

Dear Park Guest,

I'm aware that Llama's have been allowed at Red Top in the past, however they are not presently permitted on the park.

Please see below:

Thank you for your interest in Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites. I have been forwarded your request to have Llamas on Red Top Mountain State Park. Unfortunately, Llamas do not meet the definition of a pet under the Georgia State Park Rules 391-5-1-.02.

"Pet" means those taxa of animals which have traditionally lived in a state of dependence on and under the domination and control of humans and have been kept as tame pets, including cats and dogs. The term "pet" does not include animals raised as livestock. Animals which live in a captive or tame state and which lack a genetic distinction from members of the same taxon living in the wild are presumptively wild animals.

Since Llamas are not considered as pets, they are not allowed the same access to the Georgia State Parks as a dog or a cat. Thus, Llamas are not allowed at Red Top Mountain State Park.

In researching this issue, we feel that Llama do meet a definition of exotic livestock. This is similar to the determination of the National Park Service, which allows Llamas limited access to some trails. Llama in these instances are considered as pack animals or livestock.

Consequently with this in mind, we have decided to allow Llamas at our sites with equestrian facilities. Llama owners will be able to come our sites and follow the same rules as horses with the exception being made for the negative Coggins test requirement. Our sites that have equestrian facilities are F.D. Roosevelt, Fort Mountain, General Coffee, Watson Mill Bridge, Hard Labor Creek, and A. H. Stephens.

We are aware and do understand that Llamas have been allowed at Red Top Mountain and Unicoi State Parks in the past. Unfortunately this happened due to Manager error and in direct contradiction to our State Park and Historic Site rules.

