



2025

# ANNUAL REPORT



Photo by Show and Tale Creative

The Pisgah Conservancy works in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service to provide key resources for the benefit of Pisgah and its visitors for generations to come.



## Caring for Pisgah's...

### ...RIVERS



Pisgah's rivers and streams sustain aquatic habitat, supply healthy public drinking water, and provide places where families gather, explore, and play.

### ...TRAILS



More than 400 miles of trails invite exploration of the forest through hiking, biking, horseback riding, climbing, fishing, and other outdoor pursuits.

### ...WILDLIFE



From fireflies to frogs, bats to black bears, Pisgah National Forest is home to wildlife that sparks curiosity and inspires wonder.

### ...PLANTS



Plant life helps make Pisgah one of the most biodiverse national forests in the country, with rich coves, high-elevation habitats, and rare species supporting an extraordinary range of ecosystems.



# Our People



## 2025 Board of Directors

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**Will Coffee**  
Invasive Plant Management Crew Leader  
**Brendan Gilbert**  
Seasonal Invasive Plant Management Technician



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**Simon Farr**  
Trails and Recreation Technician  
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**Summer Crist**  
River Ranger  
**Madalynn Elliot**  
River Ranger  
**Sadie Hornaday**  
River Ranger  
**Laura Nelson**  
River Ranger

**Kevin Mathews**  
Seasonal Trail Crew Member  
**Melissa De La Paz**  
Seasonal Trail Crew Member  
**Trae Schadegg**  
Seasonal Trail Crew Member



John Cottingham

# Letter from our Founder and Executive Director

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2025 was extraordinary, and it's all thanks to you and others who love Pisgah. Community support was strong, which allowed us to do even more to care for the forest. Field staff and volunteers tackled more projects than ever before, and we brought greater expertise to our work in trail building, bridge construction, invasive plant management, and public education.

We also tried new things. We launched a Plants & Pints event series and guided snorkel programs with the Pisgah River Rangers. Our inaugural Moth Party drew hundreds of attendees. Pisgah Project Day set another record with more than 500 volunteers, and small-scale workdays in December brought dozens of dedicated volunteers despite frigid temperatures.

The community's response tells us we are on the right track. It affirms that offering ways for people to learn about and directly engage with the forest is exactly what we should continue doing.

In October, we celebrated our 10th anniversary and all that we have accomplished. Whether you have been part of our story since 2015, joined us for the first time in 2025, or came in somewhere in between, our successes are your successes. The exciting road ahead is one we look forward to walking together.

Why does TPC's work matter?

It matters when a person in crisis takes a hike and finds quiet calm

in the forest, feeling renewed hope. It matters when a child gleefully discovers a salamander in a cold, clear stream. It matters when a couple escapes the commotion of the city to honeymoon in the solitude of a mountain wilderness. It matters when a grandfather shares a special view with a child, the same view he first saw with his own grandfather. It matters when an artist captures a foggy morning or an endless understorey of ferns untouched by humans. It matters when an endangered species finds a place to recover. It matters when a mountain biker experiences the thrill of a steep, narrow trail, and another visitor enjoys the quiet solitude of a dark green nook, all in the same forest at the same time.

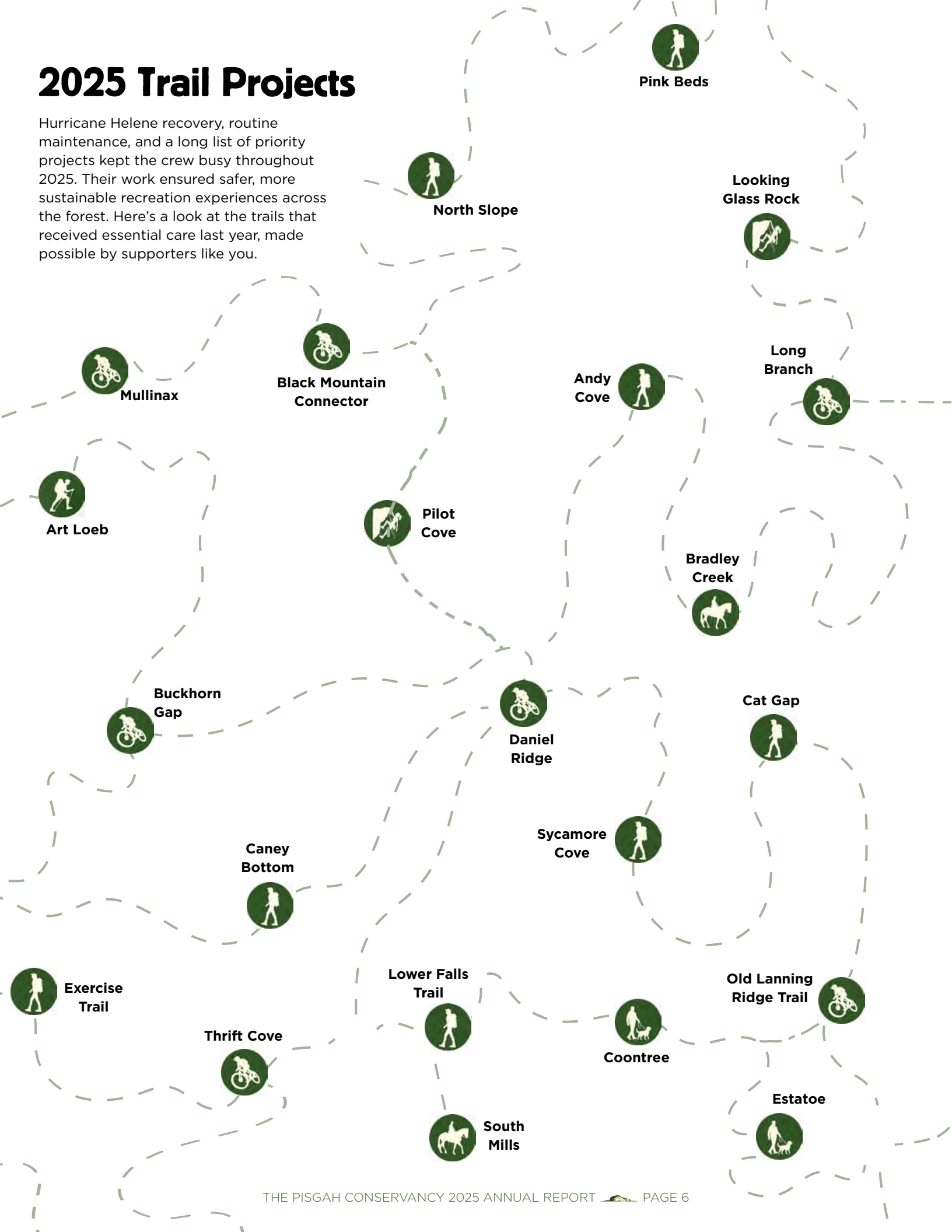
Pisgah matters to everyone reading this, each in our own way. I encourage you to discover your reason why it matters. What does Pisgah give you? Then carry that with you into 2026. Enjoy it. It is here for us, fresh, vibrant, and alive.

