Our Mission

The NSS Landowner Relations Network Committee (LRNC) has been established to work on private sector landowner relations at a national level and facilitate access to the resources of the NSS for the purposes of cave conservation, cave access, cave preservation, and cave acquisition.

Through this mission, members of the LRNC seek to establish meaningful relationships with cave landowners whose caves see frequent visitors, and to reach out to landowners of closed or limited-access caves to bring goodwill from the NSS.

Join us in our effort to support landowners:

• Request support or guidance as a landowner or caver.

• Request guidance to develop a management plan that ensures perpetual access and support for landowners.

• Make a tax-deductible financial donation or arrange for a donation of your cave to the NSS Cave Acquisition Fund or a local cave conservancy.

• Join our Facebook Group (NSS Landowner Relations Committee) and share your stories about landowners who make a difference.

• Become a member of the NSS LRNC to serve as the connection between the NSS and landowners.

• Contact us at LRNC@caves.org
Landowners Make a Difference

Landowners who are known to have good relations with cavers are a valuable resource for the NSS and cavers in general.

The NSS LRNC takes a proactive approach with caver-friendly landowners to broach the delicate subject of perpetual access. In this capacity, the LRNC partners with NSS grottos and cave conservancies to negotiate the best possible outcome for continued access, whether it’s a formal or informal management plan, a lease, a donation, or a sale to the NSS or another conservation organization.

Consider a Land Donation

Are you a landowner who wants to ensure perpetual access to your cave? The NSS can assist with the development of management plans and accepts donations in various forms. We also support grottos and cave conservancies by providing financial support for acquisitions that ensure access for the future. Our focus is on cave conservation, cave access, and cave acquisition, while providing support for landowners and cavers.

Contact LRNC@caves.org or preserves@caves.org for more information about donations and grant requests.

Recognition for Landowners

Do you know a landowner who supports education, exploration, conservation, and access to caves? The NSS Landowner Relations Network Committee Certificate of Appreciation is an award that recognizes cave landowners or land managers whose efforts have been especially supportive of cavers and the mission of the NSS. The highest level of recognition is the NSS Outstanding Landowner-Caver Relations Award, which is presented annually at the NSS Awards Banquet. It is designed to recognize cave landowners or land managers whose efforts have been exemplary. Both awards recognize previous contributions, promote future cooperation, and foster relationships between cavers and landowners. Applications for both awards are available at www.caves.org.

For more information, email LRNC@caves.org.