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14. ACTION SUMMARY

INo.	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or Action
2	Chip mill EIS	TVA; copy to US Sens., & Rep	"I urge you to deny chip-mill permits!"
4A	Center Hill development	Sens. Sasser, Gore	"Thanks! and continue watchfulness!"
4B	Knox greenways	Victor Ashe; Dwight Kessel	"Thanks for past actions! Proceed with implementation!"
4C	Royal Blue WMA	TWRA	Comment on draft management plan.
5B	Elkmont leases	US Sens. & Rep.	"Support 1992 termination of leases!"
6A	Forest Service appeals	US Sens. & Rep.	"Sponsor legislation to guarantee citizens' right to appeal USFS decisions!"
7A	TVA's pollution "credits"	US Sens. & Rep.	"Urge TVA to reduce pollution by cutting energy use!"
9C	Endangered rivers	Sen. Gore	"Thanks for resolution on Windy-Craggy!"
9A	Forest legislation	US Representative	"Alternative 12c in HR 4899 is minimum acceptable protection!"
		US Senators	Oppose Packwood/Gorton bill; support Leahy's or Boren's!"
9C	Natl Parks Concessions	US Senators	"Co-sponsor S. 1755!"
	California Desert	US Senators	"Support S. 21 <u>without</u> provisions for hunting or further compromises!"
10D	Endangered Species Act	US Representative	"Co-sponsor HR 4045!"
		Natl Audubon Soc.	Request ESA activist materials.
11	Politicians		Be informed on candidates' positions and record.
12A	TCWP Annual Meeting	TCWP	Reserve the dates (Oct. 23-25).
12D	TCWP reminders	TCWP	Take action on dues, river questionnaire, working on issues.

Senator John Doe
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. John Doe
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Governor Ned McWherter
State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37219

Dear Senator Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Congressman/woman Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Gov. McWherter
Respectfully yours,

To call a Representative or Senator, dial Congressional switchboard, (202) 224-3121
To find out about the status of federal bills, call (202) 225-1772

1. BLAST-OFF FOR THE OBED GMP

The process that will culminate in the Obed General Management Plan (GMP) got underway with a large Park Service (NPS) workshop at Wartburg on May 27 and 28. Between 35 and 40 people attended part or all of the two-day session, including about a dozen from the Southeast Regional Office in Atlanta, about as many from the Obed and Big South Fork offices (NPS staff and volunteers), people working for state agencies (TWRA, DoEC, and DoA) or federal agencies (TVA), several speaking on behalf of Morgan County, and a number of private citizens, some of whom represented citizens' organizations. Among the last group were Don Barger (SE rep of the National Parks & Conservation Assoc.), Don Todd (Obed River Council), Chuck Estes (East TN Whitewater Club), and Lee Russell (TCWP). The Southeast Regional Director of NPS (Jim Coleman), as well as the North Atlantic Regional Director (Marie Rust) attended for part of the time. Bob Newkirk, Chief of Planning for the SE Region, was the workshop's able facilitator.

The workshop began by examining the 1968 Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, as amended over the years, for sections and subsections that were pertinent to the Obed GMP. Subsequently -- by an iterative process of general brainstorming, breaking into subgroups for more concentrated efforts, reassembling and critiquing, merging subgroup outputs, and summarizing -- the workshop arrived at consensus statements for the following sections of the GMP: Purpose of the Obed WSR; Significance; Issues; and Management Objectives (subsections on resource management, visitor experience, and development). If you want details, contact Lee Russell (see bottom of p. 1).

The draft GMP will be generated in the SE Regional Office (rather than at the Denver Service Center as we had reported earlier -- NL187 §2A), and the team that will write the report appears very able and thoughtful. They will probably make a number of site visits in the course of their work, giving us opportunities for further contact. Several of the Atlanta staff made a field trip to a few key points in the afternoon prior to the first workshop day, and appeared impressed, despite the gloomy weather and the lack of opportunity to experience the wild gorges between bridge crossings.

TVA has before it 3 permit applications involving an area near South Pittsburgh, TN, and Bridgeport, AL: from Donghae Pulp, Boise Cascade, and Parker Towing/Canal Chip (jointly). These companies are requesting easements across TVA property to build barge terminals, and permission to fill in wetlands. The EIS estimates that each operating chip mill would eat 12,000-23,000 acres of forest annually, or 1.3 million acres of forest land (twice the area of the Smokies) over the next 20 years. Clear-cutting would rise from 44% to about 69% of each harvest. The adverse effects on wildlife, scenic beauty, and water resources are described in the report.

According to the executive summary of the preliminary draft EIS, the study concludes that the agencies have 3 options: (1) deny all requests; (2) approve one or more requests with strings attached to the mill-site operation itself, but not to the harvesting; and (3) approve one or more requests with strings attached to the harvesting (i.e., making the mills buy timber only from landowners who follow recommended forest-management practices). There are no adequate state laws to assure such practices, and the federal government does not want to tell private owners how to use their land.