You and I are helping keep it that way. So use it. Love it. Have a great year out there.

If you do all that, you have earned an ice cream or a beverage on the way out and a big thank you from all of us at The Pisgah Conservancy.

# 2025 Trail Projects

Hurricane Helene recovery, routine maintenance, and a long list of priority projects kept the crew busy throughout 2025. Their work ensured safer, more sustainable recreation experiences across the forest. Here's a look at the trails that received essential care last year, made possible by supporters like you.





Partners and supporters gathered to celebrate the Estatoe Trail ribbon cutting.  
*Photo by Seyl Park.*

## A Trail Renewed



On April 8th, a ribbon cutting celebrated the completion of the Estatoe Trail restoration and reconstruction, a milestone project for The Pisgah Conservancy and its partners. Connecting the Brevard Greenway to Pisgah, the Estatoe Trail now provides improved access to the forest's extensive trail system.

The project replaced aging boardwalks with six fiberglass bridges, one lumber bridge, and 469 feet of elevated trail tread, or turnpike, addressing the trail's long-standing wet and hazardous conditions. Volunteers joined The Pisgah Conservancy's professional trail crew to remove old structures, move gravel, and construct durable new sections, creating a safer and more sustainable route.

The completed trail is more user-friendly for cyclists, hikers, and other forest visitors, while requiring less ongoing maintenance. For the trail crew, this is one of their largest accomplishments to date. In 2026, they'll continue improving the gateway corridor by building a connector from the Estatoe Trail

to the future 276 sidewalk via the new DOT pedestrian bridge over the Davidson River.

Support for the Estatoe Trail project was provided by the Transylvania County Tourism Development Authority, the Glass Foundation, Vulcan Materials, the City of Brevard, and donors to The Pisgah Conservancy





## More than a Crossing



The Pisgah Conservancy Trail Crew repaired, replaced, or newly constructed more than a dozen bridges in 2025. Pisgah's trails are shaped by streams, slopes, and mountain weather. Bridges turn barriers into connections, letting people move safely and confidently through the forest. They protect fragile habitats, and they can make the difference between a trail feeling intimidating or achievable. These quiet pieces of infrastructure support recreation and conservation, helping make Pisgah welcoming for both new and seasoned users. On this page, you can see some of the bridge work completed by the trail crew.

### **Art Loeb Bridge**

After Hurricane Helene, the original Art Loeb Bridge was recovered intact from the creek below and reused, reducing material needs and preserving a familiar trail feature. The bridge was reset on taller abutments to better handle future high water and outfitted with a new handrail. Box steps were added on both sides to address the steep approach and improve access.

### **Avery Creek Bridge**

A new bridge was constructed across Avery Creek. Materials were transported using a mini excavator, mini skid, and UTV,

then carried across the river with a highline system and grip hoist. Black locust log box abutments support the bridge, which includes decking, gravel-filled ramps, extension ramps, and handrails. This bridge made it possible to decommission an unsustainable section of Avery Creek Trail, better protecting the watershed and reducing route confusion.

### **Buckhorn Footlogs**

Three new footlogs were installed along the Buckhorn Gap Trail to improve challenging water crossings that widened after Hurricane Helene. Locust abutments with

box supports anchor each structure, with footlogs built from oak, hickory, and poplar. Handrails were crafted from smaller logs harvested near each site.

### **Coontree Trail Bridge**

After a fallen limb damaged a handrail on the Coontree Loop, the trail crew replaced the broken section with new lumber, restoring safety along the bridge.

### **Caney Bottom**

On Caney Bottom Trail, just above the second Cove Creek Group Campground site, the Trail Crew used rigging and

rough carpentry skills to repair a single log stringer bridge, pulling it out of the creek, resetting it to level, and anchoring it back into log sills.

### **Pink Beds**

The TPC Trail Crew joined a crew of volunteers from the Conservative Anabaptist Service Program to reset three bog bridges washed out by Hurricane Helene and reconstruct a new 20-ft bridge that was also destroyed by the storm. While working on these bridges on Pink Beds Loop, they also repaired 56 feet of boardwalk.

### **Graveyard Fields**

Rotten decking boards were replaced on one bridge. The trail crew hauled in new lumber, measured, and cut materials onsite to ensure a precise fit and extend the life of the structure.

