

Action Committees

SAMAB's action projects are driven by several permanent committees staffed by professionals from the member agencies. Committees include:

- Environmental Research and Monitoring.
- Sustainable Development.
- Environmental Education, Conservation, and Training.
- Resource Management.
- Public Affairs.
- Cultural and Historic Resources.

The Cooperative's Executive Committee, composed of senior executives from each member organization, oversees the work of the project committees, doing so through a full-time Executive Director.

You Can Help

In the past two decades, the Southern Appalachian region has experienced tremendous, largely uncontrolled growth. Irreplaceable natural resources have been damaged in the process. Poor planning has often hindered wholesome economic development — all



because we fail to see the earth as an interconnected community of living things.

As American naturalist Aldo Leopold put it:

When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect. There is no other way for land to survive the impact of mechanized man.

SAMAB is helping build that love and respect for the land and its related resources — the rivers, the animals, the plants. We are helping to change the pattern of uncontrolled development. You can be a part of SAMAB. We encourage your support.



SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN

Man and Biosphere Program



For additional information, please write or call:

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*Finding solutions for a sound economy
and a healthy environment*

Global Problems

Look on a forest, field, or river and the animals and plants that it sustains. All are connected with our human condition. Wherever you live on this planet, they inevitably determine your quality of life. Harm the forest and you harm humanity. Kill the animal indiscriminately and something dies in each of us.

How can we protect our precious natural resources, but at the same time allow their use in ways that enhance the human condition? That is the question more and more people are asking. From scientist to the man on the street, the need for answers to our environmental problems is being felt with increasing urgency.



Global Answers

Because environmental problems are global, solutions cannot come without global cooperation. The international Man and Biosphere program provides a framework for such cooperation, and at the same time it offers results reaching directly into local communities where solutions are most urgently needed.

The United Nations created the Man and Biosphere program in 1971. It brought together various agencies and organizations that already had responsibility for natural resource management and economic development. By working more closely and coordinating their efforts, it was believed that these institutions could better address common problems such as air and water pollution, conservation, biological diversity, and sustainable economic growth.

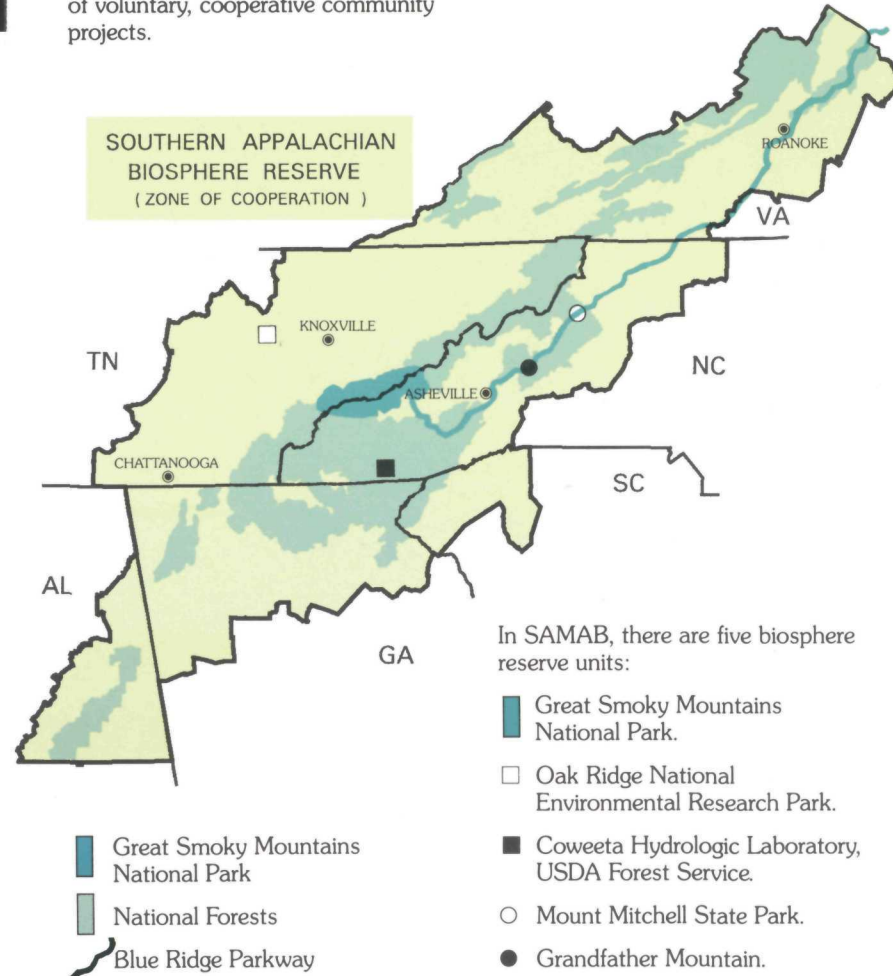
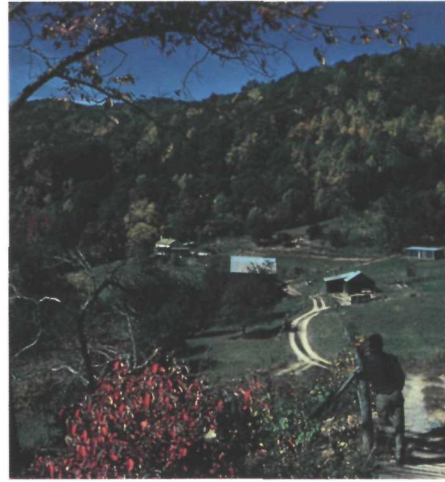
Local Results

