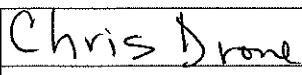


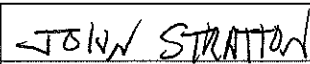
**River-to-River Trail Society
Sign-In Sheet and Waiver of Liability**

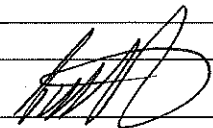
Hike: Borilla Rocks from Morales Date: 10/8/22

I have read the three paragraphs on page one, understand the promises set forth in them, and freely and voluntarily assume any and all risks relating to, or arising from, my participation in this hiking experience.

| Signature | Street Address | Preferred Phone |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Printed Name | City, State | Emergency Phone |

| | | |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------|
|  | 1812 Mansholt St ^{Eld} IL | (618) 946-3250 |
| | | (618) 946-8334 |

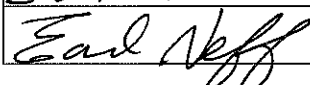
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|---|------------------------------|-------------------------|
|  | 800 DOLPHIN DR EAST 62249 | (618) 654-3660 () - |
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| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | 105 EDGEWOOD LN CARMIL, IL | (618) 384-1321 (618) 384-1833 |
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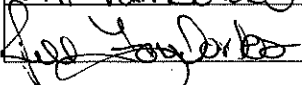
| | | |
|-------------|---------|----------------|
| Bob Mulcahy | C'ville | (618) 942-6342 |
| Deb Towne | Energy | (618) 579-4144 |

| | | |
|-------------|----------|----------------|
| David Filer | Carmi | (618) 384-7731 |
| Kevin Sapp | Eldorado | (618) 844-5650 |

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Benequea Hale | Pinebluffville | (224) 406-1841 |
| | | () - |

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Earl Neff | 18725 18425 Co Rd 1225 St | () - |
|  | McLeansboro | (618) 895-6068 |

| | | |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| Susan Wolf | CRAB ORCHARD | (618) 994-5994 |
|  | | () - |

| | | |
|---|-------------------|----------------|
| Jill Fairbanks | 9372 Williams Ave | (618) 319-0140 |
|  | Chello IL 62825 | () - |

**River-to-River Trail Society
Sign-In Sheet and Waiver of Liability**

Hike: Goatilla Rock / Sam Morales Date: dot 10/8/22

I have read the three paragraphs on page one, understand the promises set forth in them, and freely and voluntarily assume any and all risks relating to, or arising from, my participation in this hiking experience.

| Signature | Street Address | Preferred Phone |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Printed Name | City, State | Emergency Phone |
| <i>TOM LOGSDON</i> | <i>9435 LOGSDON RD</i> | <i>(618) 269-0938</i> |
| <i>Thomas Logsdon</i> | <i>Shawneetown, IL</i> | <i>() -</i> |
| <i>Nathan Heldenbrand</i> | <i>Goreville</i> | <i>(604) 517-7775</i> |
| <i>W. Graebner</i> | <i>Arva</i> | <i>(710) 333-2208 (618) 767-3567</i> |
| <i>J. J. [Signature]</i> | <i>Lick Creek</i> | <i>(618) 614-4996</i> |
| | | <i>() -</i> |
| <i>DAVID PRICE</i> | <i>MARION</i> | <i>() -</i> |
| <i>David R. Price</i> | | <i>() -</i> |
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SHAWNEE TRAIL CONSERVANCY

PO BOX 44

EDDYVILLE, IL 62928

www.shawneetrailconservancy.com

Newsletter Editor
Linda Granneman Sanders

FALL 2022

Not sure where to start – the more things change, the more they stay the same is an old saying that applies to the latest challenge we as users of the forest have to contend with. This new threat is to the existence of the Shawnee National Forest. And it comes from the same people that we spent 10 years off and on in court. The push is to change the designation from National Forest to National Park. It may sound like not much of a difference but it is major not only for users but for the health of the forest itself. This is not something to ignore and think it can't happen. See below.

Happy trails,
Linda Sanders

PURCHASE OF MINI-EXCAVATOR

We purchased a Shiitake TB210 mini excavator. It weighs just over 2,000lbs. and it can be hauled on a 2-wheel trailer and towed by a midsize SUV or truck. It has the same Yanmar 10.3 hp diesel engine as our track dumper so parts will be readily available. It can dig 6ft deep, level sloped and eroded trails, move trees, limbs and rocks off the trails and has a blade that is great for installing drains. The tracks are hydraulically adjustable from 40 to 28 inches in width. This means it will fit down the numbered trails that are narrow by design in some places. The excavator makes it possible for us to level and slope trails so the track dumper can spread rock on them.



