



To Our Partners in Stewardship,

Beginning in 2015, ATC, APPA, and the trail clubs embarked on a trail-wide inventory project, counting every location (privy, campsite, parking area, etc.) and feature (waterbar, step, stair, cribwall, etc.) along the AT corridor. The NPS Regional office provided us with nearly \$800,000 to complete this work. As we reach the end of the inventory fieldwork process, we have begun to utilize the data, review outcomes, and produce outputs. By the end of this process we will have:

- Captured every “contributing” facility location and feature currently in place along the AT. This in turn will help us all to better understand what facilities we have, their current replacement value, and how best to prioritize our limited funds and resources toward their continued preservation.
- Acquired the necessary information to: develop more accurate cost estimates for project work; improve project development, tracking, and reporting; develop better project justifications; and improve project scores to make APPA more competitive for federal funds.

While the overall benefits of having this information certainly outweigh the cost of this inventory, it would not be feasible to conduct an update at this scale every 5 years, as is required at typical Parks across the NPS. Instead, we are moving forward with a process in which work completed and reported by ATC and/or the trail club volunteers will be collected and collated on a rolling basis. This data will inform an annual update of the APPA Facility Management Software System (FMSS) and a public ArcGIS WebApp.

The update forms in this packet are based on the current inventory forms many of you are familiar with. Each facility type, also known as an FMSS Location, has its own form. It is important to remember that these forms are to be used to report completed improvements and alterations, NOT for planning purposes.

I want to thank you for all of your hard work during this endeavor. Without your support, this project would not have been possible. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact us at APPA_Facilities@nps.gov, or reach me directly at (304) 535-5093.

Keith Stegall
Facility Manager
Appalachian National Scenic Trail



The Inventory Update Process:

