

TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 93, March 5, 1979*

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ACTION SUMMARY ON LAST PAGE

TCWP public meeting: "OAK RIDGE AIRPORT -- WHY NEXT TO THE ARBORETUM?"
Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m., Oak Ridge Civic Center, Social Room
Speakers:

1. A City and/or Chamber of Commerce representative will summarize why U.T.'s experimental forestry land was the site selected
2. Bob Farmer, Pres., Tenn. Native Plant Soc., will talk about the values that would be destroyed. A U.T. and/or Arboretum representative will discuss U.T.'s opposition to release of the land.

Bring your friends. There should be interest beyond TCWP.

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Star in margin means "Action Needed."

1. STATE NATURAL AREAS ZERO-BUDGETED: YOUR PROTESTS NEEDED

The Alexander administration has virtually gutted the state's Natural Resource Areas program. Even though the Dept. of Conservation's requests were extremely modest, the governor's budget disallowed 95% of the amount. Here are some specifics:

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Scenic Rivers	\$ 65,000	\$100,000
Trails	250,000	
Natural Areas (acquisitions for Savage Gulf, Radnor, etc.)	<u>1,585,000</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	\$1,900,000	\$100,000(=5%)

The total capital outlay for the Department was budgeted at 40% of the request (\$3.4 million instead of \$8.4 million). Terrible as this is, it is obvious that the Natural Resource Areas took a disproportionate beating. Furthermore, about \$620,000 of matching federal funds were foregone. You might be interested in some items that did get funded: \$200,000 for a swimming pool at the Davy Crockett Historical Site (undoubtedly, Davy would have considered this very appropriate), \$150,000 for furnishings at Paris Landing. The swimming pool money alone represents almost the entire amount disallowed for Rivers and Trails.

✕ What you can do: Please, today contact your state representative and senator (see enclosed list and Political Guide) and tell them to restore some of the needed money. Also, if possible, write a letter to your paper to acquaint some of your fellow citizens with what is happening. (Some other bloated budgets, e.g., highways, might hardly notice a \$1.8 million cut; but it sure hurts where this represents 95%.)

2. DRAFT REPORT ON COLUMBIA DAM ALTERNATIVES SMACKS OF OLD TVA

TVA has just issued a "Report on Preliminary Studies of Columbia Dam Alternatives," which was prepared at the request of the Office of Management and Budget. Alternatives discussed are (a) the project as planned (54 miles flooded), but with mitigation to help survival of endangered mussel species; (b) completion of dam, but operation at a low pool level (36 miles flooded); (c) removal of earthen portion of dam (0 miles flooded) and river development ranging from minimal to full. The costs for completing the 3 alternatives are \$96 million, \$55 million and \$15-25 million, respectively. The conclusion is "In the light of the limited benefits of the alternatives [i.e., (b) or (c)] to the project as planned [i.e., (a)], ... it would appear that these are not reasonable alternatives."

Interestingly, benefit/cost ratios are not calculated, and while the report states that for (b) and (c) "The additional benefits do not exceed the cost of providing the benefits," it nowhere points out that this is true, with a vengeance, for (a): Columbia Dam never had a benefit/cost ratio above 1.0 (even by the old TVA's own biased calculations); and in 1977, the Administration-ordered analysis showed a benefit/cost ratio of only 0.8.

Long ago, we asked TVA if one purpose of Columbia Dam was to provide a power-plant site (if so, the EIS and other documents would, we thought, need modification). TVA denied this. Interestingly, the present report states: "TVA has identified a potential power-plant site in the Columbia Reservoir are [which] would add appreciably to the economic benefit of the project previously claimed."

Only one reporter (Ernie Beazley in the Knoxville Journal) correctly pointed out that the report is a draft and does not necessarily represent the position of the TVA's board of directors. It was, in fact, prepared by staff who have been involved in the Duck River project from way back. While Bob Clement, the probable future board member (see para. 10A) appears to have a preconceived notion to finish the dam, we hope the Freemans will not swallow the report's spurious arguments for a maximum expenditure in a losing investment.

* What you can do: Write to the TVA Board (Knoxville, TN 37902), or call the toll-free line (1-800-362-9250 in Tennessee; 1-800-251-9242 outside), and ask that your message be transmitted to the Board. Also write your U.S. Representative and Senators. The message is simple: if we are to cut government spending, the best place to start is with a project that returns only 80¢ for each dollar spent.

3. TELlico PROJECT

A. Endangered Species Committee rules against the dam; options are discussed.

By now you surely know that (just a few days after NL 92 went to the press) the special cabinet-level Endangered Species Committee voted unanimously in open session not to exempt Tellico Dam from the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. It is perhaps significant that the member of the committee we were most worried about actually did most of the talking against exempting the project: Charles Schultze, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors argued that there was more economic value in leaving the land behind the dam unflooded than in completing the reservoir. The citizen member from Tennessee, Bill Willis (NL 92 para. 1) also stressed the numerous values that would be obliterated by the project. The committee had in hand an excellent 57-page staff report by the USDI's Office of Policy Analysis (see para. 15) which contains an interesting history of the project, the opposition to it; and TVA's handling thereof, as well as chapters on alternatives, their costs, their effects on the snail darter, etc.

Following the Endangered Species Committee's ruling, TVA on 1/19/79 issued a paper outlining the available options and the legal, construction, and budgetary requirements. The options are (1) Reservoir as planned (but there are 3 legal constraints, including the snail darter), (2a) River, with development by TVA, (2b) River, with locally controlled development. Costs remaining for (1) are \$30.2 million for construction and \$7.3 million for development, or \$37.5 million. For (2a), construction costs are \$20.7 million (part of this being road and bridge construction below the dam, which would also occur in alternative (1)) and development \$9.4, for a total of \$30.1 million. These options were presented at a 2/22/79 hearing at Loudon, at which public sentiment is reported to have run 7 to 5 for completing the dam. Many local people testified that they wanted their land back.

* What you can do: Write to S. David Freeman (Chairman, TVA, Knoxville, TN 37902) and tell him you favor a river alternative.

B. What will Senator Baker do next?

The Endangered Species Committee failed to exempt Tellico but did exempt Grayrock Dam in Wyoming on condition that environmental safeguards be included to protect the whooping cranes. While many hailed the handling of these two cases as proof that endangered species confrontations can be solved, Senator Baker threw a tantrum when his own creation (the 7-member committee) had the nerve not to be a rubberstamp for the Senator's wishes on Tellico. Note that, according to last year's Baker-Culver amendment, neither the stage of completion of a project nor any interpretations of "intent of Congress" are among the specific criteria the committee is to use in deciding on whether or not to exempt a project. Baker's current response to constituent mail is full of the old errors, e.g., the "project was nearly 50% completed when the snail darter was discovered;" "more than \$100 million...have been expended" (he does not mention that only a small fraction of this is non-recoverable and wasted); "little more [money is] required" (actually, it will take another \$37.5 million, see 3A, above).

Baker has now introduced two amendments to the Endangered Species Act, both dated 1/29/79: S.242 would eliminate the Endangered Species Committee, and S. 243 would exempt Tellico Dam from the provisions of Sec. 7. There is worry that, in this new, more conservative, Congress, Baker's fury may strengthen the hand of the Act's critics. The Act's authorization expires 3/31/80, and a re-authorization bill must be reported by committees by May 15

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to comply with the congressional budget process. Fortunately, Sen. Culver heads the pertinent subcommittee in the Senate and will probably push a simple re-authorization without amendments. It is reported quite likely that a number of Senators will view Baker's actions as those of a spoiled child.

What you can do: Write to Sen. Culver (Chairman, Environment Subcommittee on Resource Protection, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510) and to Congressman Breaux (Chairman, Merchant Marine Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation, House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515) and tell them that you want the Endangered Species Act re-authorized without amendments. Send a copy to Sec. Cecil Andrus (U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240).

4. OBED: NPS DRAGS ITS FEET ON ACQUISITION, WHILE COAL MINERS ARE FULL OF ENERGY

Almost every list of NPDES (water pollution) permit applications we receive contains from one to several requests for the watersheds of the Obed or Big South Fork. There is even a mining plan that would involve tunnelling under the river (Obed)! Much of this grief could be forestalled if only the Park Service (NPS) could acquire the river-bank lands it is authorized to get (and has some money set aside for). What is stalling NPS is that appraisals are incomplete. In fact, minerals appraisal has not even started! It appears to us that the local NPS people are conscientious and concerned, but that they are getting little or no support from higher up.

What you can do: Write: (a) to William Whalen, (chief, NPS, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240) and (b) to Rep. Marilyn Lloyd Bouquard. Tell them to exert their influence to see that the Obed Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1976 is speedily implemented to help avert some of the destruction of the resource that will otherwise occur.

The proposed task force, whose job it would be to take actions to preserve water quality in the Obed, may soon go into action. As we reported (NL 92, para. 7A), this task force was to have included state and federal agencies as well as citizens' groups concerned about the river.

The Morgan County Court recently approved a resolution endorsing a visitors' center for the Obed Wild and Scenic River to be located in Wartburg. This will require new legislation for non-contiguous land acquisition. Hopefully, such legislation would include addition of the lower Emory and White's Creek.

5. BIG SOUTH FORK ACQUISITION IS "GO"

Mining is threatening the Big South Fork watershed too, but here at least things are happening. With \$20 million for land acquisition available for FY 1979, the process is scheduled to begin in mid-years. The Corps held local meetings at the end of February to inform affected landowners of the policies that will be followed during land acquisition. A color brochure entitled "Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Real Estate Acquisition Procedure" is available from the Corps (P.O. Box 1070, Nashville, TN 37202). It contains a map showing the Gorge Area, Adjacent Area and proposed recreation and administrative facilities.

The East Tennessee Development District reports that a survey of local government officials and citizens in the counties affected by the BSFNRRRA shows that an overwhelming majority believe the project will be good for their counties. For the areas surrounding the project, a large majority favored zoning and building codes over unrestricted development. The BSF Development Association was formed Feb. 15 to anticipate tourist needs. As its first project, the Association plans a massive outdoor cleanup campaign for April.

