

## ACT SECTION 26 --- REAL PROPERTY

- 26-118 McFail's Cave 7-2-82, 10-21-67, 6-15-65, 6-14-63  
The McFail's Cave Committee is composed of the Chairman; the Caretaker, if there is one; one representative elected or appointed from each of the Internal Organizations in the Northeastern Region (NRO); and three members-at-large. The members-at-large shall be selected annually by a majority vote of the remaining committee members and active, independent cavers should be given preference. The chairman will solicit representatives from each Internal Organization in the NRO on an annual basis. Each Internal Organization must designate their representative or proxy in writing to the chairman in order for him to be considered as a voting committee member that year. Each Internal Organization must be in good standing with the NSS and have its annual report up to date and on file with the NSS Internal Organizations Committee. Each member has one vote. All members must belong to the NSS. This committee reports to the Cave Ownership and Management Committee.
- 26-236 Shelta Cave 8-21-68, 4-20-68, 9-6-67  
Shelta Cave will be purchased and a Shelta Cave Committee is established to oversee and handle the administration of the project, which is approved as an official function of the Society. The committee will present a report of its activities at each regular meeting of the Board of Governors until further notice. [Notice officially given 3-12-83.] The chairman of this committee is urged to work in close conjunction with the Nature Conservancy and the Huntsville Chapter, which is approved as Custodian of Shelta Cave. The primary purpose for acquiring Shelta Cave is to save its unique fauna, the only one of its kind in the world, from destruction or depredation. The cave shall be perpetually available to scientific researchers, educational organizations, general members of the NSS and Nature Conservancy and their guests subject to the provisions of the Policy Statement for the Use of Shelta Cave. (See Appendix F)
- 26-301 Shelta Cave 3-20-04, 6-27-75  
Shelta Cave is designated a Nature Preserve of the National Speleological Society.
- 26-302 McFail's Cave 3-20-04, 6-27-75  
McFail's Cave is designated a Nature Preserve of the National Speleological Society.
- 26-402 Trout Rock Property 7-12-04, 3-20-04, 7-1-83, 3-12-83  
The NSS Trout Rock property shall be designated the John Guilday Caves Nature Preserve.
- 26-437 Management Plans 10-20-84  
An outline for writing Cave Management Plans is approved. (See Appendix Z)
- 26-444 Acquisition of Cave Properties 6-28-85  
Guidelines for acquisition of cave properties are approved. (See Appendix L)
- 26-466 Cave Registers 4-4-09:19, 6-30-00, 3-16-96, 4-4-92,  
11-8-86, 6-27-86  
The Administrative Vice-President shall monitor the use of NSS owned caves by using cave registers or other appropriate means.
- 26-487 Warren Nature Preserve 3-20-04, 3-16-96, 3-09-91  
The Warren Nature Preserve Committee in the Department of the Administrative Vice-President shall manage the NSS Warren Nature Preserve, Alachua County, Florida.

- 26-505            Mill Creek Sink Property Donation            3-20-04, 10-18-03, 3-16-96, 11-7-92  
The NSS Mill Creek Sink Nature Preserve, Alachua County, Florida, shall be managed by the Cave Diving Section of the NSS, reporting to the Administrative Vice-President through the Cave Ownership and Management Committee.
- 26-511            Schoharie Nature Preserve Committee            3-20-04, 4-17-93  
The Schoharie Nature Preserve Committee shall consist of the Chairman, one representative elected or appointed from each grotto in the Northeastern Regional Organization (NRO) and a NSS member representative elected or appointed from any of the Canadian caving groups that the committee may deem appropriate. The committee will function in accordance with the Schoharie Nature Preserve Management Plan (See Appendix F). This Committee reports to the Cave Ownership and Management Committee.
- 26-515            Boy Scouts of America Guidelines            8-2-93  
Any caving group conducted under the auspices of the Boy Scout of America using NSS-owned or managed properties is required to adhere to guidelines published in the BSA Leader's Handbook, the BSA Venture Caving Handbook, and the NSS Youth Caving brochure.
- 26-577            NSS Nature Preserves Committee            3-20-04, 11-2-96  
The NSS Nature Preserves Committee is established in the department of the Administrative Vice President. This committee shall manage all caves and karst lands owned by the NSS. All nature management committees established to manage NSS-owned and managed cave and karst properties and NSS Nature Preserves shall report to this committee. Caves owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the NSS may be designated Nature Preserves of the NSS by the Administrative Vice President.
- All Society nature properties shall be managed in such a way as to minimize the Society's liability in case of accident. Specifically, all properties shall be managed in such ways as to qualify under state or local landowner liability exemption laws; to legally define unauthorized visitors as trespassers under local law; and to inform authorized visitors of the hazardous nature of the property by requiring them to sign a liability release.
- 26-578            NSS Cave and Karst Acquisition Committee            11-06-04, 3-20-04, 11-2-96  
The NSS Cave and Karst Acquisition Committee is established in the department of the Administrative Vice President. This committee shall develop criteria for determining if a cave or karst land is suitable for ownership by the NSS, or deserving of NSS support for acquisition by an NSS internal organization or other responsible cave-interested group. Cave acquisition is defined as acquiring control of a cave or karst land by purchase, lease, easement, donation, or other contractual means. This committee shall study and make recommendations to the Board on proposals to acquire or manage new cave or karst properties and shall encourage Conservancies and other cave-interested groups to actively seek to identify caves suitable for acquisition.
- 26-585            Criteria For NSS Cave Ownership            3-21-98, 3-22-97  
Criteria for evaluating a property for ownership is approved. (See Appendix L)
- 26-599            Cave Acquisition Policy            6-23-97  
The Cave Acquisition Criteria Policy is adopted. (See Appendix L)
- 26-600            Tytoona Cave            6-23-97

The NSS agrees to acquire the Tytoona Cave property in Pennsylvania from the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy for \$3000.00, subject to the terms of a Conservation Easement that the NSS will sell to Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. The \$3000.00 will come from the Cave Acquisition Fund. The Cave Management Plan will be subject to NSS Board approval.

