

DORG PB

erty, including schools, shall not be infringed. Neither the United States nor my children and their children yet to come.

My Vote for State Park Entrance

by Lillie Mills

This fall, enough study results should be available for Gorges State Park decision makers to start compiling a comprehensive park plan. The plan will include the development of facilities for visitors and long-range management procedures. One of the big questions yet to be answered is what area will be developed as the main entrance to the park.

Gorges State Park is bordered by NC 281 to the west, US 64 to the north, Frozen Creek Rd. to the east and South Carolina to the south. Many options for the main entrance are being considered, but I suggest looking at Frozen Creek Rd. off of US 64 as the best alternative.

The main entrance will serve to funnel most tourist traffic toward one area. Many visitors will come from the east, from I26 through Brevard. If they are steered off US 64 at Frozen Creek Rd. just past Rosman, traffic will be eased from the winding trail of US 64 West.

Those of us that travel that part of US 64 regularly, know the vicious curves you encounter there. And we know that the big trucks, that serve as lines for our communities, can

not navigate many of those curves and stay on their side of the road. Sometimes you have to stop and give them space. Does a traveller, unfamiliar to our area, realize such things?

I've heard for years that the NC Department of Transportation might straighten some of the problem areas. But ask the folks up NC 215 if you can rely on that.

The second reason I support the main entrance from Frozen Creek Rd. is because of the topography of the land. The Eastern side of the park is not as steep and, as a result, would be less hurt by the erosion that traffic brings. This access would minimize traffic on the main escarpment of the Blue Wall off of NC 281 South.

The master park plan for Gorges State Park is a "major work in progress," according to Superintendent Steve Pagano. Interim plans have mainly come from the Park Service but the public will have plenty of opportunity to participate in the development of the master plan.

Pagano encourages people to submit ideas and opinions to him in writing at P.O. Box 100, Sapphire, NC 28774 or email him at gorg@citcom.net or send them to the Mountain Voice and let's talk about it!