CHARTER
SCIENCE COMMITTEE

1. *Purpose*

   The Science Committee provides advice to ACLT Staff, the ACLT Board, and the Land Management Committee on steps required to maintain Parkers Creek and Governors Run watersheds as dynamic and well-functioning systems that:
   - support and provide suitable habitat for diverse plant and animal communities dominated by viable populations of native species;
   - have good water quality;
   - maintain ecological processes and evolutionary potential; and
   - are resilient to natural disturbances, low-impact human use, and well-managed agriculture at designated sites.

   The Science Committee also generates and provides information that will help ACLT take an ecosystem-based approach to lands and waters under its management.

2. *Organization*

   A. Standing Committee: The Science Committee is a standing committee of the ACLT composed of a minimum of 5 persons.

   B. Members: Membership in the Science Committee is based on scientific and technical expertise, including science communication and outreach, subject to approval of the President of the Board of Directors and Committee chair.

      i. Committee members shall serve for three (3) year terms. Terms are renewable with no limits.
      ii. The Board President shall be an *ex-officio* voting member and the Executive Director and Land Manager shall be an *ex-officio* non-voting members.
      iii. Any Committee member may be removed by the Board of Directors for failure to participate, non-performance of duties, or other cause deemed sufficient by the Board upon recommendation of the Board President.

   C. Officers: The President of the Board nominates a current Board member to serve as the Committee chair. The Committee chair shall be approved by the Board of Directors for a three (3) year term, renewable with no limits. The Committee chair shall appoint a Committee recorder and any other officers deemed necessary.

   D. Subcommittees: The Committee may establish subcommittees as needed. The Committee chair shall appoint the chairs of any subcommittees from amongst the members of the Committee as a whole. The conduct of the subcommittee shall follow the same general guidance as for committees.

   E. Meetings: The Committee shall meet at least twice per year and, additionally, at the request of the Committee chair or the Board of Directors. Committee meetings are open to ACLT members and other invited guests. The Committee chair has the authority to call for an executive session as deemed necessary.

F.   <u>Quorum</u>: A quorum consists of a majority of the voting Committee members. A quorum of members must be in participation to conduct official business. Action on any issue requires approval by a majority of the voting members present.

3.   <u>Responsibilities</u>

A.   <u>Generate and identify information and techniques that can be used to inform conservation and management of lands owned and managed by ACLT.</u>

B.   <u>Encourage research and collaboration on ACLT lands and on topics relevant to ACLT.</u>

C.   <u>Provide science-based guidance to ACLT staff, Board and committees.</u>

D.   <u>Facilitate and provide recommendations for staff and volunteer training</u>

4.   <u>Records</u>

A.   Minutes of the Committee's meetings shall be prepared and distributed to Committee members in a timely manner. Once approved by the Committee, the Committee recorder shall provide a copy of the approved minutes to the ACLT office, which shall maintain them as permanent records.

B.   The Committee shall prepare and submit an Annual Report of its activities for the membership (to be incorporated in the ACLT Annual Report and reported at the Annual Meeting). As needed, it shall provide status reports at the bi-monthly Board of Directors' meetings and such other reports as requested by the Board.

C.   The Committee is responsible for working with staff to ensure good data management and archiving practices.

5.   *Charter Review*

The Committee shall review its charter every five (5) years for validity and appropriateness.

Approved by the Board of Directors on Sept. 18, 2021