### **Long Branch**

This bridge was first blown into the creek by Tropical Storm Fred and later shifted again by Hurricane Helene. The trail crew pulled the bridge back into place, set it on new abutments, and added steps. The original stringers, decking, and handrails remained intact and were successfully reused.

### **Looking Glass Rock**

The trail crew stabilized an existing bridge after identifying movement at one corner. Using a bottle jack and carefully placed rock support, the bridge was leveled and secured to restore stability.

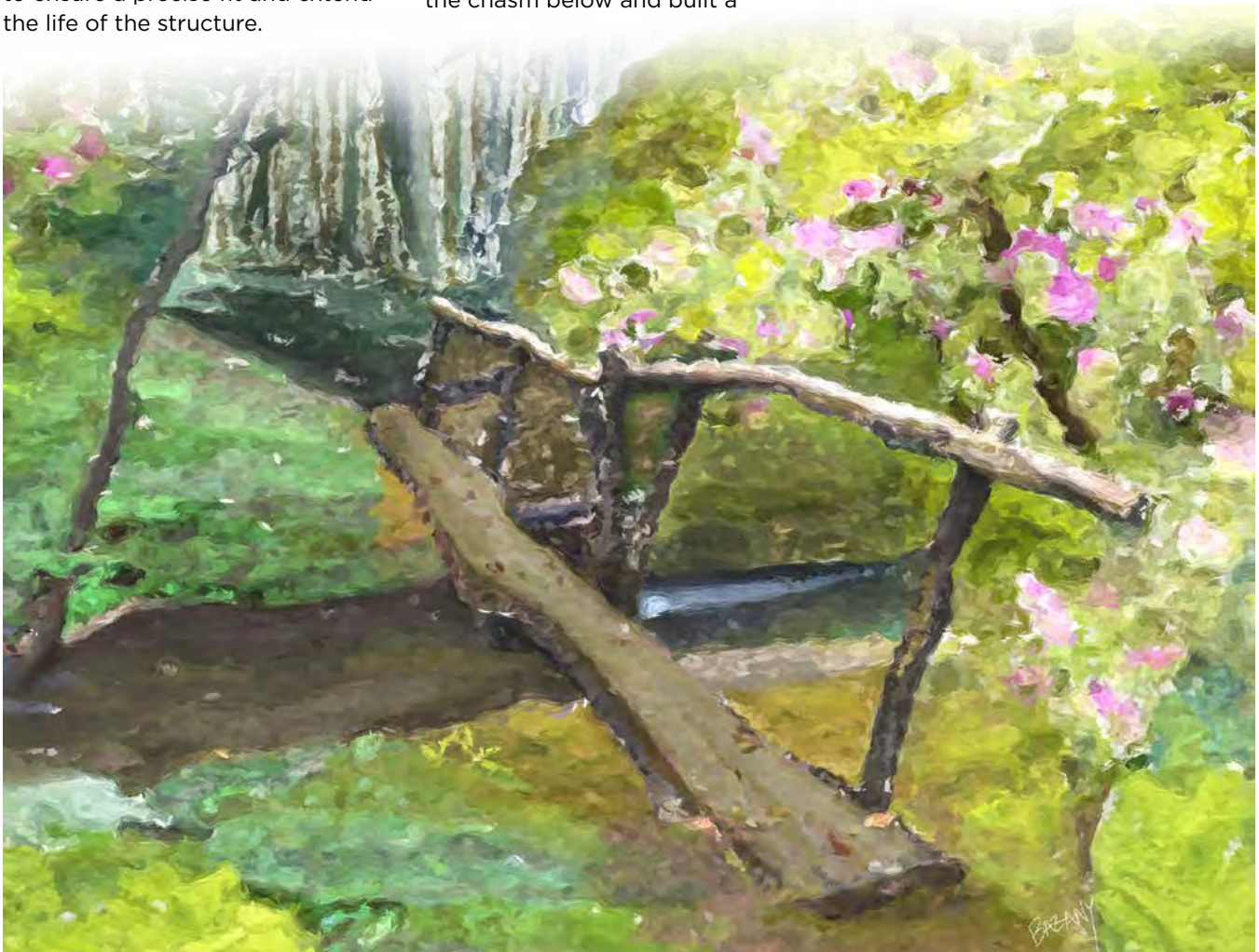
### **North Slope Bridge**

After Hurricane Helene destroyed the original bridge, the trail crew removed the remains from the chasm below and built a

new crossing in its place. The replacement bridge was set on black locust abutments with oak log stringers, treated decking, and sturdy handrails. Built with a mix of hand tools, power tools, and grip hoists, the new structure restores a safe and reliable crossing.

### **Pilot Cove-Slate Rock**

The Pilot Cove-Slate Rock Trail now features a new 24-foot bridge, replacing the previous one damaged by rot and Hurricane Helene's storms. Trail crews removed all debris and rebuilt the bridge with approach ramps through a stand of rhododendron and mountain laurel.



# When Old Becomes New Again



For years, the route connecting Cove Creek Group Campground and Lanning Ridge Road existed in an in-between state. Once a Forest Service system trail and later used as a roadbed, it was never properly reopened or decommissioned. Over time, it became an unofficial legacy trail that was increasingly unsafe, and damaging to the surrounding environment.

Without intentional design or maintenance, water flowed straight down the trail, carving deep ruts and severely entrenched sections. A growing slide narrowed the tread to less than twelve inches

wide in one place, while sediment washed directly into a tributary of Cove Creek. Campground visitors, hikers, and bikers were often unsure whether the route was meant to be used at all.

Formerly referred to as the Cove Creek–Daniel Ridge Connector, the route has now been fully restored and officially reestablished as the Old Lanning Ridge Trail. This project represents a major step forward in improving access between two popular recreation areas in the heart of Pisgah.

