

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
for the
APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL
between the
TENNESSEE EASTMAN HIKING CLUB
and the
APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Tennessee Eastman Hiking Club (TEHC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the TEHC that relate to the management of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and the monitoring and limited management of designated national forest lands along the trail.

Background. From its inception in 1925, the ATC worked with existing trail clubs, and fostered the development of new clubs, to create the Appalachian Trail. This partnership evolved into a federation of maintaining clubs, coordinated by the ATC towards the common goal of perpetuating and protecting the Trail. In 1968, the National Trail System Act gave overall responsibility for the Appalachian Trail to the Secretary of the Interior. The Trail is administered by the National Park Service (NPS), in consultation with the USDA Forest Service (USFS), and in cooperation with state agencies over whose lands the AT passes. This memorandum acknowledges the ultimate responsibility and authority for federal and state agencies to administer lands under their jurisdictions in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Delegation. The Appalachian Trail crosses federal lands in national parks and national forests and lands ("ATPO Lands"), outside of the proclaimed or designated boundaries of existing national forests and national parks, that were acquired by the NPS specifically for the protection of the Trail. A 1980 USFS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement provides guidelines for the cooperative management of the AT on national forest lands. National forest plans designate Appalachian Trail "Management Area" (ATMA) or "Prescription Area" (ATPA) lands along the Trail. In 1984 and 1993, certain ATPO lands ("Transfer Lands") were administratively transferred to the Forest Service. In 1984, the Forest Service signed an agreement with the ATC that delegated "operations, development, and maintenance responsibilities" for these lands to the ATC, with authority to sub-delegate to member clubs. Also in 1984, the National Park Service amended a 1970 NPS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement for cooperation in the administration of the Trail by delegating to the ATC the responsibility to serve as the guarantor that the AT volunteer community will adequately manage and protect the AT and ATPO corridor lands. Under these authorities, ATC's Board of Managers, in consultation with Trail maintaining organizations and agency partners, sets policies regarding the protection, management, and use of the Trail. The ATC hereby confirms and the TEHC hereby acknowledges the TEHC's authority and responsibility for the maintenance of the Appalachian Trail and related facilities and the monitoring and limited management of Transfer Lands and ATMA/ATPA lands between Spivey Gap and the Damascus, Virginia, Town Hall on Laurel Avenue (US 58). This memorandum formalizes the TEHC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club accepted in 1947.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the TEHC with information on laws, regulations, and agency policies with which the Club must comply. The ATC will regularly communicate ATC policies, Trail standards, and local management planning procedures, and provide backup support for the Club's operational responsibilities. To the extent authorized by the Board of Managers, the ATC will provide technical and financial assistance to the Club for the management of the Trail, the monitoring and limited management of Transfer Lands and ATMA/ATPA lands, and the provision of public information and education.

TEHC Responsibilities. The TEHC agrees to maintain the Trail for which it is responsible to ATC's standards for marking, clearing, and treadway care, as specified in such ATC publications as *Trail Design, Construction, and Maintenance*. The TEHC will manage the Trail and Trail-related facilities and will monitor and provide limited management of Transfer Lands and lands designated as ATMA/ATPA lands under the relevant Forest Service Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) in accordance with policies presented in the ATC's *Local Management Planning Guide*, as detailed in the Club's *Local Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail from Damascus to Spivey Gap* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific TEHC authorities and responsibilities include, but are not limited to 1) Trail construction and maintenance (relocation and side trail design and construction; footpath protection and hardening with water diversion structures, puncheon, and rockwork; pathway obstruction removal; route marking with blazes, signs, and cairns), 2) facilities construction and maintenance (shelter, privy, and bridge construction; trash and illegal fire ring removal), 3) Trail management plus monitoring and limited management of Transfer Lands and ATMA/ATPA lands (regular revision of the LMP, Trail assessment, monitoring, regular cooperation and communication with the ATC and agency partners), and 4) information and education (provide information for publication of the *Appalachian Trail Guide to Tennessee-North Carolina*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in TEHC's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the TEHC agrees to assist with the Trail protection, management, and monitoring efforts of the Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands.