TRACK DUMPER MODIFICATION

The track dumper was taken to a fabricating shop and had modifications made to the tail gate so it can be adjusted on how much rock comes out while dumping. This makes for a more even and efficient application of rock.

GRANT MONEY FOR TRAILS

Work on the 11.08-mile wagon trail extension to Camp Cadiz will start in about 2 weeks. We have many volunteers with equipment who are anxious to begin. Like everything else the price of rock and hauling has increased greatly. The \$10,000 donation from the IL Equine Board may sound astronomical, but will not completely cover the total costs. Donations for rock are still needed. Donation jars were placed at High Knob, Double M, Chancellorsville Store & Harrison Store. Shotgun Eddy has requested a jar also. There have been continual donations made at these places not only for the purchase of the machine, but now for the maintenance and insurance.

TRAIL WORK BY STC

The STC has done a variety of trail work this summer with both machines and by hand.

LUSK CREEK AREA: Early this spring, after reports of multiple trees down on trail 159 just south of Cossage Cemetery and east of the Lusk Wilderness area and a request for assistance, a STC trail crew was able to clear this section of trail.

NINE DAY AREA: Trail 172G east of white gravel trail north of Collier Cemetery had a huge mud bog where it crosses the feeder creek for the lake. Before the 9-day, we removed the mud and replaced it with rock. Both the STC and the Nine Day bought a load of rock to fix this trail. There will be further repair on Trail 172D for the same issue. Both these trails connect with 172 that circles One Horse Gap Lake.

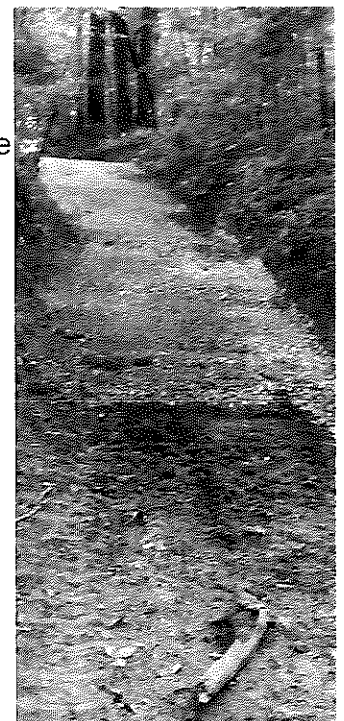
DOUBLE M AREA: On trail 184, the mini excavator was used for two days to clean out mud holes, install drains, and level the eroded trail tread. We also cleared brush and pushed down dead trees. Then 30 ton of rock was spread with track dumper on this trail near Double M. We used the mini excavator for a half of a day to level trails 188 & 183 near Double M. A visual for 30 ton of rock fill a semi-trailer with extra to spare.

HIGH KNOB AREA:



We used a tractor with a loader and box blade to level the trail, clean out drains, clean out mud holes (that were caused by illegal side by sides), push downed trees off the trail and spread rock on the wagon trail from Black Ridge Road west 3 miles to High Knob Road.

The before and after photos.



WORK DONE BY USFS

The FS asked the STC to help them spread rock on 487 and 487C from Frank's Tract earlier this month. The trail budget has been cut in half at some point, that means less manpower therefore less work accomplished. This has resulted in both Burden Falls parking area & Golden Circle trailhead work to not be done as expected by this time.

PUSH TO CHANGE SHAWNEE'S DESIGNATION

Not sure of the specific time this agenda was started but the core group – Shawnee Forest Defenders, are the same people who chained themselves to trees in 1997 to stop logging and put barbed wire on horse trails to injure both horse and rider. **Any type of logging, any type of mining and year-round equestrian use has been and still is their main objectives to stop from happening.** Designation as a federal park could and would change much of this.