The Pisgah Conservancy partnered



with Elevated Trail Design, a Western North Carolina-based trail construction firm, to rehabilitate the 0.325 mile trail and return it to the Forest Service system. Work took place over several weeks in April 2025, with the trail reopening in early May.

Crews completed a full road-to-trail conversion that included removing old culverts, installing drainage improvements, adding rock armoring, and stabilizing eroding sections of tread. Stream crossings were rebuilt to reduce sediment entering the creek, and disturbed areas were revegetated to support long-term recovery. A major slide was repaired through the construction of a large stone cribwall, which stabilized the slope and protected a nearby tributary. In another key improvement, a 160-foot section of trail was relocated out of a drainage ditch and placed on a sidehill better suited for proper drainage.

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By the numbers, the project included 35 reverse grade dips, four significant rock armoring sections, four severely entrenched areas restored and revegetated, and a 20-foot by 10-foot stone cribwall.

Today, the Old Lanning Ridge Trail provides a reliable, clearly defined connection between the Cove Creek and Daniel Ridge trail complexes while significantly reducing impacts to surrounding waterways. This project was made possible through support from the American Trails Legacy Trails Grant Program, Naventure, The Hub & Pisgah Tavern, the Pisgah Cowboys, and generous donors committed to the long-term health of Pisgah National Forest.





## Wonder Runs Here



Each summer, when the rivers of Pisgah swell with visitors and life beneath the surface is at its most active, the Pisgah River Rangers step into a unique role at the intersection of conservation, education, and community connection. A partnership between The Pisgah Conservancy and the Forest Service, the program advances freshwater stewardship across Western North Carolina while helping people of all ages better understand the underwater worlds of the mountains.

The River Rangers program is intentionally hands-on and people-focused. Each season, one lead River Ranger and four interns serve from May through August, stewarding the Davidson, Mills, and French Broad River watersheds. Their work ranges from river cleanups, graffiti removal, and dismantling rock dams in sensitive areas, to leading guided hikes, snorkel programs, and pop-up outdoor classrooms. Whether they are patrolling high-use river corridors during peak visitation or hosting a small group of children at the water's edge, River Rangers serve as approachable ambassadors for stream health.

Education is at the heart of the program's impact. In a single season, Pisgah River

Rangers reach thousands of people. For many participants, especially children, a day with the River Rangers may be their first experience in the forest or playing in a river. These moments spark curiosity and confidence that can be carried forward into everyday life, influencing how families and communities interact with public lands.

The program also creates transformational opportunities for the River Rangers themselves. Interns gain real-world experience that prepare them for careers in conservation. Alumni of the program have gone on to work with agencies and organizations such as the Forest Service, National Park Service, and The Nature Conservancy, extending the program's impact well beyond a single summer.

Collaboration makes this work possible. Community partners and donors all contribute to a shared vision of healthy rivers and informed recreation. Through these partnerships, the River Rangers help ensure that Pisgah's rivers remain vibrant, resilient, and cared for, now and for generations to come.

**NEW River Ranger programs:**



In 2025, the Pisgah River Rangers launched a free public river snorkeling program!



The Pisgah River Rangers hosted a first-ever “Moth Party” at the Ranger Station, featuring night-critter crafts, face painting, blacklights to observe moths and other nocturnal insects, a campfire, and s’mores. More than 200 people, especially families with young children, attended.

**2025 by the numbers:**

Participated in 14 outreach events	Provided hands-on programs for 150 children	Conducted 65 angler surveys	Cleaned up 1,600+ lbs of trash
Dismantled 42 illegal fire rings	Recorded 4,700+ interactions with the public	Removed 48 rock dams	Hosted 4 public snorkeling events

The 2025 Pisgah River Rangers program season was supported by the Forest Service, the Transylvania County Tourism Development Authority, Defenders of Wildlife, Fisher Realty, Trout Unlimited - Pisgah Chapter, Trout Unlimited - Land O’ Sky Chapter, Mills River Partnership, Headwaters Outfitters, and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.



“Fisher Realty is a proud supporter of the Pisgah River Rangers program because we believe in being good stewards of our natural resources. Fisher Realty is happy to support the work of PRR because we know how important the forest is to our community and to the health of the economy where we live. We value the great work of PRR and appreciate the opportunity to help support their efforts.”

- Amy Fisher, Fisher Realty

“What the River Rangers do for our kids falls right in step with our mission here at the Club - it provides a hands-on experience where our kids learn about their local environment while having fun. Our kids always return from the trip excited about their time at the river and love to talk about the critters they caught! What’s special about it is that for some of our members, their time with the River Rangers is the first time they’ve ever been to the forest, or played in the river.”

- AnnaBelle Eidson, Boys and Girls Club of Transylvania County

“The girls learned so much about our local rivers and learned ways to help be a good steward of our local waterways while earning their Outdoor Journey Badges. We did this lesson months ago, but I will still have my girls come up to me and say, ‘Yesterday my family went down to the river and I found two rock stacks and so I gently took them down!’ This lesson is something that is going to resonate and impact their choices for the rest of their life.”

- Vanessa Wright, Girls Scout Troop 10185



## Unwelcome Campers

S'mores? Check. Sleeping bag? Check.  
Invasive plants? Unfortunately, also check.

Campgrounds are among the busiest places in Pisgah. They are also major entry points for invasive plants. Seeds travel lodged in boot treads and bike tires, embedded in mud, clinging to clothing or animal fur, or carried by wind and water. Once introduced, they thrive in disturbed areas like roadsides, campsites, and trailheads, using these corridors to spread deeper into the forest.

By design, campgrounds experience constant disturbance. Heavy foot traffic, vehicle use, and routine maintenance create ideal conditions for invasive plants to establish. Once established, these species rarely stay put. They can move well beyond campgrounds and into remote areas, where infestations may go unnoticed for years.

