

# Second phase of Stumphouse Mountain Bike Park coming

BY RILEY MORNINGSTAR  
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WALHALLA — The Stumphouse Mountain Bike Park will be opening the second phase of its trail in the spring.

“Phase II for Stumphouse is a huge complement to what we created in Phase I,” Palmetto Conservation Foundation executive director Natalie Britt said. “The main goal of Phase I was to create a segment of the Palmetto Trail that is ultimately going to connect going into Oconee Park, which we already have the funding for and hopefully will start to get built in the first or second quarter of 2019.”

If the weather cooperates, the additional 6 miles of the trail may open as early as April.

“Depending on weather, we’re planning on opening it up in late April or early May of 2019,” Britt said. “We’ll do a big opening to the public with guided rides and a real big to-do for that.”

Britt said the additional phase will add a more unique feel to the trail.

“We currently have 4 miles of mountain biking in Phase I, and Phase II adds an additional 6 miles,” she said.

“We have a little bit more on the beginner side in Phase II, and then we have sort of a continuation of some of the fun, flowy berms, and then we’re starting to add more nuance and texture. At the end of Phase II, and long-term into Phase III, we’ll start adding some wooden structures and rocks.”

The multi-phase addition to the Stumphouse Mountain Bike Park is a welcome addition to the Upstate, Britt said.

“Being an avid mountain biker, I know the Upstate has a ton of folks that mountain bike and

are an active community, and we really just lack mountain biking opportunities, and we have a need for it,” she said. “We have a lot of amazing hiking in the county, but we really don’t have a lot of mountain biking. This is a thoughtfully designed system that has something for all abilities and is really going to be a system that attracts people from all over South Carolina and well beyond their borders to come out and really enjoy a stellar recreational experience.”

Britt said not only will the 6-mile addition help grow the existing trail, but local economies will see a boost from the growth.

“Palmetto Conservation Foundation is dedicated to promoting South Carolina’s Palmetto Trail and getting people outside and active,” Britt said. “We’re really working to partner with our local economies, because we know how much



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By the time of the completion of the project’s second phase, the Stumphouse Mountain Bike Park will total 10 miles.

nature-based tourism means to communities and we’re really excited about the future.”