But how could this global concept be applied in local communities where the problems exist? To address that question, national Man and Biosphere organizations were formed in countries all around the world. These national groups chartered regional organizations to work directly with communities, completing the global network.

The Southern Appalachian Man and Biosphere (SAMAB) program was the first of these regional programs and is among the largest in the global network.

The Heart of the Program

At the heart of each regional Man and Biosphere program is one or more biosphere reserve units, designated as such by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Each reserve unit is a unique resource, typically shielded from the influence of unbridled development. Each provides a proving ground for ecological research and monitoring. Valuable lessons learned in a biosphere reserve are extended outward to a surrounding Zone of Cooperation. This is done by means of voluntary, cooperative community projects.



A Regional Model

SAMAB was established in August 1988 with formation of the SAMAB Cooperative. Its Zone of Cooperation, shown on the accompanying map, covers parts of Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. Federal agencies of the Cooperative include the Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Energy, Economic Development Administration, Tennessee Valley Authority, National Park Service, Environmental Protection Agency, and Geological Survey. State agencies are now joining.

SAMAB is already recognized by the United States MAB program as a model of cooperative, integrated, regional resource management. Its organizational structure is being copied by other Man and Biosphere programs across the Nation.



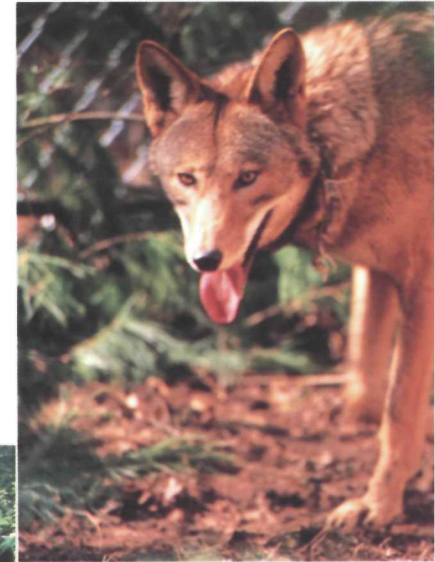
Private-Sector Link

A nonprofit SAMAB Foundation has been formed so that other organizations can join SAMAB. Private corporations, universities, and colleges are thus involved. Cities and communities also participate through local chapters of the SAMAB Foundation. The Cooperative and the Foundation, working together, define the SAMAB program.

Current Projects

Here are a few of SAMAB's current initiatives:

- A model community planning program to demonstrate that tourism-based development and conservation of natural resources are compatible objectives.



- Support for restoration of endangered and threatened animal and plant species, including reintroduction of the red wolf in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
- Development of environmental education programs for schools, and publication of a directory of environmental education programs available in the region.
- An annual planning meeting and periodic resource management workshops.
- Establishment of a forest health monitoring program for Southern Appalachia.
- Public education for controlling dogwood anthracnose disease and other threats to the environment.