

August 2012

Howdy folks,

The outing to Parson's Mountain was wonderful. The full blast of our summer hell abated leaving us with just plain hot.

Several of us had to climb the monadnock for no apparent reason. We passed an old gold mine with several open pits.

We climbed around 400 feet to reach the peak elevation of 832 feet.

From a sign at the top I learned the land was a kings grant awarded to James Parsons in 1832. There was a fire tower that had been fenced to protect the communications hot spot that now called the tower its home.



Caroline Eastman at gold mine



One of my highlights was the sight of a double ended cat-tail. According to Sam Pratt they are somewhat rare.

Cat-tail (Typha latifolia)

The big highlight was seeing Quentin back with us after his injury at Kalmia Gardens.

How about those lepidopterists! Marty & Dave Kastner reported that their sighting of two Gray Hairstreaks (*Strymon melinus*) is a new record for Abbeville County. It is not a rare butterfly but it has not previously been recorded in the county.

Many of our members took advantage of the swimming area to cool off before heading out for supper at Maria's in courthouse square of beautiful downtown Abbeville.

Thanks Marsha and Bob for a great day.

Phil Harpootlian has a new area for us to explore at Jones Gap. I will see you there.

Jerry Bright



Bird condo

Jones Gap State Park, the White Tract

Greenville County, August 25, 2012 Meet at intersection of Gap Creek Road and Rhodes Lane 10:30

You'll not want to miss this special opportunity to visit the recently acquired White Tract of Jones Gap State Park. Naturalist Timothy Lee <tlee@scprt.com> has volunteered to guide this trip and kindly provided the following write-up [with only minor edits].

The White Tract, 301 acres, is a steep forested area in the upper reaches of the Middle Saluda River watershed. It is drained by Tankersley Branch and a series of un-named streams, all of which are small headwater tributaries (generally less than 10ft wide) of the Middle Saluda. These streams dash and splash over bedrock outcrops, boulders, cobble, and sandy substrates as they traverse the tract. Some major waterfall areas with adjacent spray zones occur along these streams.

Forests of the tract are largely mature throughout, with many canopy trees 2 feet or more in diameter. Major community types include montane oak-hickory forest, Canada hemlock forest, and pine-oak heath (see Porcher and Rayner, 2001, Wildflowers of SC, USC Press). Oak-hickory forests with open understory dominate many of the slopes and provide a scenic forest setting and an abundance of food for wildlife. Along streams communities typical of hemlock forest dominate and contain showy displays of rhododendrons (*R. maximum* and *R. minus*). Pine-oak heaths are more abundant at lower elevations.

In addition to these forest communities and stream settings, a major habitat item is the occurrence of boulder fields. Concentrations of boulders, some up to the size of a small building, are scattered throughout the tract providing aesthetic values and special habitats for plants and animals. These various settings, in conjunction with the abundance of precipitation that occurs along the Blue Ridge Escarpment, provide for an area of diverse and important habitat types.

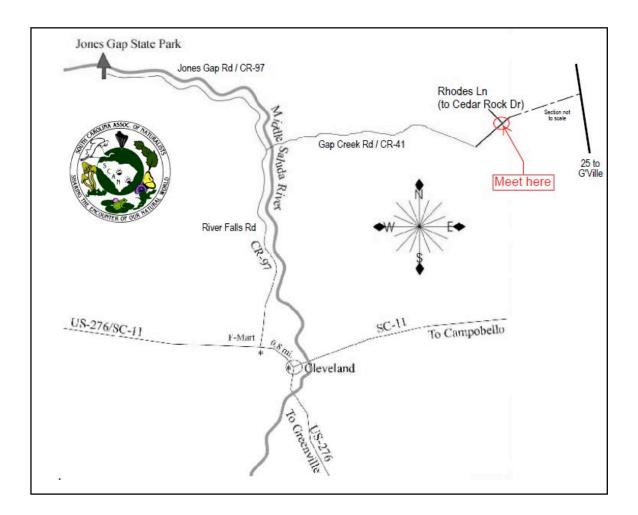
There are no established trails on the property yet, but there are some old logging roads which we can utilize.

Directions to the site would be the same as going to Jones Gap, but from River Falls Road, you'll turn right onto Gap Creek Road and then left onto Rhodes Lane. Alternately, from Highway 25, turn left onto Gap Creek Road, followed by a right onto Rhodes Lane. Hwys 276 and 25 diverge just south of Travelers Rest and I'm not certain which route is necessarily better or faster.