"Absent some means of ... ensuring heightened environmental protection, TVA is inclined to deny the mill operators access across TVA lands," the summary concludes. As pointed out in the report, however, denial of the permits will not necessarily stop chip-mill development in this area. The companies might choose private lands, might move their products down the river from already existing docks, or might use truck or rail transportation. (Hopefully, however, such alternative operating modes would add enough expense to the operations to make them uneconomical -- Ed.)

There has been excellent political support for permit denial. Sen. Sasser made public a letter in which he asked TVA to reject the permit applications. Citing threats to the water quality, forests, wildlife, and the existing hardwood industry of the region, he concluded that "these factors seem to run counter TVA's mission of maintaining the economic and environmental quality of the Tennessee Valley water basin." Sen. Gore stated that "after carefully reviewing all of the evidence in the draft EIS, I am convinced that permits for these proposed chip mills should be denied." Congressman Cooper, speaking at the TCL convention, said: "The way I see it, these chip mills will haul off an incredible number of hardwood trees in 6-8 year and be gone." Others, too, have pointed out that while the rap will be in this region, most of the benefits will go outside.

2. TVA INCLINED TO DENY CHIP-MILL PERMITS; YOUR COMMENTS ARE NEEDED

A preliminary draft of TVA's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on chip mills has now been reviewed by the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The consensus draft is currently at the printer, and will very soon be available for public review and comment. The comment period will be 60 days, and we urge you to take part in the process.

Most small private landowners in this part of the country have low incomes, and any extra money that comes from selling their forests tends to seem like big bucks to them. Many will support the chip-mill permits, not realizing that clearcutting their own land will diminish its value for years to come, if not forever. The State of Tennessee has no mandatory Best Management Practices for forestry, and this battle will clearly have to be fought in the State legislature.



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Please comment on the draft EIS, supporting denial of chip-mill permits. To request a copy of the DEIS, call TVA as follows: (a) in the next week or so, call Dale Fowler, 615-632-6716; (b) after the report is released, call 615-632-4223 which will provide recorded information on hearing dates, etc., and will also make it possible for you to leave a message or talk to someone. Send a copy of your comments to your US Representative and both Senators.

3. FINAL DISPOSITION OF BILLS IN THE TENNESSEE LEGISLATURE

A. Summary of the session

Environmental bills fared reasonably well in this session of the legislature. Lobbyist Pam Wolfe worked for the Environmental Action Fund (of which TCWP is a member) and was assisted by long-time EAF lobbyist John Williams, who also worked on the Hill as an individual. Our very special thanks go to Meg Robertson, editor of the highly informative and succinct *Tennessee Legislative Update* (funded by the Sierra Club). Because this publication got to us without delay, it enabled TCWP Board members to write letters or place phone calls to legislators in a timely fashion. Eric Hirst was the Board member in charge of state legislature issues. In a later issue of our Newsletter, we hope to bring you some analysis of voting records.

B. Funding for parks (SB 892, SB 891): passed

The state-park budget had been cut to the bone for the past several years. It is therefore good news that the Senate passed legislation to provide a new source of revenue for the parks. SB 891 and SB 892 (both sponsored by Sen. Crutchfield), the companion bills for HB 559 and HB 558 (Rep. McAfee), which passed the House in 1991, finally were adopted near the end of this session. The legislation raises the fee for motor-vehicle certificates of title from \$3.50 to \$5.00. The \$2.3 million/year expected to be generated by this change in fee will be spent directly on capital projects in parks, or used to pay for bonds sold for the purpose of making state park boundaries defensible (e.g., by easement acquisition).

Opponents of the bills raised arguments of economic impacts; however, a motor-vehicle title fee

is paid only once every few years, and an extra \$1.50 on these rare occasions should not be a hardship. They pointed out that the tenuousness of the connection between the source of the funds and their purpose would open the door to unrelated causes (in fact, attempts in that direction were made), and they worried that the extra revenue would just be used to develop golf courses (however, where political connections are strong enough to bring about a golf course in a park, this would probably come about even without the extra revenue).

C. Tennessee Flora Bicentennial (SB 2416/HB 2385): passed

HB 2385 (Curlee, Rhinehart) was passed overwhelmingly by the House in early April. The companion bill, SB 2416 (Cohen), had been passed unanimously by the Senate during the week of March 16.

As amended from last year, this legislation sets aside \$12,000 annually, for four years, from the interest derived from the Natural Resources Trust Fund (established in 1986) to pay for completion of research, and for publication of an atlas of the state's 2700 species of vascular plants, in a computerized comprehensive county-by-county inventory format. The last volume purporting to be a comprehensive guide to the Tennessee flora was published in 1900.