6. THE CLEAN AIR SETTLEMENT MAY BE IN JEOPARDY (contributed by Bill Chandler)

The newsletter recently reported that TVA and ten citizens' organizations (including TCWP)

had settled by Consent Decree the clean air lawsuit brought by the citizens' groups to force TVA to halt certain Crimes Against Nature. These Crimes include half-a-decade of violating the Clean Air Act at ten coal-burning power plants. The plants' illegal sulfur oxide emissions (which are converted to sulfates and sulfuric acid and may be transported in the atmosphere as far as New England) cause an estimated \$500 million to \$1 billion worth of health and property damage each year, including tens of thousands of cases of asthma, thousands of cases of aggravated heart and lung disease, and hundreds of deaths (each year!). The cost of avoiding these damages will total no more than half a billion dollars in total capital investment, and a quarter of a billion dollars in additional annual operating costs -- quite a good cost-benefit ratio, considering that the cost of annual damages is 2-4 times as high.

Certain elements, however, notably the Swiss-owned Consolidated Aluminum Company in Johnsonville (where SO_x emissions caused \$200,000 worth of damage to soybean crops this year, which TVA paid for in an out-of-court settlement), are generating an attack on our Consent Decree, citing only the costs and forgetting the benefits. Certain politically oriented persons, notably Senator James Sasser and Barry Bosworth in the White House's Council on Wage and Price Stability, are pressuring Judge Wiseman to refuse to approve the Consent Decree. (Senator Muskie held hearings on February 26 and 27 to investigate possible Separation of Powers infringements in regard to this case.) The settlement may be in jeopardy.

X WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write, immediately, to Senator Sasser (Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510) and to President Carter (White House, DC 20500) and tell them you believe: (a) the Consent Decree is cost effective, and (b) the judicial branch of government should be free of political pressure. You might add that, if the Consent Decree is not approved and the case is tried in court, TVA is liable for half a billion dollars in fines, which would be an unproductive burden on the TVA ratepayer. (The Consent Decree allows these fines to be waived in order to enable TVA to spend the amount on complying with the laws.)

7. STRIPMINING: THE FEDERAL LAW NEEDS OUR SUPPORT; NO HELP ON THE STATE SCENE

A. The federal law's permanent regulations

At issue is the "permanent regulatory program" under the federal Stripmine Act of 1977. (The "interim" regs took effect for new mines 2/3/78, and for existing mines 5/3/78). The Office of Surface Mining (OSM) released its preferred alternative regs of the permanent program (and associated EIS) on 1/31/79, and these documents underwent federal agency review in February, after which they must be approved by Sec. Andrus. Under the preferred alternative, the States would take over the bulk of enforcement and reclamation, if the State program is approved; a Federal program would be implemented in States whose program is not approved (see ¶7C). While industry is already complaining about the "harshness" of the permanent regs (see ¶7B) the Citizens' Coal Project and various national environmental groups think that, in several areas of concern, the regs are too weak to meet the requirements of the Act. These groups may enter into litigation against OSM.

B. Industry attacks on the federal stripmine law; oversight hearings

The first installment of a concerted coal-industry effort to gut the federal stripmine Act is an attack on OSM (Off. of Surface Mining), its allegedly overzealous enforcement of the interim regs, and the proposed permanent regs (see ¶7A). Senators from coal states, particularly Huddleston (Ky) and Byrd (W. Va.) have grilled Interior Sec. Cecil Andrus, and have accused the Carter Administration of failure to make coal available as a major energy source because of excessively stringent regs. They are particularly attacking the "return to approximate original contour" provisions. It is clear that if the Act were opened to any amendments this year, these would weaken, rather than strengthen it.

Is OSM "overzealous" in enforcing the interim regs? Note the following results of a recent study by the Center for Law and Social Policy, Wash. DC. During the first 6 months of enforcement only 42% and 4% of strip and deepmines, respectively, were inspected (the law requires 100% each 6 months). Many findings of violation were not followed by notices

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of violation. OSM has not yet set up a system whereby States report violations to the feds, and therefore has not yet met the law's requirement that OSM follow up on each operation for which two violations are reported by state inspectors. Far from being overzealous, it seems OSM needs some help in controlling stripmine ravages!

The House Interior Committee's subcommittee on Energy and the Environment (Mo Udall) is holding OSM oversight hearings March 5 and 6, with most emphasis on the final regs. Bill Chandler will testify for TCWP.

* WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Congressman Morris Udall (Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515) and tell him (a) to give the Act a chance to work before it is opened to any amendments, (b) that OSM regs and enforcement have been, if anything, too weak, (c) that State enforcement has been a disaster. As an example, you might let him know that wildcatters abound -- with as many as four operating in the Obed watershed at this writing! Send copies to your Representative and both Senators (see enclosed POLITICAL GUIDE).

C. The State: The more things change, the more they stay the same?
(Contributed by Bill Chandler)

Governor Alexander, who, as a candidate, wrote a strong position paper on how he would control stripmining, may have let the stripmining industry write Tennessee's new surface mining act, which will be required to enable the State to administer the new Federal law (see ¶7A). Despite the availability of a bill drafted by the Dept. of Conservation, which would have enabled Tennessee to comply with Federal requirements -- and thus to avoid the humiliation of having the State denied certification for the Federal program -- Alexander deliberately let the deadline for new legislation go by without introducing it. The Department's draft bill would have given strong powers to state enforcers to control wildcatting. As a result of Alexander's balk, the only bill introduced was one drafted by the stripmining lobby, FACT. Please write to Governor Alexander, (State Capitol, Nashville, TN 37219) and tell him (a) of your displeasure at his having broken his campaign promise to take steps to control stripmining; (b) that you regret that the State probably will not obtain certification to administer the Federal law; and (c) that you hope he will compensate for his deliberate omission by amending the industry bill by substituting for it the entirety of the Dept. of Conservation bill. You might add that TCWP will surely fight Tennessee's certification, otherwise.

