

January 16, 2018

Hello Trail Club and Agency Partners,

It's my pleasure to share with you the attached report on the 2017 season of the Konnarock Volunteer Trail Crew. Please enjoy and share!

2017 was the 35th year for the Konnarock Crew, and an extremely productive season marked by the Crew's trademark focus on safety and quality. Among the many important rehab and relocation projects tackled, the crews built particularly impressive structures on the Jump Off Rehab project (necessitated by the wildfires of fall 2016), Jerry Cabin to Big Butt Rehab, and Buzzard Rock Rehab.

2017 was also a great year for the Konnarock program's goal of engaging new audiences in A.T. stewardship. 83% of volunteer positions were filled, with about a third of the volunteers falling in the 16-25 age group. Student groups from the University of Central Missouri and University of South Dakota were a special part of the season.

The Konnarock program is a shining example of A.T. cooperative management at its finest, and as such there are too many partners who gave critical support to thank each by name here. Thank you for all you do for the crew, and for the A.T.! And special thanks to the excellent ATC seasonal staff who made the 2017 season so successful: Crew Leaders Jerry Kyle, Justin Farrel, Brian Allgood and Josh Reynolds; and Camp Coordinators Janet Gibbons and Rachel Esrig.

Here in the ATC-VARO office, an order of new hard hats just rolled in the door as Josh Kloehn is busy sifting through applications for this year's Konnarock Crew staff. We'll be inviting alumni volunteers to register for the 2018 season any day now, and reaching out to recruit new volunteers. Here's to another excellent season of the storied Konnarock Volunteer Trail Crew in 2018!

In partnership,

Kathryn Herndon-Powell