This bill was an initiative of the Tennessee Native Plant Society, which originally sought support for 3 publications on Tennessee's flora by the year 2001. TNPS is now investigating the availability of other resources to fund the remaining two volumes, a photographically illustrated book on common Tennessee wildflowers, and a popular field guide to the vascular flora of the state.

D. Legal septic tanks (SB 940/HB 853): defeated

This bill was designed to prevent construction of illegal septic tanks by conditioning access to electrical service on proof of a legitimate subsurface sewage permit. Unfortunately, the electrical cooperatives refused to agree to any restrictions on their selling electrical service. If this bill comes up again, one of the legislators who must be convinced of its worth is Sen. McNally.

4. AROUND THE STATE

A. Destructive development threatens Center Hill

Only after the original deadline for comments had already passed (and only barely in time for the extended deadline of 5/15/92) did we learn that the Corps of Engineers (CoE) was proposing to construct a large marina and associated developments in the Florida Branch/Little Hurricane Creek area of Center Hill Lake. Although TCWP is on a number of CoE

mailing lists, we had received no notification of the proposal and were informed only through a local concerned resident.

Since at least 1000 acres (in addition to the construction of access roads) would be impacted by a great deal of forest destruction and earth movement, and since the area is currently frequented by Bald Eagles, it seems clear that the proposed development constitutes a major federal action and requires an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), rather than a mere Environmental Assessment. The environmental impacts not only of construction but of subsequent operation must also be fully explored.

TCWP wrote to the Corps, and sent copies to Senators Gore and Sasser, both of whom responded promptly and satisfactorily. Sen. Sasser has written to the District Engineer and urged that a full EIS be generated and that hearings be held in the local area.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: We hope you will thank our senators and urge them to continue their watchfulness (addresses on p.2).

B. *Knox greenways and trails. Will Oak Ridge get involved?*

The Knox Greenways Coalition (of which TCWP is a member) has made considerable progress in the past several months, but now needs support for implementing a number of recommended actions. The Knoxville Greenways and Community Trails Commission (chaired by Will Skelton), created by Mayor Victor Ashe, prepared a set of recommendations that was adopted by the Knoxville City Council in February. The recommendations included 14 greenways and trail corridors, with initial emphasis to be given to five: Third Creek, First Creek, North River from Downtown to Holston Hills, Ten Mile Creek to Pellissippi Pkwy, and Love's Creek. The first two or three, plus the employment of a greenways coordinator, were recommended for FY 1992/93. Also in February, the Knox County Commission appropriated \$144,000 to be set aside in a trust fund for a greenways system in the county. A task force for identifying priorities is being established.

To help assure that these various recommendations are implemented, the Coalition urges you to do the following:

- (1) Write to Mayor Victor Ashe (City of Knoxville, City-County Bldg., Knoxville, TN 37902) and thank him for appointing the Commission. Then urge him to see that: a greenways/trails coordinator is designated for the city, guidelines and standards are promulgated, development on the two first-priority projects is carried out in 1992/93, and funding is provided for these various actions.

- (2) Write to County Executive Dwight Kessel (Knox County, City-County Bldg, Knoxville, TN 37902), thank him for the appropriation, and urge him to begin greenways/trails development in 1992/93.

Will Oak Ridge get involved? One of the proposed Knoxville greenways goes to the Pellissippi Parkway. Whether it will be extended along the Pkwy as a foot and bike trail is up to Knox County. A Knoxville Greenways Commission volunteer recently made a presentation to the Oak Ridge Regional Planning Commission, and there was discussion of the possibility of developing trails from Solway Bridge to ORNL in one direction and around Haw Ridge Park in the other. On 3/26/92, the Planning Commission voted to draft a plan of action and to request that City Council form a task force on the issue.

C. *Tennessee's new Wildlife Management Area*

In Campbell and Scott Counties, east of I-75, lies the new Royal Blue Wildlife Management Area, formerly the Koppers property. A draft management plan for this 44,000-acre tract has been completed by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and is available for review (call 1-800-332-0900).

The specific objectives of the management plan include several resource-protection features, such as maintaining the quality of habitat for threatened/endangered species, maintaining the quality of non-consumptive wildlife- and forest-associated recreation, improving and/or maintaining the water quality of streams, and evaluating the feasibility of introducing river otters and black bears into the area. Other features of the plan relate to resource extraction, such as hunting, timbering, and mining, provided they are "compatible with the needs of wildlife." A special area will be set aside for all-terrain-vehicle (ATV) use; horseback riding will be permitted on all roads or trails open to vehicular traffic but not elsewhere. Camping will be allowed in designated areas.

D. *Ocoee for Olympics?*

The 1996 summer Olympic Games, which will be held in and near Atlanta, may or may not include a whitewater event. The state of Tennessee has made a formal proposal to the Atlanta Organizing Committee to hold such an event on the Ocoee River, 2 1/2 h drive from Atlanta. It is coming about, it could put a great stress on the Ocoee and nearby areas.