Cooperative Management. The AT cooperative management system is based on a commitment to cooperation, consultation, and collaboration by all partners. Disagreements that arise should be resolved as close to the source as possible. The TEHC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. TEHC's President or designee will represent the Club in resolving differences between the Club and Tennessee and North Carolina agencies, federal agencies and the ATC. ATC's Vice Chair for the Southern Region, aided by ATC's Field Representative for Ga., N.C., and Tenn., will represent the Conference in local and regional issues that involve the Club. Questions of Club territorial jurisdiction, acceptance of ATC policies, or Club status within the Conference, and matters that cannot be resolved locally or regionally, are the responsibility of the ATC's Board of Managers, aided by ATC's Executive Director and staff.

Signed David B. Field
David B. Field, Chair
Appalachian Trail Conference

Date 24 April 1987

Signed Steve Wilson
Steve Wilson, Chairperson
Tennessee Eastman Hiking Club

Date June 2, 1997

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
for the
APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL
between the
CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB
and the
APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Carolina Mountain Club (CMC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the CMC that relate to the management of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and the monitoring of designated national forest lands along the trail.

Background. From its inception in 1925, the ATC worked with existing trail clubs, and fostered the development of new clubs, to create the Appalachian Trail. This partnership evolved into a federation of maintaining clubs, coordinated by the ATC towards the common goal of perpetuating and protecting the Trail. In 1968, the National Trail System Act gave overall responsibility for the Appalachian Trail to the Secretary of the Interior. The Trail is administered by the National Park Service (NPS), in consultation with the USDA Forest Service (USFS), and in cooperation with state agencies over whose lands the AT passes. This memorandum acknowledges the ultimate responsibility and authority for federal and state agencies to administer lands under their jurisdictions in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Delegation. The Appalachian Trail crosses federal lands in national parks and national forests and lands ("ATPO Lands"), outside of the proclaimed or designated boundaries of existing national forests and national parks, that were acquired by the NPS specifically for the protection of the Trail. A 1980 USFS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement provides guidelines for the cooperative management of the AT on national forest lands. National forest plans designate Appalachian Trail "Management Area" (ATMA) or "Prescription Area" (ATPA) lands along the Trail. In 1984 and 1993, certain ATPO lands ("Transfer Lands") were administratively transferred to the Forest Service. In 1984, the Forest Service signed an agreement with the ATC that delegated "operations, development, and maintenance responsibilities" for these lands to the ATC, with authority to sub-delegate to member clubs. Also in 1984, the National Park Service amended a 1970 NPS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement for cooperation in the administration of the Trail by delegating to the ATC the responsibility to serve as the guarantor that the AT volunteer community will adequately manage and protect the AT and ATPO corridor lands. Under these authorities, ATC's Board of Managers, in consultation with Trail maintaining organizations and agency partners, sets policies regarding the protection, management, and use of the Trail. The ATC hereby confirms and the CMC hereby acknowledges the CMC's authority and responsibility for the maintenance of the Appalachian Trail and related facilities and the monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands between Davenport Gap and Spivey Gap. This memorandum formalizes the CMC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club assumed in 1924.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the CMC with information on laws, regulations, and agency policies with which the Club must comply. The ATC will regularly communicate ATC policies, Trail standards, and local management planning procedures, and provide backup support for the Club's operational responsibilities. To the extent authorized by the Board of Managers, the ATC will provide technical and financial assistance to the Club for the management of the Trail, monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands, and provision of public information and education.

