

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

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between Old Dominion Appalachian Trail Club (ODATC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the ODATC 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 ODATC hereby acknowledges the ODATC's authority and responsibility for the maintenance of the Appalachian Trail and related facilities and the monitoring and limited management of ATMA/ATPA lands between Reeds Gap and Rockfish Gap, both in Virginia. This memorandum formalizes the ODATC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club accepted in 1969.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the ODATC 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 ATMA/ATPA lands, and the provision of public information and education.

ODATC Responsibilities. The ODATC 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 ODATC will manage the Trail and Trail-related facilities and will monitor and provide limited management of 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 *ODATC Local Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific ODATC 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, punchon, 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 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 Central Virginia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in ODATC's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the ODATC 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 ODATC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. ODATC'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 Southwest and Central Virginia, 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 Mac Taylor
Mac Taylor, President
Old Dominion Appalachian Trail Club

Date 6/3/97

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

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club (TATC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the TATC 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 TATC hereby acknowledges the TATC'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 the Tye River at VA Route 56 and Reeds Gap, both in Virginia. This memorandum formalizes the TATC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club accepted in 1972.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the TATC 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.

TATC Responsibilities. The TATC 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 TATC 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 *TATC Local Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific TATC 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 Central Virginia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in TATC's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the TATC 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 TATC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. TATC'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 Southwest and Central Virginia, 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 Ned Kuhns
Ned Kuhns, President
Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club

Date 4 JUNE 1997

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

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club (NBATC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the NBATC 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 NBATC hereby acknowledges the NBATC's authority and responsibility for the maintenance of the Appalachian Trail and related facilities and the monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands between Blackhorse Gap and the Tye River at VA Route 56, both in Virginia. This memorandum formalizes the NBATC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club assumed on 2 October 1930.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the NBATC 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.

NBATC Responsibilities. The NBATC 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 NBATC 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 *NBATC Local Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific NBATC 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, punchon, 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 Central Virginia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in NBATC's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the NBATC 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 NBATC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. NBATC'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 Southwest and Central Virginia, 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 William T. Foot
~~Norman Sykora~~, President, WILLIAM T. FOOT
Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club

Date May 14, 1997

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

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club (RATC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the RATC that relate to the management of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and ATPO lands, and the limited management and 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 RATC hereby acknowledges the RATC's authority and responsibility for the maintenance of the Appalachian Trail and related facilities, the management of ATPO lands, the limited management of Transfer Lands, and the monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands between Lickskillet Hollow and Blackhorse Gap. This memorandum formalizes the RATC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club assumed in 1936.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the RATC 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, ATPO, and Transfer Lands, the monitoring of ATMA/ATPA lands, and the provision of public information and education.

RATC Responsibilities. The RATC 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 RATC will manage the Trail, Trail-related facilities, ATPO, and Transfer Lands, 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 *RATC Local Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail and its Corridor Lands* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific RATC 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, ATPO and Transfer Lands management and ATMA/ATPA monitoring (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 Southwest Virginia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in their section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the RATC 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 RATC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. RATC'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 Southwest and Central Virginia, 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 Don Nulph
Don Nulph, President
Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club
Date 28 JULY 1987

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
for the
APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL
between the
OUTING CLUB of VIRGINIA TECH
and the
APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between Outing Club of Virginia Tech (OCVT) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the OCVT 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 OCVT hereby acknowledges the OCVT'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 Burke's Garden at VA Route 623 and Lickskillet Hollow. This memorandum formalizes the OCVT's responsibility for the Trail that the Club accepted in 1970.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the OCVT 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.

OCVT Responsibilities. The OCVT 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 OCVT 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 *OCVT Local Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific OCVT 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 Southwest Virginia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in OCVT's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the OCVT 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 OCVT has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. OCVT'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 Southwest and Central Virginia, 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 Brian MacDonald
Brian MacDonald, President
Outing Club of Virginia Tech

Date 19 May 1997

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
for the
APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL
between the
PIEDMONT APPALACHIAN TRAIL HIKERS
and the
APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE**

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers (PATH) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the PATH 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 PATH hereby acknowledges the PATH'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 the Rye Valley at VA Route 670 and Burkes Garden at VA Route 623. This memorandum formalizes the PATH's responsibility for the Trail that the Club accepted in 1965.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the PATH 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.

PATH Responsibilities. The PATH 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 PATH 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 *PATH Local Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific PATH 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 Southwest Virginia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in PATH's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the PATH 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 PATH has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. PATH'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 Southwest and Central Virginia, 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 Parthena Martin
Parthena Martin, President
Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers

Date 24 April 1997

Date May 20, 1997

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

Purpose. This memorandum provides a concise statement of specific understandings and working relationships between the Mount Rogers Appalachian Trail Club (MRATC) and the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). It applies only to those activities of the MRATC 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 MRATC hereby acknowledges the MRATC'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 the Town Hall on Laurel Street in Damascus, Virginia, and Rye Valley at VA Route 670. This memorandum formalizes the MRATC's responsibility for the Trail that the Club accepted on 29 February 1960.

ATC Support. The ATC agrees to regularly provide the MRATC 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.

MRATC Responsibilities. The MRATC 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 MRATC 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 *MRATC Local Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail* (LMP), and the LRMP. Specific MRATC 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 Southwest Virginia*, hiker education, and provision of information about the Trail in MRATC's section to the ATC, agencies, and the public). To the extent feasible, the MRATC 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 MRATC has sole authority for dealing with issues among its volunteer members. MRATC'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 Southwest and Central Virginia, 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 Thomas E. Cook
~~Holly DiFlora~~, President THOMAS E. COOK
Mount Rogers A.T. Club

Date 3-28-98