5. SMOKING AND NEARBY

A. Park Service decides on status quo for trail in proposed wilderness area

Wilderness foes on the North Carolina side of the Smokies have recently suggested that the route, north of Fontana Reservoir, constructed several years ago as a potential Motor Nature Trail (but never used as such) be developed for motorized/mechanized use (NL187 §3A). If such use were to be instituted, wilderness status of the area would be harder to achieve. The Park Service (NPS) examined use of the route for a mountain-bike trail but made a decision to retain the currently designated use as a hiking and horse trail. [It should be noted that even though mountain bikes are not motorized, they are a form of mechanical transport and, as such, prohibited from designated wilderness area. Bicycles can now use the Indian Creek road, which is gravelled for access to cemeteries and is not proposed for inclusion within the wilderness boundary.]

B. Termination of Elkmont cabin leases

TCWP was one of 5 signatories (along with the Wilderness Soc, Smoky Mtns Hiking Club, Sierra Club, and Isaac Walton League) of a recent letter urging Senators Sasser and Gore to take a public position on terminating the Elkmont cabin leases in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) as of 12/31/92. [The Wonderland Hotel is a separate issue not addressed in the letter.]

At the time the Park was created, most of the roughly 6,600 people, many of whom had been farming the land for generations and were relatively poor, took the option of leaving the area in exchange for full-market-value payment for their property. But a few well-to-do summer-cabin owners at Elkmont managed to secure leases until 1952; subsequently, they got two 20-year extensions until 1992. In their current leases (Article VIII), the lessees agreed in writing not to seek further extensions.

In addition to this express written agreement, there are many other reasons for not extending the leases. Here are a few: (1) The General Management Plan for the GSMNP provides that the leases will terminate this year. At hearings that were held prior to adoption of this Plan, there was no public support for extending the leases. (2) It is an inconsistent use of a National Park to have part of it set aside for the personal benefit of a few to the exclusion of the rest of US taxpayers. (3) Earlier studies have found no historical aspect of the cabins, and none of the original leaseholders are alive today. At any rate, the question of historical value should be unrelated to the issue of terminating the leases. (4) Had the lessees paid fair rental value, NPS could have collected \$1 million annually over the years; i.e., the leaseholders, collectively, have been receiving an

annual gift of \$1 million, tax-free! Further, they do not pay property taxes to Sevier County.

The cabin holders are now working through Congressmen Quillen and Duncan to get an indefinite extension of their leases! Among their tactics is to offer money to the National Park Service, to offer restricting their occupancy of the cabins to only part of the year, etc. It is hoped that any maneuvering and secret deals can be avoided by our Senators' taking a clear stand on the issue.



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Senators Sasser and Gore and to your Representative (addresses on p.2) and urge them to take a public position in favor of 1992 termination of the Elkmont cabin leases, as agreed in the latest lease agreement.

C. Good news about the Red Wolves

Of the two pairs of red wolves that were brought to acclimation pens in the Cades Cove area early last year, only one produced pups in 1991, two of which were later released into the Park, along with their parents (NL186 §3D). On April 25, 1992, a litter of 6 was born to the second pair. Probably as a result of her youth and inexperience, the mother smothered two of the pups by tying on them; the remaining four (3 males and 1 female) are doing well. If all continues well, the parents and their pups will be released into the Park late this summer.

Another family (four pups and their parents) were recently imported from the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge and placed into an acclimation pen in the NE area of the Park. They too will be released into the Park, probably late in the fall. Some time before that, the mother and her two sub-adult daughters who are currently roaming the Park will be recaptured, the mother to go to another red wolf project site, the daughters possibly to be re-released into the Park to obtain information on territorial adjustment and dispersal. The father, as you may recall (NL187 §3C), had to be permanently returned to the acclimation pen in January 1992 because he was too tame.

The April-25 birth marks only the second time that red wolves have reproduced in the Smokies in the past hundred years or so. The total red wolf population in the world now stands at 201; of these, 3 are wild in the Smokies and 23 wild in the Alligator River Refuge; the remainder are in captive breeding programs (including the two families and the recaptured male described in the preceding paragraphs).

The indemnity fund that was created for reimbursing owners of poultry and livestock for any losses due to red wolf predation now stands at \$15,000, with another \$10,000 in reserve, it ever needed. To date, two payments have been made:

\$3 for a chicken taken from a coop in Cades Cove, and \$250 for a day-old cat reported to have disappeared from a pasture in the Cove (no carcass has been found).

Teachers note (in case you missed this): A 30-minute video cassette about the red-wolf recovery efforts, a poster, and a teacher packet are available to schools. Requests should be made on school stationery to: Front Runner, WBIR-TV, 1513 Hutchinson Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917.

