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**Mountain Conservation Trust acquires Forry Farm property**

June 8, 2017- Mountain Conservation Trust of Georgia, Inc. (MCT) announces its acquisition of the Forry Farm property located near Talking Rock, GA. The 266 acre property was owned by the Forry family since 1990. MCT plans to expand an existing system of hiking trails and make the land available for managed public access in the future. The property and structures will also provide unique venues for MCT's education and outreach programs.

Noteworthy features of the property include: portions of Talking Rock and Wildcat Creeks, a historic Native American game field, and remnants of an early settlement on the property. A family home and barn are also present, the only structures on the mostly wooded land.

Dorothy and Robert Forry were long-time MCT supporters and volunteers. The property initially served as a weekend retreat for the Atlanta-based family, and later became the permanent residence of Dorothy and Robert Forry in their retirement. Their children, Sam Forry and Hadden Goodman, sought to honor their parents and the family's love of the property by facilitating MCT's acquisition of the land so that it could be permanently protected and shared with others.

"When we were young our family spent weekends at the farm hiking, exploring the woods and swimming in the creeks. Now, we want others to experience Forry Farm, it has meant so much to our family", said Sam Forry. "Our family strongly supports MCT's mission and we are excited to partner with MCT so the farm can be protected and available for people to enjoy for years to come."

"The Forry Farm acquisition is a milestone for MCT", according to George Kimberly, MCT's Executive Director. "Like most land trusts, MCT's conservation work has been primarily focused on obtaining voluntary conservation agreements with private landowners. Those protected lands aren't always accessible by the public. Forry Farm is an opportunity for MCT to own and manage a special property that the public can use and enjoy."

MCT intends to name the property *Forry Farm Preserve*, and seeks volunteers and financial support for its newly established "*Friends of Forry Farm Preserve*". Volunteer and financial support will assist with management and maintenance of the Preserve. For more information about becoming involved, contact MCT at: [info@mctga.org](mailto:info@mctga.org), 706 253 4077.

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*The Mountain Conservation Trust of Georgia (MCT) is a nationally accredited nonprofit land trust dedicated to the permanent conservation of the natural resources and scenic beauty of the North Georgia foothills and mountains.*