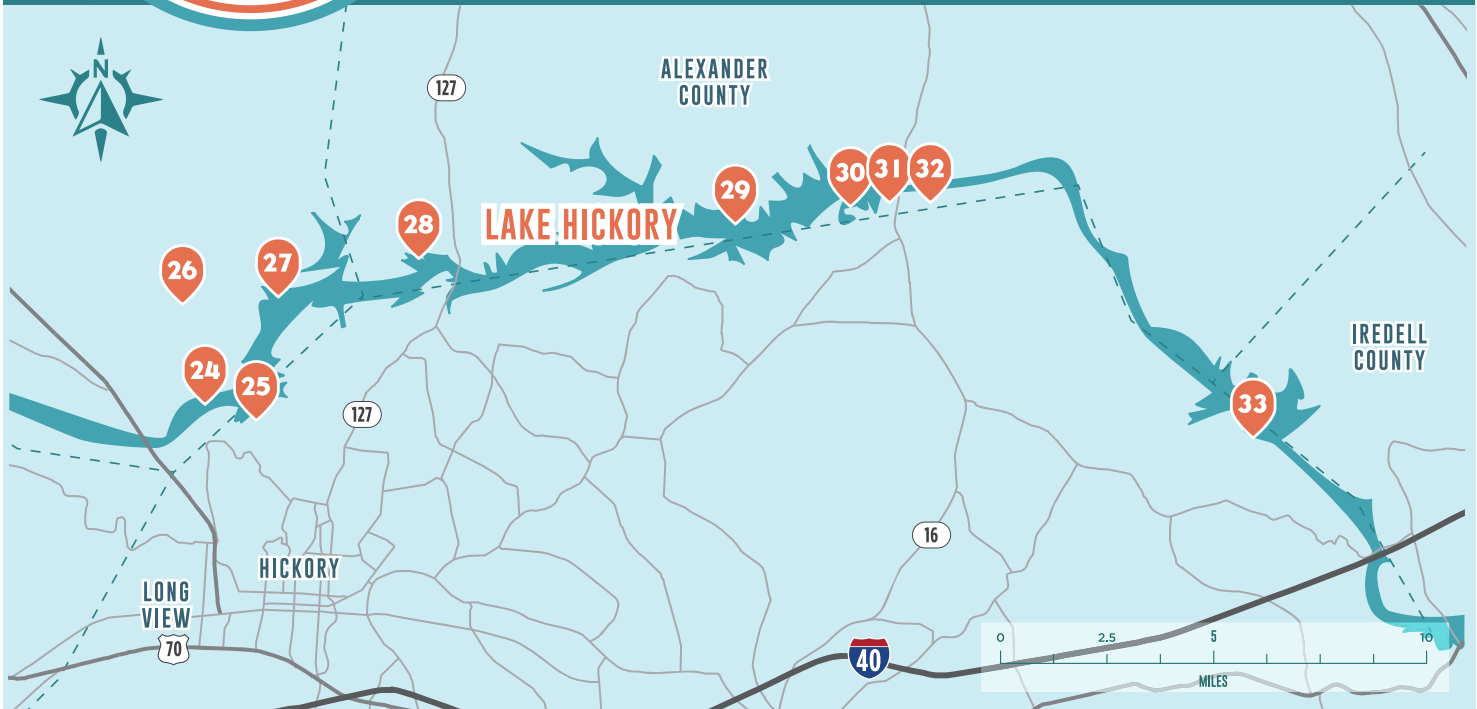
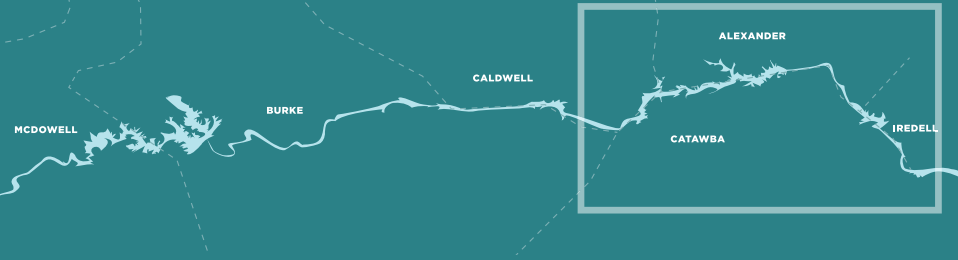