D. Other stripmine capsules

- OSM has job openings in the following categories (GS rating in parenthesis): Physical Science Administrator (15/16), Forester (13), Agronomist (13), Hydrologist (13), Program Management Specialist and Officer (13). Contact OSM, USDI, Wash. DC 20240.
- If Tennessee files an acceptable regulatory and reclamation program (see ¶7A), it will be eligible for \$818,247 of Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund money. This Fund is made up from the 35¢/ton and 15¢/ton fee, respectively, of stripmined and deepmined coal, with 50% of such collections being returned to the States. Altogether, \$105 million was collected by OSM during Fiscal Year 1978, from mining in 25 states.

8. RARE-II; WILDERNESS IN THE CHEROKEE IS UP TO THE CONGRESS NOW

We reported to you in our last NEWSLETTER (NL 92 ¶2) how miserably Tennessee fared in Forest Service (USFS) wilderness recommendations. Here are some new perspectives. Nationwide, the USFS recommended for wilderness status 24% of the 62 million roadless acres being reviewed; in Tennessee, it recommended 0.6%! Only one state fared worse than we did -- Vermont, with zero areas recommended (we had 1). We are now getting more insight into how it happened, too. As you recall the USFS had asked for substantive, site-specific information. Tennessee conservationists, under the leadership of Will Skelton, had spent a tremendous amount of time and effort providing it. In a recent talk with Cherokee National Forest Supervisor Lauritsen, Will learned that Lauritsen's decision was based on his "perception of public opinion," as gathered from the substantial number of non-site-specific form letters and petitions. He then further narrowed his decision base to

two very brief letters from East Tennessee Congressmen that reflected anti-wilderness attitudes. What happened to a professional decision based on the merits of each area?

Ken Warren and TCWP President Lynn Dye were part of a group of people who recently talked to Congresswoman Lloyd-Bouquard's local staff about Congress expanding the wilderness acreage from the niggardly USFS recommendation. This was the written response from the Congresswoman: "The overwhelming majority of public comment in the Third District ... indicated a preference for maintaining as much land as possible in the multi-use category. The RARE-II study conforms to this ... I believe that these recommendations are sound and responsive to public input; however, I will continue to review the proposed legislation..."

A number of Congressional bodies have started work on RARE II: In the Senate, Agriculture's subcommittee on Environment; and in the House, Interior's Public Lands and Agriculture's Forests subcommittees. They are hearing from Agriculture Sec. Bergland, Asst. Sec. Rupert Cutler and some public witnesses.

* WHAT YOU CAN DO: If you're mad at how the beautiful Cherokee NF was maltreated, write to your Congressperson and to both Senators Sasser and Baker and tell them so. (See enclosed POLITICAL GUIDE). Tell them you support the Citizens' Wilderness Proposal, which includes these areas: Rogers Ridge, Big Laurel Branch, Pond Mt., Pond Mt. Addition, Flint Mill, Unaka Mt., Jennings Creek, Citico Creek, Upper Bald River, Little Frog Mt., Big Frog Mt., and Big Frog Addition.

9. TENNESSEE CAPSULES

A. Savage Gulf State Natural Recreation Area, and Great Stone Door Environmental Education Area.

The Department of Conservation recently released fine management guidelines and presented them at a January hearing at Monteagle. Most facilities would be located in the perimeter areas and at Great Stone Door. The Savage Gulf is left undeveloped. Off-road vehicles (four-wheel and motorcycles) are prohibited, as are hang gliders. Road closures will be accomplished between March and September 1979. Backpack camping is by permit only. Entrance into two "Natural Environment Zones (along Savage Creek) is by permit only. Hunting by permit only and subject to specified dates, with all hunting permanently terminated after September 1982. This strikes us as an excellent way to protect a fragile and very special area that conservationists have worked very hard for. If you think so too, write to Mike Countess (Div. of Planning, Tenn. Dept. of Conservation, 2611 West End Ave., Nashville, TN 37203) and tell him so. Hunting and ORV interests are putting much pressure on the Dept. of Conservation to allow intrusions. If you haven't seen the area, check our calendar for a hike on May 5. P.S. If the Legislature doesn't restore money to the Natural Areas program (#1) much of Savage Gulf planning could go down the drain.

B. Bottle bill may be bottled up in committee

* The bottling industry came out in force for 3 hearings held across the state by the Legislature's Joint Committee on Litter Control. One of the Representatives was overheard assuring an anti-bottle-bill industry representative that no recycling bill would be reported out of committee. This may, in fact, be the case. Committee chairman, Carl Moore, has asked for a one-year extension for more committee work. Write to your state senator and representative (see enclosed list) and tell them you favor deposit legislation, e.g. HB 343 (Work, Lashlee)/ SB 742 (Koella).

