# Hikers given platform to absorb views of falls

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PICKENS — Hikers and those simply out for a walk in the woods can now get a closer look at one of the Upstate's more popular waterfalls.

Work has been completed on a new viewing platform on Carrick Creek trail in Table Rock State Park.

The new platform offers an improved view of Carrick Creek waterfall.

Poll Knowland, park manager at Table Rock, formally opened the new wooden platform Friday morning at the park.

Knowland has said the new feature will make it safer for park visitors to view the waterfall, and it will help protect the creekside vegetation and otherwise preserve the shoreline.

He said in the past, trail users have disturbed sensitive creekside plants and small trees in hopes of getting a closer look at the falls.

Around $43,000 was donated for the project, coming from 2008 state income tax returns through the "check off for state parks" initiative.

The Table Rock project is the first in the state to be fully funded through the check-off program, state Department of Parks, Recreation and Toursim officials have said.

Last year, more than 48,000 hikers used the trail, Knowland said, making it one of the more popular hikes in the park.



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Table Rock State Park ranger Poll Knowland shows off the recently completed trailside viewing area that gives visitors greater access to Carrick Creek Falls.