



To Our Partners in Stewardship,

Over the course of the last year the 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 A. T. corridor. The NPS Regional office has provided us almost \$800,000 to complete the entire inventory process. As we reach the end of the inventory fieldwork process, we've begun to review the data and discuss lessons learned. 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, what they are valued at, and how best to prioritize our limited funds and resources toward their continued preservation.
- Acquired the necessary information to develop cost estimates for project work, improve project development, tracking and reporting, develop better project justifications, and improve project scores to make APPA more competitively for Federal funds.

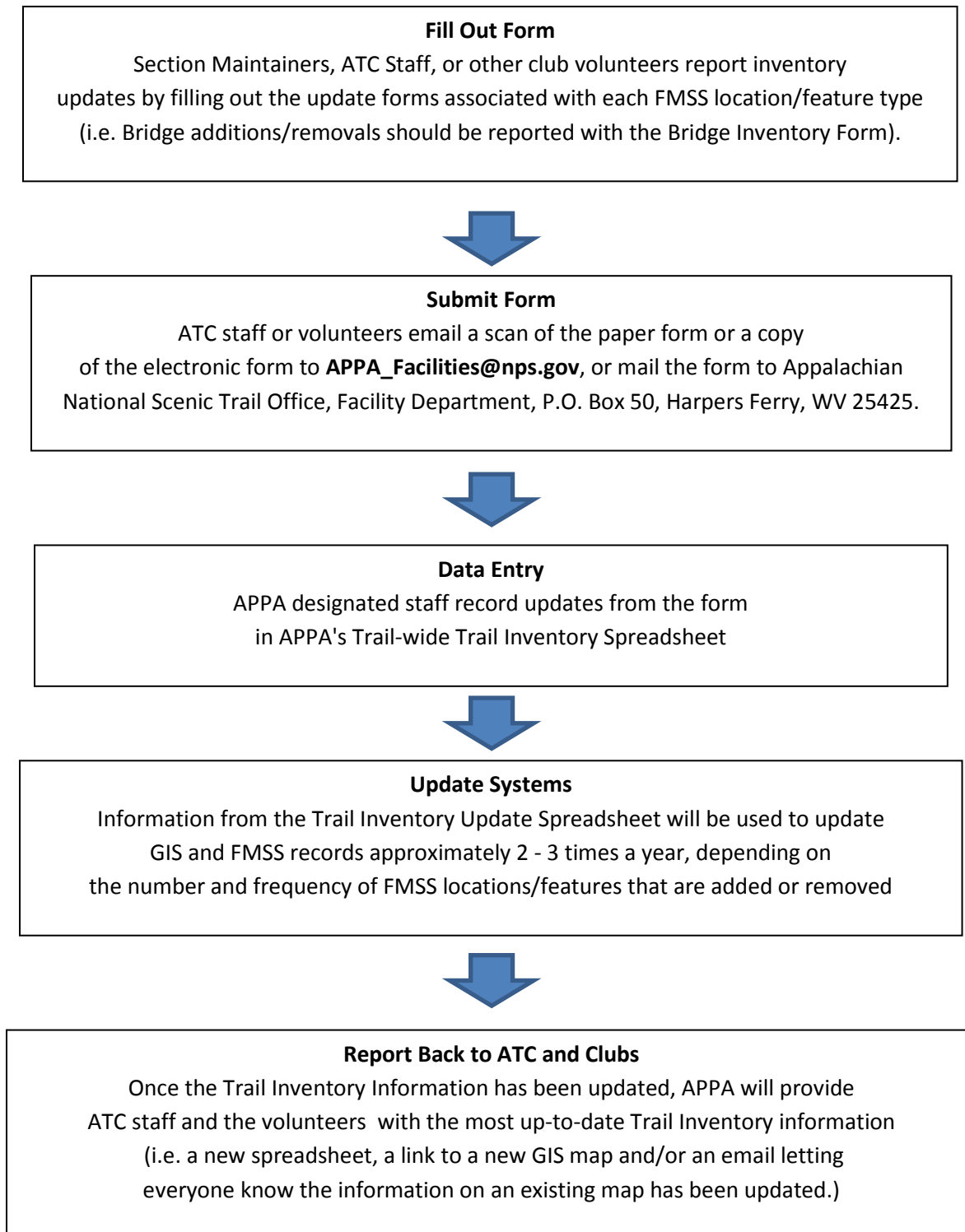
While the overall benefits of having this information certainly outweigh the cost of this inventory, there is no way to justify going through the same process every 5 years, as required at most National Parks. Instead, we are moving forward with an inventory update process based on work completed and reported by ATC and/or the trail club volunteers. APPA and ATC have developed a paper form update process to be used while the long-term, database version is being developed.

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 FMSS Location, will have 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. Forms should be used ONLY to report on work accomplished with NON-APPA funds. APPA funded improvements and alterations will be captured through the Capital Plan and other task agreement reporting procedures.

During the comment period, it was reported that there were issues with the forms not displaying properly on certain programs. To resolve this issue, we have developed both a word document version and a fillable PDF document, which will allow you to either print these forms or fill the form out in the field electronically.

The Inventory Update Process:



I want to thank you for all of your hard work during this inventory 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 me by phone at (304) 535-5093.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith Stegall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K'.

Keith Stegall

Facility Manager
Appalachian National Scenic Trail

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.