D. *Otters doing well in GSMNP*

The otter reintroduction program started 6 years ago when 11 river otters, trapped in eastern North Carolina, were released in Abrams Creek. It had been exactly fifty years since the last otter had been reported in the Smokies. Between 1988 and 1990, another 14 otters from South Carolina and Louisiana were released in the Little River. Finally, just 4 months ago, another 10 otters were brought into the Park. All but 6 of the otters from these various introductions have survived, and there is evidence that some have bred. Anglers who once threatened to shoot the animals now admit that the otters have not diminished the trout populations, and may actually have enhanced them by eating competitive fish species.

6. US FOREST SERVICE DOES WHAT THE TIMBER INDUSTRY WANTS

A. *Citizens lose right to appeal USFS actions*

In his State of the Union Message, Pres. Bush urged federal agencies to "review costly regulations" in order to "boost the economy". The Forest Service (USFS) responded by proposing to eliminate the right of citizens to appeal agency decisions on timber sales, road construction, and oil & gas leases. This elimination had been a major agenda of the timber industry for some time, and the President and his agency have acted to please industry supporters of his re-election bid. The proposed momentous change in regulations was not widely announced (e.g., TCWP, which is on several USFS mailing lists, received no notice), and only 30 days were allowed for comments. Even so, over 20,000 letters were received, most of them opposing the proposal. They failed to change the Administration's course.

Under the prior regulations, citizens were given 45 days after a project-level decision was made to appeal it administratively to the decision-makers' supervisors. The latter then had 100 days to rule on the appeal. Many appeals (40%, in a recent OTA study of decisions in 4 western states) have caused the USFS to reverse or modify lower-level decisions because of the finding that these decisions violated the law (very often) or the agency's multiple-use

mandate. — The new regs provide for a 30-day pre-decisional public comment period, and for an agency decision within 30 days of the close of the comment period. No challenge is possible, except through the courts, for which many citizens groups lack the financial resources.

The USFS has cited economic reasons for the regulatory change, and has claimed that the appeals process was a "time-consuming, procedurally onerous, confrontational and costly effort, diverting resources and energies." All of these claims are unfounded. Thus, the General Accounting Office, in a study of the U.S. timber program 1969-1988, found that appeals caused no significant decline in timber availability, and that most delays were the result of the USFS's inability to meet deadlines. A recent report by the Office of Technology Assessment found that appeals have played "a significant role in exposing inadequate environmental analyses and documentation." The USFS's own data show that in FY1990, only 15% of all proposed timber sales were appealed, and only 1%(!) of the total timber volume was not eventually offered for sale.

The new regs abrogate the democratic process; they remove public involvement in the planning process. Even environmentally destructive decisions cannot now be challenged except through costly court proceedings. Unfortunately, the USFS does not have a good record of environmentally sensitive decisions: project plans tend to be highly biased in favor of commodity interests, excessive road development, and of below-cost timber sales (all of which cost the taxpayer money).



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Since the Forest Service has already finalized the new regulation, we need to get Congress to restore to citizens the right to appeal decisions on timber sales and road building in national forests. Urge both your Senators and your Representative (addresses on p.2) to introduce and support legislation that will restore this right. Point out to them that the appeals process is essential to keep the USFS accountable to the public, and that it has served well in the past to ensure the agency's compliance with environmental laws.

B. *Challenging the Cherokee NF timber plan*

On May 1, the Southern Environmental Law Center, on behalf of 5 organizations (of which TCWP is one) filed a suit in federal district court in Atlanta challenging excessive logging under the Cherokee NF Management Plan. The suit challenges the USFS's practice of selling timber "below cost," thus subsidizing the loggers at the expense of the US taxpayer; for the Cherokee NF, these losses amount to \$1-3 million annually. The Management Plan

opens up 60% of the Cherokee to logging (primarily through clearcutting) and to related road construction, much of it on steep slopes and in other sensitive areas where such developments are disastrous -- all at a loss of federal dollars. Among other things, the Plan calls for logging of over one-half of the cove hardwood forests, an ecological treasure trove of the Southern Appalachians. The contested logging plan would also have serious impacts on the scenic and recreational values of the forest, which draws about 9 million visitors annually. In fact, tourism and outdoor recreation are likely to provide more economic benefits to the area than logging.

The Cherokee management plan was first appealed by the conservation groups in 1986 at the regional level; the appeal was eventually denied at the national level in early 1991 (NL181 ¶2B). A favorable judicial decision in our current lawsuit would be precedent-setting, especially since the plaintiffs contend that the 1976 National Forest Management Act requires the USFS to restrict timber harvesting where the economics are unfavorable. TCWP has committed funds toward costs of the lawsuit (NL185 ¶7A).

C. *Searching for ancient trees in Appalachia*

West of the Cascades, debate over the spotted owl has temporarily reduced logging activities. But east of the mountains, the rate of cutting virtually ensures the disappearance of the last remaining stands of ancient forests. National conservation groups and the USFS have recently sponsored studies to inventory how much ancient forest is actually left; it appears that earlier guesses by the Forest Service have greatly overestimated the amount in certain parts of the country.

