March 7, 2007

For Immediate Release

The American Chestnut Foundation awarded coveted 4-star rating from Charity Navigator

Bennington, VT -- The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF) has earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America’s premier charity evaluator. This award, which is the highest possible, indicates that TACF outperformed the majority of nonprofits in the United States with respect to fiscal responsibility.

“We are honored that Charity Navigator, a highly respected organization in the world of philanthropy, has given us this award. Our ability as a foundation to efficiently manage and grow our finances is one of the keys to our success, and it will help us in our continuing effort to restore the American chestnut,” said TACF President and CEO Marshal Case.

Since its last rating by Charity Navigator, TACF has partnered with several high-profile institutions, including the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History and Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens to plant highly blight-resistant American chestnuts that are the result of the Foundation’s breeding program. TACF’s state chapter network has also been expanded to include its Virginia Chapter – the 14th state chapter, as well as a Vermont/New Hampshire chapter currently in formation. Progress is steady on the scientific front and TACF has given out approximately $30,000 in external research grants to further the work of chestnut restoration during its last fiscal year.

“This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator differentiates The American Chestnut Foundation from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust,” said Charity Navigator President Trent Stamp.

The American Chestnut Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)-3 organization with more than 5,800 members around the world and chapters in 13 states across the country. Please visit www.acf.org for more information on national, state and local activities.