

## Turtle Hollow and Turtle Bluff Campsites along the Pine Mountain Trail

In early 2012 two new backcountry campsites were presented for consideration to the managers of FDR State Park, who endorsed the presented sites. . After review by various Georgia Department of Natural Resources departments, the campsites were approved. Volunteers working with the Pine Mountain Trail Association helped clear the sites and access trails including carrying in parts for the first bridge the PMTA provided at Turtle Hollow. The wooden name and directional signs for the sites were installed on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Both camps were ready for use on May 27, 2012. All campsites on the PMT were built and are maintained by trail association volunteers.



### Turtle Hollow Campsite.... (a large group size camp with 2-tent sub camp Turtle Bluff).

The start of the access trail to **Turtle Hollow Campsite** is 1.4 miles east of Fox Den Cove Parking Lot on the Pine Mountain Trail. From Molly Hugger Hill Parking Lot it is about 3.6 miles west. There is a wooden sign and brown strip sign at the head of the of the access trail to the camp off the PMT. Follow the white blazed access trail down west some 780' to wooden sign. To the right of this sign is the main campsite which can accommodate a large group of backpackers (12-15 tents or around 30+ backpackers) but there is only one established fire ring. Water for this group size camp is a small spring stream that runs by the camp under the bridge.

For 1-4 people with 2 tents max use **Turtle Bluff**. At the sign is a footbridge. Cross the bridge and follow the trail up a short ways to Turtle Bluff. This small sub camp, overlooks the spring stream below. There is room for only two tents and there is **one** established fire ring there.

Even if there is a group staying at the main Turtle Hollow Campsite, Turtle Bluff is across the spring and up the hill enough to offer "privacy" for backpackers away from a group at the main campsite.

**BOTH of these camps are single permit use sites**, meaning only one person/couple or group will be issued a permit for each....

While scouting out the location for this new campsite, a turtle shell was found near the water. The name Turtle Hollow seemed to fit, and was chosen as the name.



Sign near Fox Den Cove Parking Lot

Turtle Hollow –one fire ring



New bridge April 1, 2017



Why a new bridge in 2017? .....Original bridge from 2012 was destroyed by a tree in early 2017