In the Southeast, the USFS has recently surveyed the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests (in NC) and identified 133,000 acres of old growth. It is expected that they will find a lot less in the Chattahoochee and Oconee (in Georgia), which are next on the list to be surveyed. Will the Forest Service protect the old groves they identify? Here is a quote from the deputy regional forests for the South: "What we are saying is we will manage for old-growth resources. That means we may harvest some old growth while managing younger stands so they will become old growth."

Even if the USFS were to agree to leave the old stands in peace (which seems unlikely in this Administration), this is not enough. To protect rare plants and animals, corridors linking isolated stands need to be established, especially along streams, and allowed to develop into old growth. Think of the opportunities for ecosystem preservation!

7. TVA: POLLUTION CREDITS AND OTHER ISSUES

[See ¶2 for TVA's draft EIS on chipmills]

A. *TVA buys the license to pollute*

On encouragement by the White House, which wants to create a market for the buying and selling of air-pollution credits, TVA recently bought 10,000 tons of credits from a Wisconsin utility. The TVA Board approved this move without public notice. In addition, TVA expects to acquire at least another 600,000 tons of pollution credit through a utility pool.

The system of pollution credits was set up under the 1990 Clean Air Act, to introduce free-market mechanisms into the process of achieving the Act's objective of a 50% reduction in SO₂ emissions (about 10 million tons per year) by the end of the decade. The idea is that utilities that are performing better than required can sell credits (1 credit = 1 ton of SO₂) to utilities that are doing worse.

TVA is one of the nation's major air pollution emitters; in 1991, it discharged 1.1 million tons of SO₂ from its 11 coal-fired steam plants. The agency states that it plans to reduce SO₂ emissions to 800,000 tons/yr by 1995 (phase 1), and that it will not depend on pollution credits to meet the 1995 goal, but probably will need them to meet the year-2000 mandate. In other words, the credits will buy TVA time beyond the phase-2 deadline -- TVA will gain "breathing room" at the expense of the region's breathing health. The phase-1 reduction will be achieved by installing scrubbers at Cumberland steam plant and switching to low-sulfur coal at Gallatin. How the phase-2 reduction would eventually be achieved has not yet been determined.

TVA is looking to make a profit on the pollution market. For example, the 10,000 credits purchased from the Wisconsin utility for \$2.5-4 million (why is there not a single figure?) will bring 10% more when sold. This is because the price of credits is currently low and still falling. As a recent *Oak Ridge* columnist pointed out, the companies that acted responsibly and installed the needed anti-pollution devices are receiving less money than anticipated; "once again, the bad are rewarded, the good penalized."

Sen. Sasser has "serious reservations about TVA taking the lead in purchasing allowances." Sen. Gore "would have preferred if the TVA had been announcing new energy-conservation and -efficiency programs that would have committed TVA to complying with the Clean Air Act by reducing its energy use and reducing pollution."



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to your Senators and to your Representative; ask them to urge TVA to reduce pollution by cutting energy use, instead of buying the right to pollute.

B. TVA energy policy

TCWP Board member Eric Hirst recently wrote to every member of Tennessee's Congressional delegation, deploring TVA's lack of interest in energy conservation and energy efficiency. Several of the Representatives forwarded Eric's letter to the TVA Board, along with notes of their own. Congressman Gordon drew our attention to the fact that the Energy Bill, which at that time was still awaiting passage in the House, contained a section that directs TVA to develop and implement a "least cost" planning program to meet future power needs. Such programs tend to heavily favor energy efficiency measures. We don't know whether this section remained in the bill that was passed (§10A, this NL).

C. Runyon to become Postmaster General

As of July 6, Marvin Runyon, TVA chairman for the past 4 years, will become U.S. Postmaster General. Runyon, formerly president and CEO of Nissan's auto plant in Smyrna, was appointed TVA chairman by Reagan in 1988. William F. Willis will remain TVA's Senior Executive Officer (the real power in the agency) and will take on new duties as chairman on the Board Advisory Group.

The vacancy on the TVA Board must now be filled by presidential appointment, and one of the Board members must be designated chairman. It is considered unlikely that these events will occur before the November election ... yet another reason for us to take an interest in the presidential campaign.

D. Natural Resource Management Plan for LBL

According to a TVA notice, the Land Between the Lakes Plan is being modified, (a) to reflect adjustments made in LBL operation since the last update in 1985, and (b) to make additional changes deemed necessary to better manage and protect the natural resources at LBL. An EIS is being prepared for the proposed action to allow for thorough public involvement.