Tim will meet us at the intersection of Gap Creek Road and Rhodes Lane. We will then continue on Rhodes Lane approximately ³/₄ mile, then right onto Cedar Rock Drive.

Bring the usual: food, water, insect repellant, binoculars, camera, friend, etc.

Dining: We'll meet again at Huntin' Camp BBQ and Grill - 2221 N Hwy 25, Travelers Rest, SC 29690. Head east on Hwy 11, then south towards Greenville on Hwy 25, about 7.5 miles from Cleveland.



Parson's Mountain, Sumter Nat. Forest Abbeville Co., SC July 28, 2012

This list was produced by SCAN from sightings produced by SCAN members and is subject to revision as needed. An asterisk (*) indicates a new sighting for SCAN. Send any changes or corrections to Jan Ciegler at <u>iciegler@sc.rr.com.</u> Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

FLORA

Rattlesnake Fern Botrypus virginianus Bracken Pteridium aquilinum Christmas Fern Polystichum acrostichoides Shortleaf Pine Pinus echinata Loblolly Pine Pinus taeda Eastern Red Cedar Juniperus virginiana virginiana Southern Jack-in-the-pulpit Arisaema triphyllum auinatum Common Rush Juncus effusus solutus Giant Cane Arundinaria gigantea **River** Oats Chasmanthium latifolium Longleaf Spikegrass Chasmanthium sessiliflorum Velvet Witch Grass Dichanthelium scoparium **Common Bottlebrush** Grass Elymus hystrix hystrix **Beaked Panic Grass** Panicum anceps Paspalum Paspalum sp. **Common Cattail** Typha latifolia Perfoliate Bellwort Uvularia perfoliata Straw-lily Uvularia sessilifolia False Solomon's-seal Maianthemum racemosum racemosum Catbrier Smilax bona-nox

Whiteleaf Greenbrier Smilax glauca Large Twayblade * Liparis liliifolia Cranefly Orchid Tipularia discolor Tulip-tree Liriodendron tulipifera Small-flowered PawPaw Asimina parviflora Sweet-shrub Calycanthus floridus Sassafras Sassafras albidum Virginia Snakeroot Endodeca serpentaria Little Brown Jug Hexastvlis arifolia Windflower Anemonella thalictroides Coralbeads Cocculus carolinus Sycamore Platanus occidentalis occidentalis Sweet Gum Liquidambar styraciflua Winged Elm Ulmus alata American Elm Ulmus americana White Mulberry Morus alba Red Mulberry Morus rubra False-nettle Boehmeria cylindrica **Pignut Hickory** Carva glabra Shagbark Hickory Carva ovata Mockernut Hickory Carya tomentosa American Beech Fagus grandifolia White Oak Ouercus alba Scarlet Oak Quercus coccinea Southern Red Oak **Ouercus** falcata Water Oak Ouercus nigra Red Oak Quercus rubra Post Oak Quercus stellata

Black Oak Quercus velutina Tag Alder Alnus serrulata **River Birch** Betula nigra American Hornbeam Carpinus caroliniana American Hop-hornbeam Ostrya virginiana **Common Pokeweed** Phytolacca americana St. Andrew's Cross *Hypericum hypericoides* Mountain Basswood Tilia americana heterophylla Passionflower Passiflora incarnata Yellow Passionflower Passiflora lutea lutea Spotted Wintergreen Chimaphila maculata Sourwood Oxydendrum arboreum Hillside Blueberry Vaccinium pallidum American Persimmon Diospyros virginiana **Bigleaf Snowbell** Styrax grandifolius Climbing Hydrangea Decumaria barbara Agrimony Agrimonia sp. Blackberry Rubus sp. **Common Groundnut** Apios americana Spurred Butterfly Pea Centrosema virginianum Eastern Redbud *Cercis canadensis* canadensis **Common Sensitive-plant** Chamaecrista nictitans nictitans **Butterfly Pea** Clitoria mariana mariana Naked Tick-trefoil Desmodium nudiflorum Tick-trefoil Desmodium paniculatum paniculatum Roundleaf Tick-trefoil Desmodium rotundifolium **Bicolor** Lespedeza

