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Conservation group protects parkway land

The Conservation Trust for North Carolina purchased a 48.7-acre tract of land on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Cumberland Knob that will eventually be transferred to the National Park Service.

The Roaring Fork Headwaters tract, on the border of Alleghany and Surry counties near milepost 220.5, was purchased this week for \$125,000 from Mike Carson of Gainesville, Ga. The property includes the headwaters of the Fisher River, which is part of the Yadkin River Basin and is upstream from the water supply for the town of Dobson.

The conservation trust intends to give the entire tract to the National Park Service to be included in the Blue Ridge Parkway corridor.

The Roaring Fork tract is adjacent to the 201-acre Cumberland Knob/Saddle Mountain Vista property that was conveyed by the conservation trust to the park service in 2007. Both are near the 3,400-acre Saddle Mountain Wilderness Area and the 1,000-acre Cumberland Knob National Recreation Area.