This is why invasive plant management at Pisgah's campgrounds is so critical. High-use areas like North Mills River and Davidson River Campgrounds welcome visitors who can unintentionally introduce seeds from near and far. In some locations, invasive plants have become the dominant vegetation, displacing native species and altering habitat structure and function.

In 2025, The Pisgah Conservancy began addressing these campground infestations. During the campground off-season, when sites are closed to the public, our crew can safely remove large, long-established populations. The 2025–2026 winter closure of Davidson River Campground for infrastructure improvements has created a unique opportunity to treat the site comprehensively and initiate a long-term management strategy. This timing allows

for more efficient work, fewer safety concerns, and minimal disruption to visitors.

Our crew's immediate goal is to complete the bulk of invasive plant removal before campgrounds reopen for the 2026 season. All removed biomass will be chipped and dispersed within forested areas of the campground. By prioritizing mature, seed-producing plants, we can substantially reduce the invasive seed bank and slow future spread.

After this initial phase, management shifts to a more targeted, less labor-intensive approach. By addressing invasive plants at campgrounds and other high-use areas where all major vectors of invasive seed dispersal converge, we help safeguard forest health, support native species, and protect the camping experiences people come to Pisgah to enjoy.



After a slide on Thrift Cove, the trail's exposed, disturbed soil and frequent foot traffic created ideal conditions for invasive plants to take hold. Field staff stabilized and reseeded the slide to reduce erosion and help establish native vegetation.

## The Ecological Restoration Crew's Work By the Numbers:

606 acres of forest surveyed for invasive plants

80 feet of streambank stabilized on Avery Creek

1,000 square feet of slide stabilization near Cat Gap Loop Trail

2,500 square feet of slide stabilization on Thrift Cove Trail

290 acres of forest treated for invasive plants

400 square feet of reseeded on Avery Creek

525 live stakes planted on Kuykendall Creek





# PISGAH

**For you. For everyone. Forever.**

**Including The Pisgah Conservancy in your will or estate plans is a meaningful commitment to the perpetual care of the forest. Contact us to explore legacy gift opportunities.**





# Recovery, Rooted



Hurricane Helene arrived in the fall, after many non-native invasive species had already produced seed. Heavy rain, flooding, and soil movement carried those seeds into places they had not previously reached, setting the stage for new infestations. Landslides, eroded slopes, scoured streambanks, and areas disturbed by post-storm infrastructure repairs are especially vulnerable. These freshly disturbed sites are exactly where invasive plants thrive. They spread quickly and can take over in just three to five years. Native plants, by contrast, often need much longer to return and fully reestablish, sometimes decades.

The Pisgah Conservancy is working closely with the Forest Service to get ahead of this problem. By targeting invasive plant treatments in areas where infrastructure was damaged and repairs are underway, we are reducing the chances that new infestations take hold or existing ones worsen. Where applicable, TPC is also using live stakes to jump start natural recovery. These cuttings establish quickly, creating ground cover and strong root systems that stabilize soil, reduce erosion, and give native vegetation a better chance to compete.



Using live stakes helps speed up natural succession and establish long term ground cover and root systems to prevent further erosion.



Photo credit here and here.

# Pisgah Passage

A route shaped by forest roads, singletrack, greenways, and community spaces now has a name that fits the landscape: Pisgah Passage.

Nearly 300 name ideas were submitted by people from 11 states. A review committee representing the Forest Service, the City of Brevard, the Transylvania County Tourism Development Authority, and The Pisgah Conservancy carefully considered every submission.

Pisgah Passage rose to the top because it is simple, descriptive, and rooted in place. It was submitted by Brevard resident Maria Whitehead.