Lespedeza bicolor

Downy Trailing Lespedeza Lespedeza procumbens Pencil-flower Stylosanthes biflora Autumn Silverberry Elaeagnus pungens Seedbox Ludwigia sp. Flowering Dogwood Cornus florida Blackgum Nyssa sylvatica American Mistletoe Phoradendron serotinum serotinum Hearts-a-burstin'-with-lov e Euonymus americanus Little Gallberry Ilex glabra American Holly Ilex opaca opaca Eastern Flowering Spurge Euphorbia corollata Virginia-creeper Parthenocissus quinquefolia Muscadine Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia Frost Grape Vitis vulpina Southern Sugar Maple Acer floridanum Red Maple Acer rubrum Winged Sumac Rhus copallinum Eastern Poison Ivv Toxicodendron radicans radicans Southern Yellow Woodsorrel Oxalis dillenii Spotted Touch-me-not Impatiens capensis Maryland Sanicle Sanicula marilandica Southern Sanicle Sanicula smallii Meadow-parsnip Thaspium barbinode Pinkroot Spigelia marilandica

Common Marsh-pink Sabatia angularis Indian-hemp Apocynum cannabinum White Milkweed Asclepias variegata Spinypod Matelea sp. Morning-glory Ipomoea sp. Allegheny Monkey-flower Mimulus ringens ringens Gill-over-the-ground Glechoma hederacea Self-heal Prunella vulgaris Eurasian Self-heal Prunella vulgaris vulgaris Polypremum *Polypremum procumbens* White Ash Fraxinus americana Downy Oak-leach Aureolaria virginica Eastern Lousewort Pedicularis canadensis Carolina Wild-petunia Ruellia caroliniensis Cross-vine Bignonia capreolata Trumpet-creeper Campsis radicans Buttonbush Cephalanthus occidentalis Poorioe Diodia teres **Bedstraw** Galium sp. Partridge-berry Mitchella repens Japanese Honeysuckle Lonicera japonica **Common Elderberry** Sambucus canadensis **Plantain Pussytoes** Antennaria plantaginifolia Pale Indian-plantain Arnoglossum atriplicifolium Silverling Baccharis halimifolia Green-and-gold Chrysogonum virginianum Elephant's-foot *Elephantopus tomentosus* Late Eupatorium Eupatorium serotinum

Purple-node Joe-pye-weed Eutrochium purpureum purpureum Appalachian Sunflower Helianthus atrorubens Beaked Hawkweed Hieracium gronovii Spotted Cat's-ear Hypochaeris radicata Wild Lettuce Lactuca sp. Climbing Hempweed Mikania scandens Camphorweed Pluchea camphorata Rattlesnake-root Prenanthes sp. Fragrant Rabbit-tobacco Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium Black-eyed Susan Rudbeckia hirta Rosinweed Silphium asteriscus dentatum Bearsfoot Smallanthus uvedalius Goldenrod Solidago sp. Starved Aster Symphyotrichum lateriflorum lateriflorum Frost Aster Symphyotrichum pilosum pilosum Ironweed Vernonia noveboracensis Gill Fungus Amanita sp.

FAUNA

Grass Spider Agelenopsis sp. Eastern Pondhawk *Erythemis simplicicollis* Patent-leather Beetle Odontotaenius disjunctus Swamp Milkweed Beetle Labidomera clivicollis Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Papilio glaucus Spicebush Swallowtail Papilio troilus Gray Hairstreak Strymon melinus Eastern Tailed-blue (butterfly) *Everes comyntas* American Snout (butterfly) Libytheana carinenta Pearl Crescent (butterfly) Phyciodes thatos Anglewing (butterfly) Polygonia sp. **Red-spotted Purple** (butterfly) *Limenitis arthemis* astyanax Carolina Satyr (butterfly) Hermeuptychia sosybius Silver-spotted Skipper Epargyreus clarus Hoary Edge (skipper) Achalarus lyciades **Duskywing Skipper** Erynnis sp. Least Skipper Ancyloxypha numitor Zabulon Skipper Poanes zabulon Cricket Frog (call) Acris sp. Slider Turtle Trachemys scripta Green Anole Anolis carolinensis Eastern Fence Lizard Sceloporus undulatus **Turkey Vulture** Cathartes aura

Ruby-throated Hummingbird Archilochus colubris Red-bellied Woodpecker Melanerpes carolinus Pileated Woodpecker Dryocopus pileatus Purple Martin Progne subis American Crow Corvus brachyrhynchos Summer Tanager Piranga rubra