CMC Responsibilities. The CMC agrees to maintain the Trail for which it is responsible to ATC's standards for marking, clearing, and treadway care, as specified in such ATC publications as *Trail Design, Construction, and Maintenance*. The CMC will manage the Trail and Trail-related facilities and will monitor lands designated as ATMA/ATPA lands under the relevant Forest Service Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) in accordance with policies presented in the ATC's *Local Management Planning Guide*, as detailed in the Club's *Local Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail from Davenport Gap to Spivey Gap* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific CMC authorities and responsibilities include, but are not limited to 1) Trail construction and maintenance (relocation and side trail design and construction; footpath protection and hardening with water diversion structures, puncheon, and rockwork; pathway obstruction removal; route marking with blazes, signs, and cairns), 2) facilities construction and maintenance (shelter, privy, and bridge construction; trash and illegal fire ring removal), 3) Trail management and monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands (regular revision of the LMP, Trail assessment, monitoring, regular cooperation and communication with the ATC and agency partners), and 4) information and education (provide information for publication of the *Appalachian Trail Guide to Tennessee-North Carolina*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in CMC's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the CMC agrees to assist with the Trail protection, management, and monitoring efforts of the Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands.

Cooperative Management. The AT cooperative management system is based on a commitment to cooperation, consultation, and collaboration by all partners. Disagreements that arise should be resolved as close to the source as possible. The CMC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. CMC's President or designee will represent the Club in resolving differences between the Club and state agencies, federal agencies and the ATC. ATC's Vice Chair for the Southern Region, aided by ATC's Regional Representative for Ga., N.C. and Tenn., will represent the Conference in local and regional issues that involve the Club. Questions of Club territorial jurisdiction, acceptance of ATC policies, or Club status within the Conference, and matters that cannot be resolved locally or regionally, are the responsibility of the ATC's Board of Managers, aided by ATC's Executive Director and staff.

Signed David B. Field
David B. Field, Chair
Appalachian Trail Conference

Signed Elisabeth Feil
Elisabeth Feil, President
Carolina Mountain Club

Date 24 April 1997

Date 22 August 1997

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
for the
APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL
between the
SMOKY MOUNTAINS HIKING CLUB
and the
APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club (SMHC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the SMHC that relate to the management of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and the monitoring of designated national forest lands along the trail.

Background. From its inception in 1925, the ATC worked with existing trail clubs, and fostered the development of new clubs, to create the Appalachian Trail. This partnership evolved into a federation of maintaining clubs, coordinated by the ATC towards the common goal of perpetuating and protecting the Trail. In 1968, the National Trail System Act gave overall responsibility for the Appalachian Trail to the Secretary of the Interior. The Trail is administered by the National Park Service (NPS), in consultation with the USDA Forest Service (USFS), and in cooperation with state agencies over whose lands the AT passes. This memorandum acknowledges the ultimate responsibility and authority for federal and state agencies to administer lands under their jurisdictions in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Delegation. The Appalachian Trail crosses federal lands in national parks and national forests and lands ("ATPO Lands"), outside of the proclaimed or designated boundaries of existing national forests and national parks, that were acquired by the NPS specifically for the protection of the Trail. A 1980 USFS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement provides guidelines for the cooperative management of the AT on national forest lands. National forest plans designate Appalachian Trail "Management Area" (ATMA) or "Prescription Area" (ATPA) lands along the Trail. In 1984 and 1993, certain ATPO lands ("Transfer Lands") were administratively transferred to the Forest Service. In 1984, the Forest Service signed an agreement with the ATC that delegated "operations, development, and maintenance responsibilities" for these lands to the ATC, with authority to sub-delegate to member clubs. Also in 1984, the National Park Service amended a 1970 NPS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement for cooperation in the administration of the Trail by delegating to the ATC the responsibility to serve as the guarantor that the AT volunteer community will adequately manage and protect the AT and ATPO corridor lands. Under these authorities, ATC's Board of Managers, in consultation with Trail maintaining organizations and agency partners, sets policies regarding the protection, management, and use of the Trail. The ATC hereby confirms and the SMHC hereby acknowledges the SMHC's authority and responsibility for the maintenance of the Appalachian Trail and related facilities and the monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands between Wesser, North Carolina (at U.S. 19) and Davenport Gap. This memorandum formalizes the SMHC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club assumed in 1928.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the SMHC with information on laws, regulations, and agency policies with which the Club must comply. The ATC will regularly communicate ATC policies, Trail standards, and local management planning procedures, and provide backup support for the Club's operational responsibilities. To the extent authorized by the Board of Managers, the ATC will provide technical and financial assistance to the Club for the management of the Trail, monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands, and provision of public information and education.