More than a name, Pisgah Passage reflects a bigger vision. The roughly

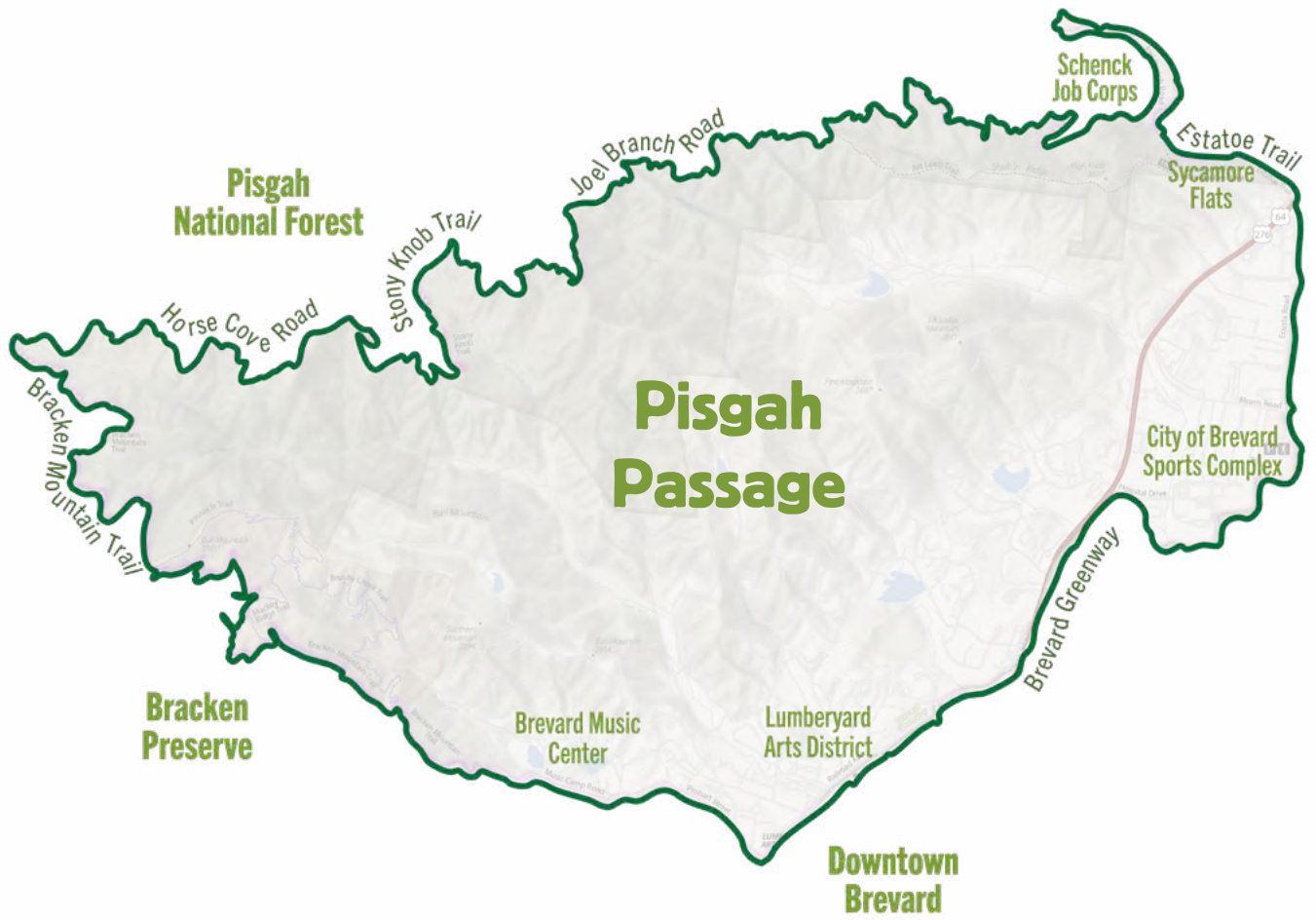
20-mile loop encourages longer rides and hikes, draws attention to quieter corners of the forest, and strengthens the relationship between community spaces and public lands.

Next, The Pisgah Conservancy will work with our partners to develop wayfinding signage and information kiosks with maps of the route along the way.

“When I sat on my porch swing reflecting on what a fun name might be, I thought of ‘passage.’ It’s both-the physical corridor or pathway, and the act of moving through it – the trail and the adventure. My family absolutely loves getting to be in this trailhead town and move on our feet or on our bikes from the built spaces to the wild places. We enjoy some part of the trail almost every day!”

- Maria Whitehead

**Nearly 300 name ideas were submitted by people from 11 states.**





# Pisgah Project Day

Thank you to our volunteers, sponsors, and partners for an incredible Pisgah Project Day 2025! Pisgah Project Day is the largest single-day volunteer event in the forest, made possible by a collaborative effort among individuals, businesses, and partners who share our love for Pisgah.

## Project Highlights:

**Trail Improvements** on Black Mountain, Grassy Road, Starens Branch, Bennett Gap, Exercise, Shining Creek, Cat Gap, John Rock, Cove Creek, and Hardtimes Connector Trails

Invasive plant management at North Mills River Campground, Sycamore Flats, and Avery Creek Road

Gardening and Planting at the Ranger Station/Visitor Center, at the site of the NCDOT pedestrian bridge over the Davidson River, at the Cradle of Forestry, and at Graveyard Fields

Trash Cleanup and Debris Removal along Davidson River Road, Highway 216, White Pines Group Camp, and North Slope Trail

Fence Repair at Sycamore Flats and Coontree Picnic Area

Wildlife Opening and Access Road Maintenance at the Courthouse Creek Wildlife Opening

**2025 Sponsors:** Transylvania County Tourism Development Authority, Hunter Subaru, Elevated Trail Design, D.D. Bullwinkel's Outdoors, Oskar Blues Brewery, Vulcan Materials Company, UNC Pardee Health, Pilot Cove, Sierra Nevada, PLATT, Weevil Outdoor,



Photo by Seyl Park.

Broad River Insurance, Comporium, Looking Glass Realty, Naventure, REI, Blue Ridge Orthodontics, Mast General Store, Water Oak Dental, Ecusta Brewing, Pisgah Coffee Roasters, Bartlett Tree Experts, Chazin & Company, Freeman Gas, O.P. Taylor's, Deerwoode Reserve, Pisgah Energy, First Citizens Bank, Altura Architects

**2025 Partners:** Forest Service, Backcountry Horsemen of Pisgah, Carolina Climbers Coalition, Carolina Mountain Club, EcoForesters, FIND Outdoors, Friends of the North Fork of the French Broad, National Forest Foundation, NC Fish and Wildlife Conservation Council, NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Pisgah Area SORBA, Pisgah Cowboys, Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards, Southern Highlands Reserve, Transylvania County Extension Master Gardeners, Transylvania County Rescue Squad, Trout Unlimited - Land O'Sky and Pisgah Chapters



# Pisgah Project Bike Raffle



Congratulations to the winner of the 2025 Pisgah Project Bike Raffle: Jeff Huntley of Prineville, OR! The 2025 raffle raised over \$36,000 for Pisgah, bringing the total raised since the very first Pisgah Project Bike Raffle in 2017 to over \$324,900! Thank you again to all of the partners who made this year's raffle possible and to everyone who purchased a ticket.

The 2025 Pisgah Project Bike Raffle was made possible by Cane Creek Cycling Components with support from: REEB Cycles, Shimano, Industry Nine, Crankbrothers, Michelin Bicycle, Seyl Park Photography, Pilot Cove, and Oskar Blues Brewery.