The Sierra Club, both the IL chapter and others throughout the US are also pushing this change. So, what is the difference? In simplest of terms, the park service was created to preserve, the forest service was created to conserve. **Preservation is hands off – let the weeds take over the garden – Conservation is wise use of management for the long haul.**

Posted on Park Service website:

On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the act creating the National Park Service, a new federal bureau in the Department of the Interior responsible for protecting the 35 national parks and monuments then managed by the department and those yet to be established. This "Organic Act" states that "the Service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations...by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments and reservations, which purpose is to **conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.**"

Posted on Forest Service website:

Federal forest management dates back to 1876 when Congress created the office of Special Agent in the U.S. Department of Agriculture to assess the quality and conditions of forests in the United States. In 1881 the Department expanded the office into the Division of Forestry. A decade later Congress passed the Forest Reserve Act of 1891 authorizing the President to designate public lands in the West into what were then called "forest reserves." Responsibility for these reserves fell under the Department of the Interior until 1905 when President Theodore Roosevelt transferred their care to the Department of Agriculture's new U.S. Forest Service. Gifford Pinchot led this new agency as its first Chief, charged with caring for the newly renamed national forests.

It was stated that our agency was created on the principle of managing the Nation's natural resources **"for the greatest good, for the greatest number, for the longest time."**

It's important to take care of our shared natural resources by using, protecting, and restoring them today to ensure they'll still be here to provide for tomorrow. That's what conservation is all about.

These lands are the foundation of America's outdoor recreation heritage and sustain our way of life. They provide water to millions of Americans in thousands of communities, clean our

air, store carbon, and provide timber, minerals, oil and gas and other resources for industry and communities.

While we could put lots of info on here, the biggest change in management would entail more restrictions. There is no hunting in any National Park, fees are required in some manner and restrictions for dogs such as none allowed on trails, no alcohol allowed in camps and restricted equestrian riding. Ask anyone who has been to many federal parks with their animals. The proponents also say hunting is allowed (it is not according to each park individually contacted) and without hunters on board, the chance of passage is slim.

Those in favor of the change say it will be more people, more revenue and would put southern IL on the map. But both agencies have lost the amount of federal funding, & are dependent on what each Congress passes.

From National Parks & Conservation Association website 2/12/22:

Washington, DC – Today the National Park Service (NPS) announced that some of our country's most iconic national parks experienced record breaking numbers of visitors in 2021, even in the midst of a pandemic. This comes as no surprise as national parks have experienced increased visitation over the past decade. But the increased visitation continues to be a challenge for parks facing insufficient funding and staffing

But those same people do not want active conservation of the forest, without the burning or chemical application used, invasive species such as Bush Honeysuckle, Autumn/Russian Olive will destroy the forest. The IL Sierra Club recently agreed with the forest service that chemicals are needed to stop these invasive species. Our area is more like a jungle. Everything grows here and without active management to keep such species controlled they will take over our forest and grasslands.

Having walked for 2 hours in the Lusk Wilderness with the federal judge who came off the bench to become a mediator and see for himself who was telling the truth about the trails, looked over at one of the now "Defenders" and said to him "you just want this place for yourself."

How are we to combat this latest assault? Education first, for ourselves and for individuals to learn the differences, then legislators. Both Tammy Duckworth and Dick Durbin support this change.

Contacting all the different user groups, informing them of this push for change. And finally coming together to stop this proposed change. It is done through legislative action. Help us by contacting your federal legislators and tell them this is bad for the Shawnee.

The Shawnee Trail Conservancy is a grassroots nonprofit corporation which advocates multi-use of the Shawnee National Forest for recreational and sporting interests; yet, is dedicated to preserving and protecting its natural resources through proper trail maintenance, good trail signing, and education of trail, camping and hunting users to achieve a low environmental impact and wise usage management practices. Our mission is to keep the Shawnee available, now and in the future, to the public for its use and enjoyment in a responsible manner.

You may go to www.shawneetrailconservancy.com for information on the Shawnee Trail Conservancy and the issues that relate to recreating in the trailriding capitol of Illinois.

All memberships expire at the end of the year. Please send in your membership dues or pay online for each new year.

We are a 501(c)3 not for profit organization. All donations are tax deductible and the appropriate notification letter will be sent for your donation.

We now offer paying online through PayPal at: <https://www.shawneetrailconservancy.com/join-us-1>

And for us old fashioned folks, just mail us a check at:
STC, PO Box 44, Eddyville, IL 62928
with the following form.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

DATE ____/____/____

____ RENEWAL ____ NEW

NAME _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE ____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

INDIVIDUAL \$10 _____,

FAMILY \$20 _____,

ORGANIZATION / BUSINESS \$30 _____,

DONATION \$ _____.

Thank you for your commitment to multi use public access to the Shawnee National Forest.