SMHC Responsibilities. The SMHC agrees to work to maintain the Trail for which it is responsible to ATC's standards for marking, clearing, and treadway care, as specified in such ATC publications as *Trail Design, Construction, and Maintenance*. The SMHC will manage the Trail and Trail-related facilities and will monitor lands designated as ATMA/ATPA lands under the relevant Forest Service Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) in accordance with policies presented in the ATC's *Local Management Planning Guide*, as detailed in the Club's *Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail between Wesser, N.C. and Davenport Gap* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific SMHC authorities and responsibilities include, but are not limited to 1) Trail construction and maintenance (relocation and side trail design and construction; footpath protection and hardening with water diversion structures, puncheon, and rockwork; pathway obstruction removal; route marking with blazes, signs, and cairns), 2) facilities construction and maintenance (shelter, privy, and bridge construction; trash and illegal fire ring removal), 3) Trail management and monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands (regular revision of the LMP, Trail assessment, monitoring, regular cooperation and communication with the ATC and agency partners), and 4) information and education (provide information for publication of the *Appalachian Trail Guides to Tennessee-North Carolina and North Carolina-Georgia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in SMHC's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the SMHC agrees to assist with the Trail protection, management, and monitoring efforts of the Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands.

Cooperative Management. The AT cooperative management system is based on a commitment to cooperation, consultation, and collaboration by all partners. Disagreements that arise should be resolved as close to the source as possible. The SMHC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. SMHC's President or designee will represent the Club in resolving differences between the Club and state agencies, federal agencies and the ATC. ATC's Vice Chair for the Southern Region, aided by ATC's Regional Representative for Ga., N.C., and Tenn., will represent the Conference in local and regional issues that involve the Club. Questions of Club territorial jurisdiction, acceptance of ATC policies, or Club status within the Conference, and matters that cannot be resolved locally or regionally, are the responsibility of the ATC's Board of Managers, aided by ATC's Executive Director and staff.

Signed David B. Field
David B. Field, Chair
Appalachian Trail Conference

Signed Mike Harrington
Mike Harrington, President
Smoky Mountains Hiking Club

Date 27 March 1999

Date March 27, 1999

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
for the
APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL
between the
NANTAHALA HIKING CLUB
and the
APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Nantahala Hiking Club (NHC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the NHC that relate to the management of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and the monitoring of designated national forest lands along the trail.

Background. From its inception in 1925, the ATC worked with existing trail clubs, and fostered the development of new clubs, to create the Appalachian Trail. This partnership evolved into a federation of maintaining clubs, coordinated by the ATC towards the common goal of perpetuating and protecting the Trail. In 1968, the National Trail System Act gave overall responsibility for the Appalachian Trail to the Secretary of the Interior. The Trail is administered by the National Park Service (NPS), in consultation with the USDA Forest Service (USFS), and in cooperation with state agencies over whose lands the AT passes. This memorandum acknowledges the ultimate responsibility and authority for federal and state agencies to administer lands under their jurisdictions in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Delegation. The Appalachian Trail crosses federal lands in national parks and national forests and lands ("ATPO Lands"), outside of the proclaimed or designated boundaries of existing national forests and national parks, that were acquired by the NPS specifically for the protection of the Trail. A 1980 USFS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement provides guidelines for the cooperative management of the AT on national forest lands. National forest plans designate Appalachian Trail "Management Area" (ATMA) or "Prescription Area" (ATPA) lands along the Trail. In 1984 and 1993, certain ATPO lands ("Transfer Lands") were administratively transferred to the Forest Service. In 1984, the Forest Service signed an agreement with the ATC that delegated "operations, development, and maintenance responsibilities" for these lands to the ATC, with authority to sub-delegate to member clubs. Also in 1984, the National Park Service amended a 1970 NPS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement for cooperation in the administration of the Trail by delegating to the ATC the responsibility to serve as the guarantor that the AT volunteer community will adequately manage and protect the AT and ATPO corridor lands. Under these authorities, ATC's Board of Managers, in consultation with Trail maintaining organizations and agency partners, sets policies regarding the protection, management, and use of the Trail. The ATC hereby confirms and the NHC hereby acknowledges the NHC's authority and responsibility for the maintenance of the Appalachian Trail and related facilities and the monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands between Bly Gap and Wesser, N.C. (at U.S. 19). This memorandum formalizes the NHC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club accepted in 1968.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the NHC with information on laws, regulations, and agency policies with which the Club must comply. The ATC will regularly communicate ATC policies, Trail standards, and local management planning procedures, and provide backup support for the Club's operational responsibilities. To the extent authorized by the Board of Managers, the ATC will provide technical and financial assistance to the Club for the management of the Trail, monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands, and provision of public information and education.