SECTION 3: LAKE HICKORY



ACCESS POINTS

DESCRIPTION

HISTORY

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- 24** **Geitner Park**
City of Hickory
35.764588, -81.369526
- 25** **Glenn Hilton Park (Spur)**
City of Hickory
35.760938, -81.357366
- 26** **Gunpowder (Spur)**
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
35.795744, -81.374661
- 27** **Lovelady**
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
35.795785, -81.349567
- 28** **Wittenburg**
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
35.805514, -81.312407
- 29** **Dusty Ridge**
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
35.815000, -81.230000
- 30** **Oxford Access Area**
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
35.818450, -81.195617
- 31** **Oxford Dam Portage**
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
35.821500, -81.193100
- 32** **Riverbend Park**
Catawba County
35.820168, -81.188013
- 33** **Lookout Shoals**
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
35.757726, -81.097289

- 3 miles from Hickory along 12th St. Dr. NW**
- Second parking lot within Glenn Hilton Park along 6th Street NW**
- Located at the terminus of Hurricane Hill Road**
- 6.8 miles from Hickory along Rocky MT Road**
- 6.6 miles from Hickory on Wildlife Access Road**
- Located at the terminus of Dusty Ridge Access Road**
- Adjacent to Riverbend Park along NC Highway 16**
- 6875 NC Highway 16 in Conover, NC**
- Adjacent to the Oxford Hydro Station on NC Highway 16**
- Adjacent to Lookout Shoals Dam along Lookout Dam Road**

The Catawba River is an important water way to Western North Carolina and has fostered a rich history for the region. Named for the Catawba Tribe of Native Americans that resided in the area for over 12,000 years, it hosted the earliest inland European settlement of Spanish conquistadors, Fort San Juan, until it was destroyed by fire in 1568.

During the Revolutionary War, it was a major route for the march of the Overmountain Victory men on their way to defeat the British Loyalists at King's Mountain, turning the tide of the war, and helping to secure our Nation's independence.

Over the years, water quality suffered and flow was decreased by human use. Thanks in part to the Clean Water Act of 1972, the Upper Catawba River Basin continues to recover and now is home to over 30 species of fish making it one of the most diverse fisheries in Western North Carolina, and home to ten different species of mussels and crayfish.

Today, the river provides water and power to millions of people within the region and continues to be an important recreational resource.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 911

- General Information Numbers**
- NC Wildlife Resources Commission (800) 662-7137
 - Alexander County (828) 632-9332
 - Burke County (828) 764-9000
 - Catawba County (828) 465-8200
 - City of Hickory (828) 323-7412
 - City of Marion (828) 652-3551
 - City of Morganton Recreation (828) 438-5350
 - Lake James State Park (828) 584-7728
 - McDowell County (828) 652-7121
 - Town of Valdese (828) 879-2132
- Marinas**
- Lake James Marina (828) 254-5253
 - Castle Bridge Marina (828) 726-0718
 - Lakeside Marina (828) 495-8181
 - Rink Dam Marina (828) 632-7937
 - Taylorsville Beach Marina (828) 632-7649
 - Mimosa Marina and Boat Landing (828) 584-1886
 - Bear Creek Marina (828) 655-1400

- Visitor Information**
- Alexander County Tourism Office (828) 632-1161
 - Burke County Visitor Center (828) 433-6793
 - Caldwell County Visitor Center (828) 726-0323
 - Hickory Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau (828) 322-1335
 - Lenior Tourism Office (828) 757-2200
 - McDowell County Visitor Center (828) 652-4240

Respect Property

Please keep the Upper Catawba River Trail clean. Leave no trace by carrying trash with you and dispose of it properly.

The trail is a publicly-owned river flowing through private property. River users should not trespass, abuse or litter the waters, banks or shoreline of the trail.

Contact Lake James State Park, other land managing agency, or property owner prior to any overnight camping. Reservations may be required for overnight, or camping may be prohibited.

Funding and support for the Upper Catawba River Trail provided by

LEGEND

- Local Roads
- Limited Access Highway
- Highway
- County Boundaries
- Hydrography

* Spur indicates a boat access area that is connected by branch off the main Catawba River Trail and leads to a dead end and does not loop or connect back to the main trail.