



LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND REQUEST | FISCAL YEAR 2010

Project Name

Buck Mountain, Tennessee
Cherokee National Forest

Parcel: 18 Acres

LWCF Request: \$150,000

Total Project Value: \$150,000

Natural Resources

Cherokee National Forest
Wildlife habitat
Appalachian Trail corridor

Significance

A.T. immediate surroundings
Scenic views and ridgelines
Contiguous wildlife corridor
Open space protection

The Buck Mountain tract is located in rural northeast Tennessee near the village of Roan Mountain. The rolling, open country side along the top of Buck Mountain offers views of Beech Mountain, North Carolina, to the east and towering to the south, Hump Mountain and the rest of the Highlands of Roan. Previously devoted to Christmas tree and ornamental shrub operations, this area is rapidly being developed to take advantage of the outstanding views, rural character, and close proximity to the Cherokee National Forest and Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

The southern boundary of the Buck Mountain tract is within 10 yards of the A.T., is clearly visible from the A.T. and occupies the hill above the Trail for about one-quarter mile from Isaacs Cemetery to Walnut Mountain Road. This tract is visible from the A.T. for approximately three quarters of a mile in either direction.

This parcel is a critical piece of the A.T. corridor through this developing area and its conservation will allow protection of the foreground viewshed of the A.T. Development of this prominent hillside would significantly diminish the rural character and environment of the A.T. in this area.

The current owner would like to sell this property to the USDA Forest Service to help protect the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