NHC Responsibilities. The NHC agrees to maintain the Trail for which it is responsible to ATC's standards for marking, clearing, and treadway care, as specified in such ATC publications as *Trail Design, Construction, and Maintenance*. The NHC will manage the Trail and Trail-related facilities and will monitor lands designated as ATMA/ATPA lands under the relevant Forest Service Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) in accordance with policies presented in the ATC's *Local Management Planning Guide*, as detailed in the Club's *Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail from Wesser to Bly Gap* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific NHC authorities and responsibilities include, but are not limited to 1) Trail construction and maintenance (relocation and side trail design and construction; footpath protection and hardening with water diversion structures, puncheon, and rockwork; pathway obstruction removal; route marking with blazes, signs, and cairns), 2) facilities construction and maintenance (shelter, privy, and bridge construction; trash and illegal fire ring removal), 3) Trail management and monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands (regular revision of the LMP, Trail assessment, monitoring, regular cooperation and communication with the ATC and agency partners), and 4) information and education (provide information for publication of the *Appalachian Trail Guide to North Carolina-Georgia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in NHC's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the NHC agrees to assist with the Trail protection, management, and monitoring efforts of the Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands.

Cooperative Management. The AT cooperative management system is based on a commitment to cooperation, consultation, and collaboration by all partners. Disagreements that arise should be resolved as close to the source as possible. The NHC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. NHC's President or designee will represent the Club in resolving differences between the Club and state agencies, federal agencies and the ATC. ATC's Vice Chair for the Southern Region, aided by ATC's Regional Representative for Ga., N.C., and Tenn., will represent the Conference in local and regional issues that involve the Club. Questions of Club territorial jurisdiction, acceptance of ATC policies, or Club status within the Conference, and matters that cannot be resolved locally or regionally, are the responsibility of the ATC's Board of Managers, aided by ATC's Executive Director and staff.

Signed David B. Field Signed Kay Coriell
David B. Field, Chair Kay Coriell, President
Appalachian Trail Conference Nantahala Hiking Club

Date 24 April 1997 Date May 30, 1997

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
for the
APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL
between the
GEORGIA APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB
and the
APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club (GATC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the GATC that relate to the management of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and the monitoring of designated national forest lands along the trail.