Thank you to our 2025 Pisgah Project Bike Raffle tour hosts: Oskar Blues Brewery, D.D. Bullwinkel's Outdoors, Liberty Bicycles, Sierra Nevada Brewing Co., The Hub and Pisgah Tavern, Motion Makers Bicycle Shop, Ecusta Brewing Company, REI, Piney Mountain Bike Lounge, and the Riveter.



You can support Pisgah's greatest needs by getting the plate for \$30 online at [ncdot.gov/dmv](https://ncdot.gov/dmv) or at your local tag office.

Thank you to all of the North Carolina residents who currently have The Pisgah Conservancy plate — you are truly driving our year-round work in the forest!



# Volunteers

Hundreds of dedicated volunteers generously give their time and energy to support The Pisgah Conservancy. The board and staff extend heartfelt appreciation to all who volunteer for projects and programs benefiting the forest.



Special thanks to Seyl Park and Show and Tale Creative for contributing photos

## 2025 BY THE NUMBERS:



**550+**  
VOLUNTEERS



**2,180+**  
HOURS



**25+**  
PROJECTS

# Thank You to Our 2025 Donors



The Pisgah Conservancy is deeply thankful for the individuals, community partners, businesses, and foundations who contribute towards the needs of the forest. Donors who gave \$250+ in 2025 are acknowledged in the following pages. They represent a commitment to care for Pisgah now, and forever.

## Individuals

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Carolyn Appen  
David and Sydney Atkinson  
Scott and Missy Banks  
Joy Baron  
Harriet Barry  
Peter and Amy Barry  
John and Anne Barry  
Amos and Kimberly Beason  
Ted and Ann Beason  
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 Naventure  
 O.P. Taylor's  
 OneUp Components  
 Oskar Blues Brewery  
 Patagonia Charlotte  
 Pilot Cove  
 Pisgah Coffee Roasters  
 Pisgah Energy  
 Platt Architecture  
 REI  
 Renaissance Reinsurance  
 Seyl Park Photography  
 Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.  
 Vulcan Materials Company  
 Water Oak Dental  
 Weevil Outdoor  
 Zscaler

**Foundations**

Appen Family Charitable Fund  
 Carol B. Phelon Foundation  
 Comporium Foundation  
 Fernandez Pave The Way  
 Foundation  
 Fink Charitable Gift Fund  
 Hunter Family Foundation  
 Hunter Hometown Foundation  
 Knoph Family Foundation KFF  
 McKinstry Charitable Foundation  
 Steven C. Leuthold Family  
 Foundation  
 The Community Foundation of  
 Western North Carolina  
 The Glass Foundation  
 The Hunter Foundation

**Community Partners**

American Trails  
 Defenders of Wildlife  
 First Congregational Church  
 Mills River Partnership  
 North Carolina Trout Unlimited  
 Rotary Club of Asheville  
 Transylvania County Tourism  
 Development Authority  
 UNC Health Pardee

**Tributes**

**The names below reflect those honored or remembered through a gift to The Pisgah Conservancy.**

**Memorials**

John Fredrick Anders  
 Noel Boyland  
 Dixon Brady  
 Bruce Burney  
 Casey Jones Cash  
 Walter and Dale Cottingham  
 Joy Anne Cronin

Keith Elder  
 Alan Ext  
 Bill Gilliam  
 Ben Geer Keys  
 Morry Lambert  
 Dr. Charles D. Lowery  
 Lucy Rodes  
 Davey Ruffes  
 James Seay  
 Phyllis Seifert  
 Darlene Sowa  
 Katara Temple  
 Kiezel Strom Thorne  
 Jerry "Pete" Keith Triplett  
 Mabel Tryner  
 Kathleen and Alan Young

**Honorarium**

Amos Beason  
 Bill Beck  
 Hartley Bream  
 Bayes Christiansen  
 Beth Clifton  
 Emerson Blythe Cottingham  
 John Cottingham  
 Courtney and Mike Czarnecki  
 Marielle DeJong  
 Kyra Denington  
 Randy Dill  
 Woodrow Dyches, Jr.  
 Griff Eldridge  
 Sarah Harkins  
 Pat Hawkins  
 Haley Hyde  
 The Keddy's  
 Jeanne Kostlevy  
 Page and Mark Lemel  
 Barbara Merrell  
 Jim Olson  
 Pete Petersen  
 Henry Lee Reeves III  
 Transylvania County Bird Club  
 U.S. Forest Service

# Find Your Way to Give



Gifts entrusted to The Pisgah Conservancy support care for forest trails, rivers, native plants, and wildlife. This page provides information and options to help you contribute in a way that is meaningful to you.

## Donor Advised Funds

A Donor Advised Fund lets you support The Pisgah Conservancy on a timeline that works for you. You can recommend one-time or recurring gifts, or direct part or all of your fund to our work. DAFs are typically set up through community foundations or other financial institutions.

## Gifts of Stock

If you've owned appreciated securities for more than a year, donating them to The Pisgah Conservancy can be a tax-smart way to give. For details, contact Nina Ardle at [nina@pisgahconservancy.org](mailto:nina@pisgahconservancy.org).

## IRA Distributions

If you're 70½ or older, you can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA to The Pisgah Conservancy. Gifts may count toward your Required Minimum Distribution while supporting the forest you love.

## Monthly Giving

Monthly giving is a simple, reliable way to support our year-round work in the forest on a routine, automated basis. It helps sustain trail care, stewardship, and community programs all year long.

## Planned Giving

Interested in leaving a lasting legacy in Pisgah? Planned giving options allow you to support The Pisgah Conservancy now and into the future. Contact Nina at [nina@pisgahconservancy.org](mailto:nina@pisgahconservancy.org).