8. RIVERS IN THE NATION AND THE STATE**A. The Nationwide Permit Program on water quality: its application in Tennessee**

The latest version of the Corps of Engineers' Final Rule for the Nationwide Permit (NWP) Program became effective 1/21/92. NWPs some time ago replaced individual permits for many activities that potentially affect water quality. However, the District Engineer's (DE's) discretionary authority to modify, suspend, or revoke NWPs for individual activities is said to have been broadened by this amendment to include all public-interest factors. The DE may also require an individual permit if he finds that an activity would have more than a minimal adverse environmental effects.

On 3/12/92, the State of Tennessee issued a conditional Section-401 water quality certification for the NWPs. Except for 4 activities for which the State has its own general permits that differ from the NWPs, the State certified the Program, provided the applicant is notified that an NWP authorization does not obviate the need for him/her to obtain any permits required under the 1977 Tenn. Water Quality Control Act.

Under the State's Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit (ARAP) program, certain activities are not permitted under General Permits whenever any portion of the activity is located in a component of the National Wild & Scenic River System or a State Scenic River, or streams within the property boundaries of public lands administered by the National Park Service, the National Forest Service, the Tennessee Dept. of Environment and Conservation and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. The activities thus restricted are road crossings, utility-line crossings, bank stabilization, sand and gravel dredging, and launching ramps.

B. Status of National Wild & Scenic Rivers System

With recent additions, the National Wild & Scenic Rivers (WSR) System now includes 156 river segments totaling 10,253 miles. The latest to be added are 195.4 miles of eight rivers in Arkansas, the first such designations in that state. The success of the Arkansas rivers bill, signed into law on Earth Day, is credited to the efforts of Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-AR). Two of the river segments (totaling 10.6 miles) were added as a result of a request to the Sec. of Interior by Gov. Bill Clinton; the remaining mileage is located within National Forest boundaries. This has been a good Spring for WSR additions. About 520 miles of 14 Michigan rivers were added in March, and 85 miles of the Allegheny R. and tributaries in April.

Some of the recent successes in adding rivers have grown out of efforts by two organizations, American Rivers and the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund. These groups are gradually persuading the US Forest Service to include in each forest management plan a study of rivers to determine their suitability for inclusion in the WSR System.

C. Our endangered and threatened rivers

Only 2% of America's rivers are free-flowing. There are 65,000 (!) dams in this country, not to mention diversions, channelizations, etc.

American Rivers recently released its 1992 list of the 10 most endangered rivers, and an additional list of 15 threatened rivers -- by no means meant to be all-inclusive. The endangered list is topped by the Columbia/Snake River system, which is so overloaded with hydroelectric dams that salmon populations are down to 1/50 of their former abundance. No. 2 on the list is the Alek-Tatshenshini River system, for which see below. Also

among the 10 endangered are the Florida Everglades, the Colorado, the Mississippi, and the Penobscot. All the rivers are threatened more than ever before by public policies and private development practices that result in dams, diversions, dredging, pollution (from mining, logging, and other activities), water withdrawal, and bank modifications. Legislative remedies are clearly needed.

The No. 2 endangered system, Alaska's Alek and Tatshenshini Rivers, is on the list for the third year in a row because of the proximity of the proposed Windy Craggy Mine, just 15 miles across the border in British Columbia. Windy Craggy, proposed for a mountain-top location, would be the largest open-pit copper-gold-silver-cobalt-zinc mine in the world. The US Fish & Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service have objected to this project because the deposition of huge amounts of exposed acid-bearing rock in the watershed would cause irreparable damage. In April, Sen. Al Gore, Jr., together with Rep. Wayne Owens (D-UT), introduced a resolution (expected to pass this year) requesting the Canadian government to deny approval of the mine. We hope you will thank him!

Clearcutting Prohibition bill by John Bryant (D-TX), and a similar bill is being proposed by Sen. David Boren (D-OK). S 1536 by Sen. Brock Adams (D-WA) is being modified by Sen. Patrick Leahy in order to improve the economic-relief provisions for timber-dependent communities.

On the other side of the issue is S.1156 by Sens. Packwood (R-OR) and Gorton (R-WA), which would allow logging in virtually all ancient forests, set mandatory cut levels for all national forests, and limit the public's right to appeal timber decisions (something that has already occurred through executive fiat -- see §6A, above). Timber-industry supporters are pushing to get this bill before the Senate Energy Committee.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** (1) Urge your House member to support full protection for the ancient forests of the Northwest, including those east of the Cascades and in the northern Sierras. Stress that alternative 12c in HR 4899 represents the *minimum* acceptable level of protection. (2) Write to both senators and urge them to strongly oppose the Packwood/Gorton bill, and to support Sen. Leahy's or Sen. Boren's proposal.

B. **Spotted owl: the God Squad speaks**

In January, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) designated 6.9 million acres (scaled back from an original proposal of 11.6 million acres) in the Pacific Northwest as critical habitat for the spotted owl, a threatened species. On May 14, the God Squad voted 5:2 to override the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and permit logging in part of the critical habitat. Pres. Bush applauded the action.

