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FIND Outdoors Expands Operations to Kentucky with Gladie Visitor Center

Pisgah Forest, NC – FIND Outdoors, a nonprofit located in Pisgah Forest, NC, is proud and excited to help the US Forest Service reopen the doors of the beloved Gladie Visitor Center in the heart of the Red River Gorge in eastern Kentucky. This opportunity comes on the heels of the organization’s 50th Anniversary in 2022 as the leader in recreational and educational opportunities on our public lands.

The Visitor Center originally opened in 2004 as the gateway to the bustling Red River Gorge, a mecca of over 40,000 acres of camping, hiking, mountain biking, boating and adventures on one of the Midwest’s hidden gems. For the climbing enthusiast, the Gorge has over 100 natural sandstone arches and a multitude of sandstone cliffs and walls that have turned the area into one of the premier climbing spots in the world.

Through the years, the visitor center has delivered safety and recreation-based information for hundreds of thousands of visitors to the area, and with the inclusion of FIND’s mission of recreation and education opportunities for all, the possibilities are endless for future events, programs and partnerships.

“We are excited that FIND Outdoors is bringing their expertise to serve the public in this capacity and are confident that they will help deliver a new era of learning and public land recreation in the ever-popular Red River Gorge,” stated Cumberland District Ranger Jonathan Kazmierski.

Gladie is slated to open to the public in March and will include a new gift shop, updated visitor information, and events throughout the 2022 season. In addition to these amenities at the center itself, the adjacent property boasts a historic cabin, sorghum mill, several hiking trails, exhibits, and picnic tables to round out the perfect outdoor experience for families and individuals alike.



“After 50 years in existence,” explains FIND’s President and CEO, Natalie Britt, “FIND encapsulates not only our goal in helping the public find a connection to the natural world, but also our nonprofit’s dedication to enhancing that connection at every level for every visitor. It is our pride and our passion.”

For more information on the reopening of Gladie Visitor Center and future plans, please visit FIND Outdoors’ website at www.gofindoutdoors.org/sites or call 828-883-FIND. We’re also on social media at facebook.com/findoutdoors and Instagram at @findoutdoors. Be sure to check back for upcoming events and programs, and pick up a FIND Passport during your visit!

For more information on the Daniel Boone National Forest or Red River Gorge area and recreational opportunities, please visit the official website at www.fs.usda.gov/dbnf or social media sites at facebook.com/danielboonenf and twitter.com/DanielBooneNF.

About FIND Outdoors

FIND Outdoors, formerly the Cradle of Forestry in America Interpretive Association, is a 50-year-old 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Pisgah Forest, NC. We serve over 900,000 visitors annually with a mission that promotes educational, recreational and interpretive opportunities about forest and water resources, natural history and the Cradle of Forestry in America. FIND Outdoors proudly manages campgrounds, visitor centers, sales outlets and educational facilities on public lands in North Carolina, Kentucky, Georgia and Indiana and the Northwest Trading Post on the Blue Ridge Parkway. FIND accomplishes its mission by providing exceptional outdoor experiences through partnership opportunities for the health, safety and education of all visitors to local and regional public and private lands.