bankhead Liaison Panel meets quarterly. Contact the Bankhead Ranger District at (205) 489-5111 for additional information.

The [Bankhead National Forest Liaison Panel Meeting](#) minutes and information .

### Maps

To view and print maps, click below.

- ▶ [Bankhead National Forest Recreation Map](#)
- ▶ [Prescribed Burn area map](#)
- ▶ [Sipsey Wilderness Map](#)
- ▶ [Sipsey Wilderness Trailheads Map](#)

### Quick Links

- [Plan Your Trip](#)
- [Top Great Escapes](#)
- [Know Before You Drive - Motor Vehicle Use Maps](#)
- [Great Escapes Mobile App Available for iPhone and Android](#)
- [Employment Information](#)
- [Alabama State Parks](#)
- [Volunteer Opportunities](#)

### Alerts & Warnings

- [Help Stop the Spread! Don't Move Firewood](#)
- [Law Enforcement Prohibited Acts](#)
- [NF Road/Trail/Site Closures](#)
- [Rules for Forest Visitors](#)
- [Safety Notices](#)
- [10 Hunting Tips](#)

[View All Forest Alerts ...](#)

### Related Links

- [Southern Pine Beetle Incident Response](#)
- [Recreational Opportunities/Things To Do](#)

### Featured Events

- ["No Child Stays Inside"](#)  
Date(s): Jun 7, 2016



Bankhead Ranger District Office Location

**Shoal Creek Ranger District**

Karen McKenzie, District Ranger  
45 Highway 281  
Heflin, AL 36264  
256-463-2272

**Email****Oakmulgee Ranger District**

Eric Schmeckpeper,  
Acting District Ranger  
9901 Highway 5  
Brent, AL 35034  
205-926-9765

**Email****Talladega Ranger District**

Gloria Nielsen, District Ranger  
1001 North Street  
(Highway 21 North)  
Talladega, AL 35160  
256-362-2909

**Email****Tuskegee National Forest****Tuskegee Ranger District**

Darrius Truss, District Ranger  
125 National Forest  
Road 949  
Tuskegee, AL 36083  
334-727-2652

**Email****Law Enforcement and Investigations**

David Cadle , Patrol Captain  
2800 N Ocoee Street  
Cleveland, TN 37312  
423-476-9704

**Email****Contact Us**

- ▶ [Sipsey Canoe Map](#)
- ▶ [Flint Creek Multiple Use Trail Map](#)
- ▶ [Owl Creek Non-motorized Trail Map](#)

## Recreation

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Below is an overview of the activities offered at Bankhead National Forest. You will find additional information in the [Recreation Activities](#) section.

### Recreational Areas

There are six recreation areas scattered about the Bankhead National Forest, each offering a unique experience of its own. Facilities for camping, picnicking, fishing, hiking, and swimming are abundant. All facilities are designed with forest users in mind and provide varying challenges for everyone from the novice to the expert. Forest users will find that each area has its own personality and with the changing seasons, even that personality will change.

### Campgrounds

Corinth and Clear Creek Campgrounds are located in the Bankhead National Forest. Campgrounds are open April through October and offer camping units with electrical and water hookups.

### Hiking

The Bankhead National Forest offers over 90 miles of recreational trails. You can enjoy hiking, bicycle and horseback riding, and a trail for your all-terrain vehicle.

### Horseback Riding

Riders have a choice of horseback riding at Owl Creek Trail in the Sipsey Wilderness. There are 13.3 miles of trails in the wilderness designated for horses.

In the northeastern portion of the Bankhead National Forest, the 25-mile Owl Creek Non-Motorized Trail provides an opportunity to see beautiful waterfalls, sandstone cliffs, deep gorges, majestic hardwood trees, wildflowers, and an abundance of birds and animals.

### Sipsey Wilderness

Sipsey is the largest national forest wilderness area east of the Mississippi and offers outstanding opportunities for hiking, camping, hunting, and fishing. Horseback riding is allowed on trails specifically designated for horses. Motorized vehicles and bicycles are not allowed inside the Sipsey Wilderness boundaries.

### Primitive Camping During Hunting Season

Camping is allowed during hunting season in the Bankhead National Forest. However, **hunters** must camp in designated hunter's camps and do not require camping permits. **Non-hunters** may camp in the general forest and wilderness but must obtain a permit from the Bankhead Ranger District Office. Primitive camping permits are required from November 15 to January 31 annually.

For your safety, plan to wear hunter orange when sharing a primitive environment with hunters.

Note: Users of the Hurricane Creek Shooting Range should bring their own paper targets.

## Forest History

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The National Forests in Alabama began with the Alabama Purchase Unit, established by the National Forest Commission in Fiscal Year 1914. The area was proclaimed the Alabama National Forest by President Woodrow Wilson on January 15, 1918.

The first forest was located in Franklin, Lawrence and Winston Counties. Land acquisition files show that much of the ridge tops had been cut-over and approximately 40-percent of the land was cut-over, cultivated and vacated farmland. The virgin timber must have been located in the deep gorges and on public domain land.

On June 19, 1936, by proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Alabama National Forest was renamed the Black Warrior National Forest. About six years later on June 17, 1942, the name was changed, by an Act of Congress, to the William B. Bankhead National Forest.

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