Background. From its inception in 1925, the ATC worked with existing trail clubs, and fostered the development of new clubs, to create the Appalachian Trail. This partnership evolved into a federation of maintaining clubs, coordinated by the ATC towards the common goal of perpetuating and protecting the Trail. In 1968, the National Trail System Act gave overall responsibility for the Appalachian Trail to the Secretary of the Interior. The Trail is administered by the National Park Service (NPS), in consultation with the USDA Forest Service (USFS), and in cooperation with state agencies over whose lands the AT passes. This memorandum acknowledges the ultimate responsibility and authority for federal and state agencies to administer lands under their jurisdictions in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Delegation. The Appalachian Trail crosses federal lands in national parks and national forests and lands ("ATPO Lands"), outside of the proclaimed or designated boundaries of existing national forests and national parks, that were acquired by the NPS specifically for the protection of the Trail. A 1980 USFS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement provides guidelines for the cooperative management of the AT on national forest lands. National forest plans designate Appalachian Trail "Management Area" (ATMA) or "Prescription Area" (ATPA) lands along the Trail. In 1984 and 1993, certain ATPO lands ("Transfer Lands") were administratively transferred to the Forest Service. In 1984, the Forest Service signed an agreement with the ATC that delegated "operations, development, and maintenance responsibilities" for these lands to the ATC, with authority to sub-delegate to member clubs. Also in 1984, the National Park Service amended a 1970 NPS/ATC Memorandum of Agreement for cooperation in the administration of the Trail by delegating to the ATC the responsibility to serve as the guarantor that the AT volunteer community will adequately manage and protect the AT and ATPO corridor lands. Under these authorities, ATC's Board of Managers, in consultation with Trail maintaining organizations and agency partners, sets policies regarding the protection, management, and use of the Trail. The ATC hereby confirms and the GATC hereby acknowledges the GATC's authority and responsibility for the maintenance of the Appalachian Trail and related facilities and the monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands between Amicalola Falls State Park and Bly Gap. This memorandum formalizes the GATC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club assumed on 1 November 1930.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the GATC with information on laws, regulations, and agency policies with which the Club must comply. The ATC will regularly communicate ATC policies, Trail standards, and local management planning procedures, and provide backup support for the Club's operational responsibilities. To the extent authorized by the Board of Managers, the ATC will provide technical and financial assistance to the Club for the management of the Trail, monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands, and provision of public information and education.

GATC Responsibilities. The GATC agrees to maintain the Trail for which it is responsible to ATC's standards for marking, clearing, and treadway care, as specified in such ATC publications as *Trail Design, Construction, and Maintenance*. The GATC will manage the Trail and Trail-related facilities and will monitor lands designated as ATMA/ATPA lands under the relevant Forest Service Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) in accordance with policies presented in the ATC's *Local Management Planning Guide*, as detailed in the Club's *Plan for the Management of the Appalachian Trail in Georgia* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific GATC authorities and responsibilities include, but are not limited to 1) Trail construction and maintenance (relocation and side trail design and construction; footpath protection and hardening with water diversion structures, puncheon, and rockwork; pathway obstruction removal; route marking with blazes, signs, and cairns), 2) facilities construction and maintenance (shelter, privy, and bridge construction; trash and illegal fire ring removal), 3) Trail management and monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands (regular revision of the LMP, Trail assessment, monitoring, regular cooperation and communication with the ATC and agency partners), and 4) information and education (provide information for publication of the *Appalachian Trail Guide to North Carolina-Georgia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in GATC's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the GATC agrees to assist with the Trail protection, management, and monitoring efforts of the Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands.

Cooperative Management. The AT cooperative management system is based on a commitment to cooperation, consultation, and collaboration by all partners. Disagreements that arise should be resolved as close to the source as possible. The GATC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. GATC's President or designee will represent the Club in resolving differences between the Club and state agencies, federal agencies and the ATC. ATC's Vice Chair for the Southern Region, aided by ATC's Regional Representative for Ga., N.C., and Tenn., will represent the Conference in local and regional issues that involve the Club. Questions of Club territorial jurisdiction, acceptance of ATC policies, or Club status within the Conference, and matters that cannot be resolved locally or regionally, are the responsibility of the ATC's Board of Managers, aided by ATC's Executive Director and staff.

Signed David B. Field
David B. Field, Chair
Appalachian Trail Conference

Date 24 April 1997

Signed Judson W. Germon, Jr.
Judson W. Germon, Jr., President
Georgia Appalachian Trail Club

Date 14 May 1997