- 26-634 Pautler Cave 7-12-99  
The NSS shall donate up to \$5000.00 from the Cave Acquisition Fund towards the purchase of Pautler Cave, Monroe County, Illinois, by the Karst Conservancy of Illinois.
- 26-645 Draft Management Plan Requirement 10-23-99  
NSS Internal Organizations, Conservancies, or Institutional Members that apply to the NSS for loans or grants to buy or lease property containing caves shall submit a draft Management Plan for the proposed cave property in accordance with BOARD OF GOVERNORS MANUAL Appendix L: Cave Acquisition Criteria Policy and Appendix Z: Outline for Writing a Cave Management Plan.
- 26-657 Billy Clay Pit 3-20-04, 3-18-00  
The NSS shall provide a grant of up to \$5,000. from the Cave Acquisition Restricted Fund to the MidAtlantic Karst Conservancy towards the purchase of Billy Clay Pit and associated property, Pocahontas County, West Virginia.
- 26-697 Tytoona Nature Preserve Management Committee 3-20-04, 4-7-01  
The Tytoona Nature Preserve Management Committee is established in the Department of the AVP. This Committee is responsible for enforcing both NSS and Tytoona Nature Preserve access guidelines, as per Appendix F (Management Plan for Tytoona Nature Preserve).
- 26-701 McClungs Cave 7-27-01  
The NSS shall provide a grant of \$5,000 from the Cave Acquisition Restricted Fund to the West Virginia Cave Conservancy towards the purchase of the Lightners entrance of McClungs Cave and associated property, Greenbrier County, West Virginia.
- 26-702 Sellecks Karst Preserve 7-27-01  
The NSS shall provide a grant of \$5000 from the Cave Acquisition Restricted Fund to the Northeastern Cave Conservancy Inc. toward the purchase of the Sellecks Karst Preserve in Schoharie County, New York.
- 26-709 Warren Nature Preserve Land Survey 3-20-04, 10-20-01  
Up to \$1000 is allocated from the current year=s income from the Cave Preserves Fund to re-survey the Warren Nature Preserve and place monuments as needed.
- 26-710 Geo-Caches in NSS-Owned Caves 3-23-02  
Geo-Caches are not permitted in or near caves owned by the NSS. Preserve managers finding geo-caches in NSS caves are directed to remove them. Placement of geo-caches on NSS preserves, excluding the caves, is left to the discretion of the preserve manager.
- 26-729 Wells Nature Preserve 3-20-04, 10-5-02  
The Wells Nature Management Plan is approved and the NSS Administrative Vice President is authorised to accept the property as an NSS Nature Preserve.
- 26-731 Great Expectations Cave Acquisition 10-5-02





The Richard Blenz Nature Preserve cave management plan is approved.

- 26-808           NSS Nature Preserve Categorization           08-15-08:6  
The Administrative Vice President is directed to document the terms under which each of the NSS Nature Preserves or other real estate, became NSS property. This documentation will include information about how and when each property was acquired, whether donated or purchased; what costs were involved and how said payments were raised. The purpose of this documentation is to properly categorize each piece of real estate as an unrestricted, temporarily restricted or permanently restricted asset, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The AVP will report back to the Board on progress regarding this documentation at each board meeting until the documentation is complete.
- 26-819           Purchase of Lot 87, Huntsville, AL           07-20-09:7  
The AVP is authorized to negotiate the purchase of Lot 87, at the corner of Pulaski Pike and Link Ave. for the sum not to exceed \$12,700. Funds to cover this purchase will be taken from the Endowment Fund. In the event that, prior to 12/31/09, the NSS decides to remain in Huntsville, the Endowment Fund will be reimbursed from the Headquarters Fund. Otherwise the NSS will engage in a fund raising campaign to reimburse the Endowment Fund.
- 26-823           NSS Headquarters Commission           11-07-09:6  
The NSS Headquarters Commission (HQComm) is established in the Department of the President. The duties, responsibilities, and privileges of the HQComm are specified in the NSS Headquarters Commission Charter (Charter), which is hereby approved. The facilities described in the Charter will be completed no later than December 2015. See Appendix AY.
- 26-824           NSS Headquarters Location           11-07-09:11  
In compliance with Act 26-796 the Board of Governors recommends Kentucky to the Headquarters Commission, as the general vicinity to construct or purchase a headquarters facility to include the NSS Office, Library, and Archives.
- 26-825           Commercial Storage Space           11-07-09:12  
The OVP is authorized to seek, within the immediate Huntsville area, the rental or purchase of a small (~3,000 sq ft) commercial building to be used as a temporary storage facility during the NSS Headquarters Project. The OVP will submit all proposals to the Board for their approval.
- 26-830           NSS Office to Remain in Huntsville           11-07-09:21  
The NSS will maintain its office in Huntsville until such time as a new headquarters facility has been completed.

#### Cross References

18-270 Repair Funds  
86-159 Boy Scouts  
Appendix C, Attachment G  
Appendix F  
Appendix Z  
Appendix AY