

APPENDIX AB

March 10, 1990

Memorandum of Understanding Between The American Cave Conservation Association and The National Speleological Society

The National Speleological Society (hereafter, the Society) and the American Cave Conservation Association (hereafter, the Association) are membership organizations with a mutual interest in caves and cave resources.

The purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding is to:

1. Promote cooperation between the Society and the Association
2. Enhance the effectiveness of efforts on matters of joint concern to the Society and the Association.
3. Recognize the achievements and initiatives of both the Society and the Association.
4. Establish effective communication between the Society and the Association and the respective members of each organization.

To accomplish these objectives, the Society, through its Board of Governors and the Association, through its Board of Directors, do hereby ratify this Memorandum of Understanding and the Society and the Association do mutually agree as follows:

1. The Society and the Association shall acknowledge the contribution or participation of each organization in publicizing or advertising an event or accomplishment to which contribution has been made or will be made, in whole or in part, by members of the other organization.
2. The Society and the Association will inform the other organization of communications relating to policy matters made to government agencies, private organizations, or individuals, when such communications concern issues of significant interest to the caving community and which involve a subject matter in which the other organization has a traditional or known interest. Such notification shall be for the purpose of allowing coordinated communications and other joint efforts where such are deemed advisable and therefore such communication shall be promptly accomplished. This provision shall not be interpreted to pertain to ordinary business communications or to matters reasonably considered sensitive.
3. The Society and the Association shall cooperate in achieving common objectives and such cooperation shall include, but not be limited to, publishing announcements of the other organization in Society or Association literature, distributing brochures and other information generated by the other organization, displaying exhibits of the other organization, and in considering grant requests of the other organization.
4. The Society and the Association will each refer to the other organization any requests for assistance from other organizations or from individuals outside the caving community when such requests cannot be responded to with the resources of the referring organization. When appropriate, requests for assistance from outside organizations or individuals may be referred between the organizations for joint or coordinated response.
5. The Society and the Association shall portray each other in a positive manner in their respective publications and internal memoranda and when communicating with other organizations or individuals. In the event that differences of opinion arise between the respective organizations on matters of mutual interest, discussions of

these differences shall avoid questioning the motives or dedication of the other organization.

6. By ratification of this Memorandum of Understanding the governing bodies of the respective organizations have created the NSS-ACCA liaison committee which shall be composed of two members. One shall be a member of the Society who shall be appointed by the Society's Board of Governors. The other shall be a member of the Association who shall be appointed by the Association's Board of Directors. The liaison committee shall be charged with the responsibility of informing the governing body of each organization regarding projects, goals, and activities of the other organization. Additionally, the liaison committee shall endeavor to promote understanding and cooperation between the Society and the Association.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective upon ratification by the governing bodies of the respective organizations and such ratification shall be indicated by the signatures of the presidents of the respective organizations in the spaces provided below. The organization first ratifying this Memorandum of Understanding shall not be bound thereby until such time as the Memorandum is ratified by the other organization.

The Association or the Society may cancel or amend this document at any time provided thirty-day prior written notification is given to the other organization.

/s/ John Scheltens
President, NSS

3-10-90
Date

President, ACCA
Date