C. Suit against Blanton's appointee for Water Quality Control Board results in resignation.

* One of the 7 members of that Board "shall be representative of conservation interests." Blanton's appointee, Gibson County patronage committee member, Dr. Clifton Timanus, did not know what the Board was, belongs to not a single conservation group, and has never participated in any conservation effort. What's more, there was evidence of some bribery in connection with stripmining near the Obed. Five conservation groups filed suit, asking for Timanus' dismissal from the board. Dr. Timanus has just resigned! Urge Gov. Alexander to appoint a real conservationist in his stead.

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D. Bill Jenkins to work for Gov. Lamar Alexander

Last spring, Bill Jenkins resigned from the TVA Board because he didn't like the proposed settlement (¶6) that ends TVA's long career as the nation's worst polluter. Before being a TVA Board member, Jenkins was Commissioner of Conservation, in which capacity he was not overly supportive of efforts to strengthen the State's stripmine law. Now Gov. Alexander has given him two jobs: (a) special energy advisor (perhaps concerned with air pollution and stripmine damage?); and (b) deputy legislative liaison. In the latter capacity, he'll be assisting Granville Hinton, also a former Commissioner of Conservation.

E. The State 208 Plan is complete

The Planning Section of the Division of Water Quality Control has completed the draft 208 Plan (non-point sources). Now follow public hearings, presentation to the Water Quality Control Board, review by the governor, finally submission to EPA by June 4. TCWP's greatest concern with the Plan was in the area of mining, covered in one of the 20 volumes of the draft. The volume has mine-site maps, data on critically polluted stream segments, and information on current regulatory programs. Copies may be viewed at major public libraries (Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville, Memphis), and at regional libraries in 12 smaller towns. -- TCWP Director, Louise Gorenflo, who was involved in Sec. 208 "planning", writes, "... the thrust of our participation were briefings by the state staff on 208 progress... The opportunity to question .. conclusions and offer alternatives was seriously compromised."

F. Ann Tuck, new Commissioner of Conservation

We have learned a little more about our new Commissioner (NL 92 ¶7A) from a column by Sam Venable. Gov. Alexander is said to have picked a "dark horse" on purpose. She served for 18 months as Assistant Commissioner under Bill Jenkins (see ¶9D) and still knows some of the Department's staff who are most favorably impressed with her feelings about Natural Resource Areas. She has no immediate plans for staff adjustments or format alterations. She has no strong feelings on whether Wildlife Resources should be combined with Dept. of Cons. (an issue that comes up from time to time). She would not comment on allegations that state stripmine regs had been poorly enforced, but she assured Venable that they would be enforced under her administration.

G. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) being formed

Mike Countess, Chief of Planning for the Natural Resource Areas Unit, is in process of establishing a CAC for his Unit (whose province is Scenic Rivers, Scenic Trails, and Natural Areas). The CAC would be advisory on policy formulation, budget, master planning, and general direction, and its chairperson would be able to respond in an official capacity to the Commissioner of Conservation.

H. Conservation awards

Zyg Plater, leader of the fight to preserve the Little T, was named Conservationist of the Year by the Tennessee Conservation League. Our congratulations on an eminently deserved award! -- The Soil Conservationist award went to SCS's E. B. Dyer, who for some years has been working to move SCS from channelization back to stopping erosion at its source (see also ¶13).

10. TVA: A NEW BOARD APPOINTEE; REORGANIZATION

A. Bob Clement, new Board appointee, sounds like "old" TVA

Former Tennessee Public Service Commissioner, and past (and future?) candidate for governor, Bob Clement, was named by President Carter to fill the third seat on the TVA Board of Directors. This is the slot vacated when Bill Jenkins resigned last spring, so the remainder of the term is only about 2½ years. Immediately after Clement had learned of the nomination (which, incidentally has not yet been sent to the Senate for confirmation), he announced to the press that he strongly favored completion of Tellico Dam "because it is 95% complete." Since then, he has stated that he also favors completion of the Columbia Dam (?because it is 25% complete?).

No wonder the Tennessee Congressional delegation whooped with joy at the news of the appointment! It is reported in several quarters that Sen. Sasser had brought extreme pressure on the President to pick Clement. On March 1, TCWP sent the following telegram to Jimmy Carter. "Respectfully urge you withdraw name of Bob Clement for TVA Board. Before leaving White House grounds after you nominated him, he announced to the press his support for Tellico Dam. This is an illegal project. His arguments today in defense of his position show he does not know the facts, acts from political expediency, and lacks the wisdom of the other Board members." You too may wish to express your opinion (100-word Mailgram costs \$2.95. Or call 202, 456-1414. Or send a letter or card.).

You may recall that TCWP has backed the following highly qualified people for TVA Board positions: Dave Freeman and Jack Gibbons; then (after Freeman was nominated), Jack Gibbons, Ruth Neff, and Pat Gish. (Incidentally, we also strongly backed Ruth Neff for Commissioner of Conservation and for citizen member of the Endangered Species Committee.)

