



Pisgah Ranch View. © Southern Appalachians Highlands Conservancy (SAHC)

## **NORTH CAROLINA'S NEWEST STATE PARK: PRESERVING AN ICONIC VIEW, KEY ECONOMIC DRIVER, NATURAL WONDERLAND**

Outstanding scenery and outdoor recreation are key to Western North Carolina's economy. That's why the North Carolina General Assembly created Pisgah View Ranch State Park in Buncombe County. Generations of North Carolinians vacationed at the historic ranch which has been owned by the same family since the 1790's, and now all North Carolinians will get to enjoy the rich forests, scenic campgrounds and trails, and miles of ridgeline, all in the shadow of Mount Pisgah, one of the most iconic peaks of the Eastern United States. The property is also part of an important wildlife corridor for black bear and deer that use its two miles of ridgeline, which connects to Pisgah National Forest near Mount Pisgah.

The State has contracted to purchase the 1,600-acre tract over five years at a cost of \$18 million. Thanks to a combination of funds from the N.C. Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and private philanthropy half that money has been raised. If the State defaults on the five-year purchase plan, the owner may well pull out and the project will fail.