## Tribute Gifts

Tribute gifts are a thoughtful way to honor or remember someone special

while supporting Pisgah. They're especially meaningful for birthdays, anniversaries, and other milestones that celebrate a lasting connection to the forest.

## Workplace Giving

Many employers offer matching gifts or workplace giving programs. Check with your employer to see if there's an easy way to increase the impact of your support.

## Additional Opportunities:

For more ways to give, including corporate sponsorships, specialty license plates, grantmaking and other opportunities, please contact Nina at [Nina@pisgahconservancy.org](mailto:Nina@pisgahconservancy.org) or Marielle at [marielle@pisgahconservancy.org](mailto:marielle@pisgahconservancy.org).





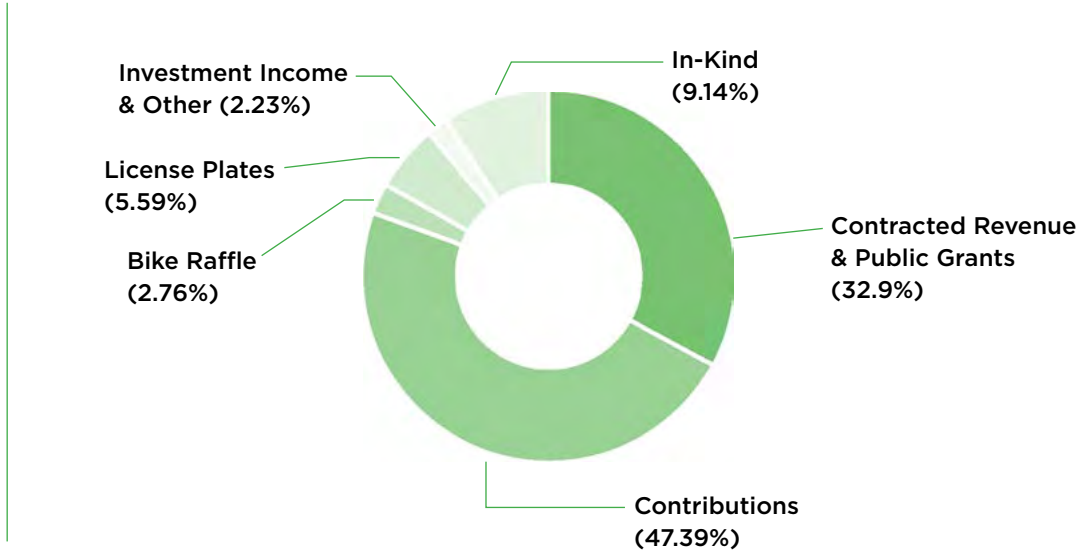
# Statement of Financial Position



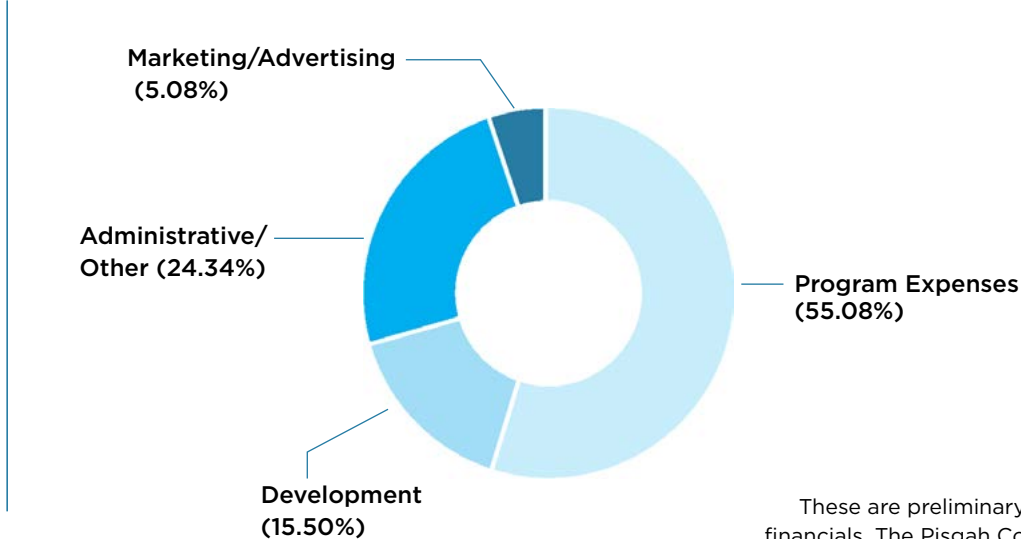
Financial assets as of 12/31/25	
Cash/Cash equivalents	\$ 991,841
Accounts receivable	54,655
<b>Financial assets total</b>	<b>\$1,046,496</b>
Change of + \$78,683 from 12/31/24	

Fixed assets as of 12/31/25	
Vehicles	\$ 190,049
Intangible assets (website)	8,000
Fixed Assets Accumulated Depreciation	84,410
<b>Fixed assets total</b>	<b>\$ 113,639</b>
Change of + \$28,403 from 12/31/24	

## 2025 Support & Revenue: \$1,314,492



## 2025 Expenses: \$1,154,846



These are preliminary, pre-audit financials. The Pisgah Conservancy incurred significant one-time marketing and administrative expenses to build our new website and adopt a new financial management software system in 2025.



## Caring for Pisgah's trails, wildlife, native plants, and rivers

The Pisgah Conservancy  
159 West Main Street, Unit 2138  
Brevard, NC 28712

[PisgahConservancy.org](http://PisgahConservancy.org)  
[Info@pisgahconservancy.org](mailto:Info@pisgahconservancy.org)  
(828) 782-1418

The Pisgah Conservancy is an official partner of the U.S. Forest Service and a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Federal tax ID number: 47-5267129