B. TVA reorganizes

On February 26, General Manager Leon Ring announced the regrouping of a number of Divisions into 3 new Offices. They are (a) Natural Resources, under Dr. Tom Ripley, which combines Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife Development, Water Resources, Land and Forest Resources, and Natural Resources Services; (b) Community Development, under newcomer, Dr. Sharlee Hirsch, which includes the former Office of Tributary Area Development, and Division of Navigation Development and Regional Studies; and (c) Management Services, under William Willis. Three former Offices remain unchanged, namely (d) Power, (e) Engineering, and (f) Agriculture, and (g) the Office of General Counsel, Herbert Sanger, Jr., is created from the Division of Law. The 7 Office Managers report to Leon Ring, who also has, directly in his office, various staffs, such as planning, budget, and information. James L. Bently, formerly with the Atlanta Constitution is the new director of public information (succeeding John Van Mol).

11. TELlico PLAINS-ROBBINSVILLE ROAD: ALTERNATIVES TO A LAWSUIT

This road, which would penetrate far into the wilderness of the Cherokee National Forest, would form a noisy, ugly, acid-spilling barrier between the Citico-Creek and North-River wildernesses. Its path gouges into the pyritic rock along Santeelah Crest. To shave half-an-hour's travel time between the huge cities of Tellico Plains (pop. @700) and Robbinsville, North Carolina (pop. @700) would cost the taxpayer \$40 million. Approximately \$3 million is now waiting to be spent on construction unless TCWP and friends can prevent it. TCWP, TSRA, TCL, VEG, and two others may reluctantly file a lawsuit later this year to prevent construction, which almost surely would result in further destruction of streams by acid drainage. Such destruction already has occurred in McNabb Creek, Grassy Branch, and Laurel Branch during previous construction.

One alternative to a lawsuit may exist: President Carter wants no more money to be spent on such boondoggles. Consequently, no money will be forthcoming to complete this road. (The presently authorized \$3 million would allow only cutting and grading--no road building or paving.)

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Tom Edick, U.S. Department of Transportation (1000 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22201) and Michael Kane, Council on Environmental Quality (722 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006) and tell them: (a) you do not want the Cherokee National Forest Wilderness access despoiled by this useless road; (b) you do not want your tax dollars wasted on this useless road which, in any case, cannot be completed in any foreseeable way; (c) you do not believe the Department of Transportation can solve the acid-drainage problems, even if funds were forthcoming.

12. THE NATIONAL SCENE

A. The Alaska legislation needs your support again

Conservationists were hoping that the Alaska bill that passed the House 277:31 in the last session, but ran out of time in the Senate, was on the move again. The House bill was again

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numbered H.R. 39 (Udall). The Senate bill is S.222 (Durkin, Nelson, Roth). However, everyone was shocked last week when the House Interior Committee by a vote of 22:21 reported on not H.R. 39 but a bill backed by the oil and gas industry. Not only the outcome but the rapidity of the action surprised everyone. Oil-industry lobbyists were very much in evidence. The battle for Alaska wilderness can still be won on the floor, however. The big advantage we have on our sides is President Carter's unprecedented action, late in 1978, to protect administratively 110 million acres. This means that the burden now is on foes of wilderness to open up the lands to development, rather than vice versa. Among the 135 co-sponsors of H.R. 39 are two Tennesseans, Reps., Quillen and Duncan. We urge you to thank them, and to ask other members of the Tennessee congressional delegation to join in working for the conservationists' bill. Please note that H.R. 39/S. 222 is not a "lock-up:" 95% of all high-potential oil and gas lands in Alaska would be open for possible development; 88% of Alaska lands would be open to sport hunting; 70% of lands with metallic mineral potential would be outside conservation system units.

B. Congressional committee reorganization and changes in chairmanships have brought both bad and good news.

Some Subcommittees of the House Interior Committee:

Public Lands, John Seiberling (who has excellent environmental credentials): will handle RARE II, other wilderness proposals.

Energy and Environment, Mo Udall: nuclear waste, uranium enrichment.

Parks, Phil Burton (who last year, gave us the great omnibus parks bill): new park proposals, natural diversity bill, NPS oversight; may also get involved in RARE II.

Water and Power Resources, Kazen: authorization for Water Resources Council, possible implementation of parts of Pres. Carter's water policy.

Mines and Mining, Santini: regulations affecting the mining industry. Santini will probably not support reform of the harmful 1872 Mining Law.

Some Subcommittees of the Senate Energy Committee:

Parks, Recreation, and Renewable Resources, Bumpers (sympathetic to park expansion): will handle most parks and public lands issues, NPS oversight, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, national trails, and national forest lands, timber, Alaska Native Claims Act.

Energy Resources and Materials Production, Wendell Ford (a foe of the federal strip-mine Act): mine reclamation, coal leasing, deep-sea mining, oil-shale leasing.

Energy Conservation and Supply, Durkin (excellent credentials): energy conservation (excluding R&D), commercialization of new technologies (incl. solar), small-scale hydropower.

Energy R&D, Frank Church: all R&D in solar, nuclear, fossil, mining research, Bureau of Recreation dams and irrigation.

The full committee will handle Alaska and RARE II.

The House Merchant Marine's Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation (which handles the Endangered Species Act, Non-game fish and Wildlife bill, etc. is chaired by Rep. Breaux who a couple of years ago worked hard to get the 404 permit (wetlands protection) program.

