



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Chattahoochee River
National Recreation Area

1978 Island Ford Parkway
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

National Park Service News Release

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Contact: beth_wheeler@nps.gov, 404-803-7641

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area invites public input on Paces Mill Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment

SANDY SPRINGS, Ga. – The Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (Chattahoochee River NRA) today launched public commenting on plans for the rehabilitation of Paces Mill in partnership with the Cumberland Community Improvement District (CCID).

The public comment period on the *Paces Mill Unit Rehabilitation / Environmental Assessment* will be open from May 9, 2022, through June 8, 2022. A previous round of civic engagement in summer 2019 helped park staff refine the project designs and provided valuable input as to which environmental considerations would be carried forward for further analysis.

“We are pleased to offer this opportunity for the public to provide input on our exciting and innovative rehabilitation project,” said **Superintendent Ann Honious**. “We’ve used what we have heard from our past outreach to improve our plans for a full-scale rehabilitation of Paces Mill in partnership with the Cumberland Community Improvement District. Our goal is for this project to increase the site’s overall sustainability, improve visitor safety and create a distinct national park visitor experience.”

The public is invited to submit written comments on the environmental assessment at the project website. Written comments may be submitted by visiting https://parkplanning.nps.gov/CRNRA_Paces and selecting “Open for Comment” on the left menu bar.

Written comments may also be submitted by mail to:

National Park Service
Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area
1978 Island Ford Parkway
Atlanta, Georgia 30350-3400

Written comments on the plan must be submitted online or postmarked by June 8, 2022 to be considered.

About the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Paces Mill Unit Rehabilitation / Environmental Assessment:

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area encompasses a 48-mile stretch of the Chattahoochee River from Buford Dam to Peachtree Creek and over 5,500 acres of adjoining lands, within an authorized boundary of 10,000 acres, in northern Georgia (figure 1). The National Recreation Area, managed by the National Park Service (NPS), includes 15 units and welcomed approximately 3.3 million visitors in 2021.

Paces Mill, in the Palisades unit, is the southernmost and farthest downstream facility of the National Recreation Area along the river. This makes it the last “take-out” point for casual rafters and kayakers. Paces Mill is used most often during the summer months for boating and fishing access, picnicking, jogging and hiking. It is a key destination in the National Recreation Area with an estimated 270,000 annual visitors.

The National Recreation Area and Cumberland Community Improvement District (CCID) have entered into an agreement for the rehabilitation of the Paces Mill facilities. The Cumberland CID and National Recreation Area relationship is of mutual benefit as the Cumberland Submarket continues to expand commercially and residentially, as does the demand for recreational facilities and opportunities. The proposed rehabilitation aims to upgrade the physical design, appearance and infrastructure to address current deficiencies, create a sustainable unit with a strong NPS identity and improve site access and visitor safety.

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