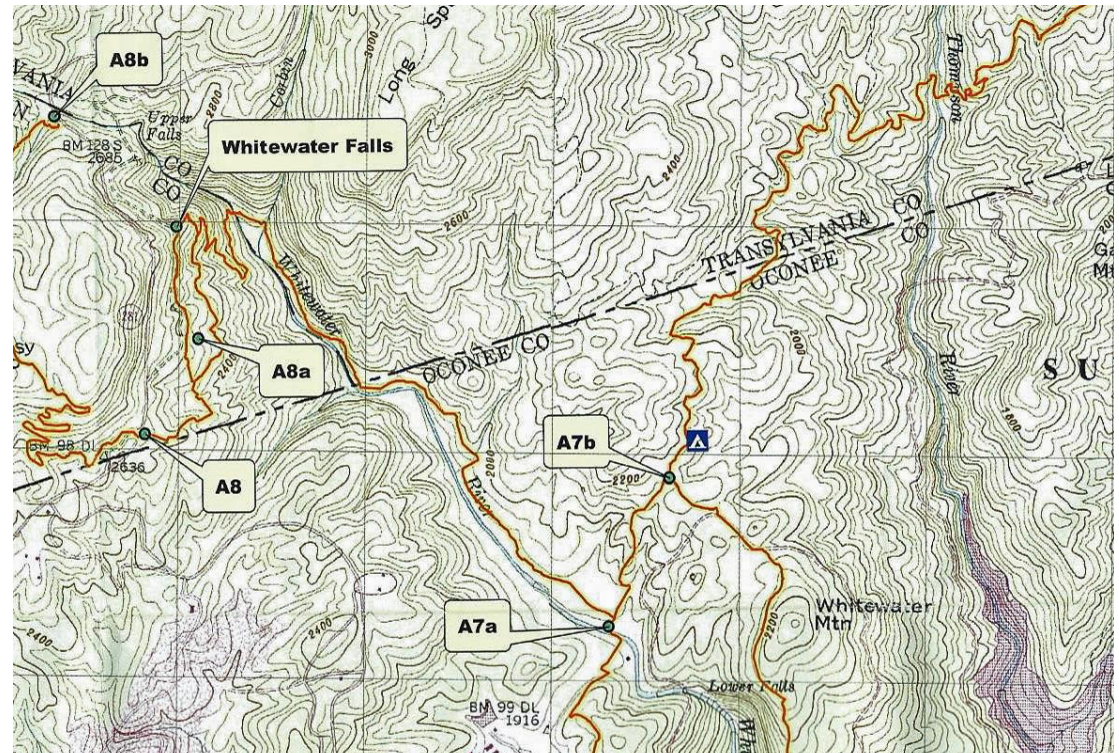


WHITEWATER to BAD CREEK Whitewater Falls Access to Bad Creek, FT A8 to A7 plus



DESCRIPTION: This hike begins at the Upper Whitewater Falls Access (A8 on the Foothills Trail). It meanders north for about a half mile, below and parallel to NC281 and the road into UWF Park. The next half mile plunges about 500ft on rough terrain, softened by switch backs and stairways. The descent ends at the river, downstream of the Upper Falls. Huge boulders guard the entry to an iron bridge which crosses to the east side of Whitewater River. The trail then continues about 2 miles downstream, riverside, on mostly level ground, punctuated with occasional short stairways and minor stream crossings. A well signed junction (FT A7a) marks the turn north to Thompson River and Lower Whitewater Falls. Head south on the blue blazed spur, crossing two iron bridges, then go moderately uphill for less than another mile to the Musterground parking area of the Duke Power facility at Bad Creek (FT A7). Consider visiting Upper Whitewater Falls for alternate access to the FT, and/or adding a mile or two, from 7a, of the Coon Branch Trail, across the bridges on the west side of the river.

DIRECTIONS (GPS 35.025979, -82.018058)
This hike requires a car switch. All meet at 9AM at the Upper Whitewater Access (not the Park). The gravel parking area is just into NC on NC281 (the continuation of SC130) just south of the Upper Whitewater Falls Park entrance. This requires leaving KKEPA at least 30 minutes prior. There are no fees. Facilities can be accessed, backdoor in the Park, near the start, and, again at the Bac Creek terminus.. Expect to return about 3PM.



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