C. A new Department of Natural Resources?

President Carter's staff is trying to assess Congressional reaction to upcoming government reorganization plans that would create a new Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The DNR would be built around the Department of the Interior, with the following functions added: water resources planning (now being done by Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, Soil Conservation Service, etc.); the Forest Service (shifted from the Agriculture Dept.); the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (shifted from the Commerce Dept.). Under the 1977 Reorganization Act, either House can veto a reorganization proposal within 60 legislative days.

D. Environmental backlash is a myth

A nationwide poll conducted in July 1978 by Resources for the Future shows that there is no sign of backlash against the environmental movement. Though the poll was conducted just weeks after passage of Proposition 13, and though the respondents expressed deep concern about inflation and taxes, about 50% chose environmental protection regardless of cost, and only a small proportion thought cost was of paramount importance.

13. WATER PROJECTS AND THE NEW WATER POLICY

- A bill to deauthorize 12 Corps of Engineers boondoggles may have a chance since projects were chosen which are currently inactive and are opposed by local representatives. Examples: the Cross Florida Barge Canal, and Meramac Dam. The bill is pictured as a belt-tightening measure and, if successful, may set a precedent for other de-authorizations next year. Ask your Congressperson to co-sponsor this bill as an economy measure: none of the projects are in Tennessee!
- The Coalition for Water Project Review (24 organizations) has prepared a list of 12 "budget-busting" water projects that should be scuttled. The projects, none of which were in the group of 17 cut out of the appropriations bill last year, will ultimately cost \$28 billion to complete. Heading the list is the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. If you want to have any input on these and other wasteful water projects (e.g., Columbia Dam, Tellico) see CALENDAR para. 16) for April 6. (To testify some other time in early April, write to Rep. Tom Bevil and Sen. Bennett Johnston, chairmen of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Public Works in House and Senate, respectively.) Unfortunately, the Carter budget this year contains no "hit list" (in fact, 26 new starts are proposed), though many feel the President could have pressed the advantage won last fall, when his veto of the public works appropriations bill was sustained.
- Carter's water policy reform is proceeding in other ways. (See para. 15 for a good summary.) Regional meetings on the reform proposals are being held in March (none in the southeast). The Water Resources Council, chaired by Interior Sec. Andrus, is seeking funds for water project review by the Council, and for planning grants for the States. Legislation to require state cost sharing on projects will be sent to Congress this year. Interior Dept. task forces are seeing to it that water-policy reforms are instituted throughout federal agencies (see NL 92 para. 11D).
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Soil Conservation Service have adopted joint guidelines aimed partly at eliminating SCS small watershed projects (channelizations) and developing alternatives where severe impacts would occur. Write Mel Davis (Administrator, SCS, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, South Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20250) and ask for a copy of the new "Channel Modification Guidelines," a list of Tennessee SCS projects, and how many have been affected by the Guidelines.

14. NATIONAL PARKS IN TENNESSEE

A. Cumberland Gap National Historical Path

In January the National Park Service released the Master Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement for this 3-state National Historical Park (TN, KY, VA). The plan calls for acquisition of about 6,000 acres (mostly wilderness) to preserve scenic and historic areas, routing of U.S. 25E through a tunnel, and public transportation to the reconstructed Hensley settlement.

B. Great Smoky Mtns. National Park

A special committee created by Interior Sec. Andrus during a N.C. visit last year is preparing proposals to resolve the stalemate of the "1943 Agreement." Among points suggested at a recent

ONE

meeting were an unspecified cash settlement in lieu of the Northshore road; a visitor-craft center at Deep Creek or in Bryson City; and gift of the Federal Building in Bryson City for use as the Swain County courthouse. The special committee is chaired by David Felmet of Waynesville, N.C.

15. PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

TVA's "Report on Preliminary Studies of Columbia Dam Alternatives Draft" may be obtained by calling the TVA toll-free line 1-800-362-9250 (1-800-251-9242 if you live outside Tennessee).

"Citizens' Guide to the New Carter Water Policy" by Brent Blackwelder is an 8-page summary of the policy's features, such as new methods to evaluate water projects, nonstructural requirements, criteria to be used in budgeting new starts, water conservation, environmental protection, etc. (Send self-addressed, stamped (28¢) envelope to Brent Blackwelder, 317 Penn. Ave., SE, Washington, D.C. 20003.)

"Tellico Dam and Reservoir," a staff report to the Endangered Species Committee by the Office of Policy Analysis, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1/19/79, contains a fine summary of the history of the controversy, benefits and costs of alternatives, the snail darter, etc. (Order from Office of Policy Analysis, USEI, Washington, D.C. 20240.)

"The Good News About Energy," a 49-page CEQ report, presents evidence that very low energy growth is consistent with national economic goals, and that increased investment in energy efficiency will have a more positive effect on GNP and employment than will most supply expansion options. (Send a self-addressed mailing label to Council on Environmental Quality, 722 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.)

"Environmental Quality--The 9th Annual Report of the Council on Environmental Quality" (CEQ) in about 600 pages. Summarizes and highlights the areas of air and water quality, solid wastes, natural resources, energy and others. (U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, 1978 Stock No. 041-011-00040-8)

The 1979 "Conservation Directory" lists federal and state agencies, Congressional Committees, and conservation-oriented groups in 50 states and Canada, and many other facts (\$4 from NWF, 1412-16th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036).

