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WATeR WORKS

EAST LAKESHORE TRAIL REACHES SOUTHERN TERMINUS



(left to right) Terry Nyenhuis, Jake Thornton, Jim Blaker, Steve West, Larry Smartt, Nils Johannesen, George Southworth, Don DiTullio, Bob Martin, Dave Noble, John Winn, Gene Brownell, Tom Schemberger, and Mel Fisher.

Pictured above, gathered around the symbolic Golden Spike, are some of the dedicated trail builders as their construction efforts reached the southern terminus of the East Lakeshore Trail system to tie-in with the trailhead at Wildcat Pointe (off the East Coast Tellico Parkway just north of route 411). The trail system is now 24 miles in length. The dedicated efforts of volunteer trail builders, using hand tools, has taken almost 10 years to reach this southern terminus of the trail system.

This southern most 3 mile trail section is the Morganton Branch and will have its own trailhead and kiosk near the intersection of Peterson Road and the East Coast Tellico Parkway. Visit our website to view this new map.

Bob Martin, the current trail building coordinator, reports: "The East Lakeshore Trail is the product of a successful nine-year partnership between WATeR and TVA. This formal cooperative agreement between WATeR and TVA was made in March 2003 and is dedicated to the conservation of natural resources in the Tellico Watershed, promoting clean water and appropriate outdoor recreational pursuits". 29 trail builders worked 1606 volunteer hours during 2012!

Future plans will focus on developing the trail further to the north. The north end of the trail current ends at the Wind River (formally Rarity Pointe) development and will eventually extend an additional 6 to 8 miles to the Tellico Dam making the East Lakeshore Trail about 30 miles in total length.