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## Land trust donates 50-acre tract along Blue Ridge Parkway to the National Park Service

By Journal Staff

RALEIGH â The Conservation Trust for North Carolina has donated a nearly 50-acre tract to the Blue Ridge Parkway and National Park Service.

The property is on the border of Alleghany and Surry counties near milepost 220.5 near Cumberland Knob. It includes the headwaters of the Fisher River in the Yadkin River basin and is upstream from the water supply for the town of Dobson.

CTNC purchased the 48.7-acre Roaring Fork Headwaters tract in June 2009 from Mike Carson of Gainesville, Ga., who agreed to a steeply discounted price to ensure that the property would be protected.

"This expansion of Blue Ridge Parkway's protected corridor is a terrific way to start celebrating the park's 75th anniversary year," said Phil Francis, superintendent of the Blue Ridge Parkway. "The Roaring Fork property is now part of a broad landscape of beautiful scenery, pristine mountain streams and wildlife habitat that is safeguarded forever."

CTNC has protected a total of more than 30,000 acres along the Parkway. The Roaring Fork tract is adjacent to a 201-acre property that was conveyed by CTNC to the National Park Service in 2007.