"Hearings on Endangered Species Authorization," held May and June 1978 by the House Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment, contains many interesting testimonies including a number on the snail darter. (Serial No. 95-40)

"Dave Freeman: One Year Later" by Neil McBride, Director of Rural Legal Services of Tennessee, is an expansion of a highly informative talk presented at the 1978 TCWP Annual Meeting. Neil monitored TVA developments for 5 years as staff attorney with ETRC. (Send self-addressed, stamped (67¢) envelope to P. O. Box 3358, Oak Ridge, TN 37830.)

The "Audubon Leader" is a 4-page newsletter published every two weeks and mailed first class. It can be a useful hotline. (\$10 from National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022)

"Living with Our Environment" is the 12th in the series of Conservation Yearbooks issued by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior. The theme is how to provide environmental safeguards while maintaining a high standard of life. (120 pp., \$3.75 from U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402)

Back issues of DOE's "Consumer Briefing Summary" are now available on a number of topics, such as utility rate structuring, energy and food, nuclear waste management, etc. (Write to Office of Consumer Affairs, Room 8G-082, Forrestal Bldg., U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C. 20585.)

16. CALENDAR

- April 4 TCWP sponsored public meeting on airport next to Arboretum (see box on p. 1)
- April 6,7 Annual Meeting and Exhibit of the Tenn. Solar Energy Assoc., Murfreesboro (Contact Bill Mathis, P.O. Box 19, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, Ph. 615, 898-2778; or Mayo Taylor, Nashville 251-1110)
- April 6-8 4th Annual Conference on Rivers, Dams and National Water Policy, Washington. If possible stay on April 9 for visits to Agencies and Congress to argue against wasteful water projects. (Contact River Conservation Fund, 317 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Washington, D.C. 20003.)
- April 27-30 Appropriate Community Technology (ACT '79) Fair and Conference, the Mall, Washington, D.C. Exhibitors will develop a complete model community to focus on appropriate technologies in agriculture, housing, transportation, etc. (Write ACT '79, 1413 K Street, NW, 8th floor, Washington, D.C. 20005.)
- May 5 SMHC hike in Savage Gulf (Call Charles Klabunde, Oak Ridge 483-8055.)
- May 23-26 Fontana Conservation Roundup on the theme "The Appalachians--A Vision of the Future" (Write Mrs. Naomi Dougherty, Fontana Village Resort, Fontana Dam, N.C. 28733.)
- June 20-22 National Symposium on Rural Justice, U.T. Knoxville, TN
Among 7 issues to be addressed is Environmental Justice. (Contact Ronald K. Green, UT School of Social Work, 2012 Lake Avenue, Knoxville 37916.)
- June 28-30 The Jonesborough Civic Trust for Historic Restoration and Preservation sponsors the Paul M. Fink Adventure Hike, a 32-mile backpacking trip to Big Bald Mtn (5,516 ft.) to honor a local conservationist. Limited to 25 hikers (Contact Tony Geers, 306 Cherokee Street, Jonesboro, TN 37659. Ph. 615, 753-8896.)

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ACTION SUMMARY

NL ref. Issue

Para.1	State natural areas	Restore funds!	State legislators
2	Columbia Dam	Cut funds for this loser!	TVA Board, U.S. Rep. and Senators
3	Tellico Dam	Favor the "river" alternative!	Dave Freeman, TVA
4	Obed	Implement Act without further delay!	NPS Director; Rep. Lloyd-Bouquard
6	Clean air	Do not interfere with the consent decree!	Sens. Sasser, Baker
7B	Federal Stripmine law	Do <u>not</u> amend!	Rep. Udall
7C	State Stripmine law	Substitute Administration bill for FACT bill!	Gov. Alexander
8	National Forest wilderness	Support the Citizens' proposal for the Cherokee!	U.S. Rep. and Senators
9A	Savage Gulf	We support management plan	Mike Countess
9B	Bottle Bill	Support deposit legislation!	State legislators
10	TVA Board	Withdraw Bob Clement's name!	Pres. Jimmy Carter
11	Tellico Plains-Robbinsville	Don't waste money on useless road!	Tom Edick, DOT Michael Kane, CEQ
12	Alaska	Thanks! Support HR 39/S 222!	Reps. Quillen, Duncan Rest of TN delegation
13	Water projects	Deauthorize some!	U.S. Rep. and Senators

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84th Representative District
1953 Janis (38116) Memphis

*HENRY, CLIFFORD "BO", JR. (R)
20th Representative District
1202 S. Heritage Dr. (37801) Maryville

HENRY, JAMES M. (R)
32nd Representative District
P.O. Box 867 (37763) Kingston

*HILLIS, IVORY O., JR. (D)
43rd Representative District
Route 4 (38583) Sparta

*HOOD, DONALD W. (D)
2nd Representative District
3501 Memorial Drive (37664) Kingsport

*HURLEY, BRUCE (R)
9th Representative District
Johnson Estates (37873) Surgoinsville

JARED, JERRY A. (D)
42nd Representative District
1607 Sherwood Lane (38501) Cookeville

*JOHNSON, RABON W. "RAY" (D)
47th Representative District
1226 Hillcrest Dr. (37355) Manchester