The God Squad, created by a 1970 amendment to the ESA, is a high-level interagency committee that has the power to exempt species from the Act's protection by invoking adverse economic impacts of the protected status. Thus, with the stroke of a pen, the committee can wipe a species off the face of the Earth. The Secretaries of Interior, Agriculture, and Army, the Chief of NOAA, and White House economic advisor Michael Boskin all voted to destroy the endangered ecosystem of which the spotted owl is but an indicator species. EPA chief William Reilly, and Tom Walsh, an Oregon citizen, were the only ones to uphold the ESA.

The God Squad vote came after a month of testimony before an administrative law judge in Portland, Oregon. Two agencies of the Department of the Interior were pitted against each other: BLM, which wants to initiate 44 timber sales on 4,470 acres of its lands in western Oregon, vs FWS, which would prohibit some of these sales because they involve recently designated critical habitat (see above). EPA, which was on the FWS side, pulled out of the proceedings under pressure from the White House,

9. OUR PUBLIC LANDS

A. **Legislation on national forests**

There is finally some movement on Forest legislation. HR 4899 is a "framework" bill sponsored by 6 committee chairmen and based on the findings of a congressionally appointed scientific panel. The options in this bill range from virtually no protection to full protection for ancient forests. Two different subcommittees approved two different alternatives of the framework bill: alternative 12c, offered by Vento (D-MN), was adopted by the House Interior Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, while a much weaker alternative, 8a, was adopted by a House Agriculture Subcommittee. 12c protects larger tracts of ancient forest on the west side of the Cascades in Oregon and Washington, but no ancient forests on the east side of the Cascades or in northern California.

There has been no movement on other Forest bills. Jim Jontz' (D-IN) Ancient Forest Protection bill, HR 842, which would set up a system of ancient forest reserves in Oregon, Washington and northern California, currently has 135 cosponsors. The bill has not been pushed by House Speaker Foley, whose district is in eastern Washington State. To break the logjam, chairman George Miller (D-CA) has brought Vento's amendment to HR 4899 (i.e., alternative 12c, which omits lands east of the Cascades -- see above) before the full Interior Committee. -- There are now 55 co-sponsors for HR 1969, the Forest Diversity and

The Portland proceedings were found of questionable propriety by some of the people involved, and the General Accounting Office has been asked to investigate whether the Interior Dept subverted ESA requirements, and whether the conduct of the participants was proper.

In the end, the God Squad voted to exempt 13 timber sales on 1,700 acres. (However, most BLM timber sales in spotted owl habitat are currently halted by court injunctions.) After a delay attributed by JSDI to the President's moratorium on new regulations, Sec. Lujan issued the legally required owl "recovery plan." This is widely regarded as a sham, since it would protect only 2.8 million acres, less than half the acreage determined by Lujan's own FWS to be critical habitat for the species. Lujan claims that the plan will save half of the 32,000 jobs that would otherwise be lost.

The American Forestry Association (AFA) recently analyzed 4 studies on timber-related jobs likely to be lost (from all causes) in the Pacific Northwest. They concluded that the number was between 20,000 and 34,000; the timber industry, by contrast, frequently cites a figure of 147,000 that it claims will result from owl protection. An AFA official states: "It is clear that the region's timber-related employment continues in broad decline, and that it will not be reversed by logging spotted owl habitat." The Lujan owl "recovery" plan may save some jobs in the short run, but the area is already fighting relentless market forces: automation and the timber industry's shift to the Southeast have cost more jobs than the owl.

C. National Parks capsules

- S. 1755 attempts to reform the National Parks concession system with the following provisions: increase concession fees and return them to the park system; prevent over-commercialization of parks; increase competitiveness for contracts; increase possessory interest. (See NL185 ¶9A for fuller story and action suggestions.) This bill is still in committee.
- The California Desert bill, S.21, would expand two existing national monuments and redesignate them as national parks, would establish a new national park, and establish a large BLM wilderness area. A House bill, HR 2929, passed last November but with amendments to allow hunting in sensitive areas. (See NL187 ¶7A for fuller story and action suggestions.)
- The FY 1992 NPS budget contains \$33 million in "park" earmarked for non-NPS projects (e.g., restoration of a mining district that is not part of the National Park System). These projects were not authorized by the House Interior or Senate Energy committees but made their way in through a loophole

in the 1935 Historic Sites Act. HR 4276 (Vento-D, MN) would close this loophole.

- The Administration is asking for only \$87.9 million for NPS land acquisition in FY 1993. This is \$16.5 million below the FY 1991 appropriation (see NL187 ¶7C). This is short-sighted since land prices are currently low, making this a good time to cut into the big backlog of authorized land that await acquisition.

D. The 1872 Mining Law is still awaiting reform

This antiquated law permits the "patenting" of claims to minerals on public lands at the cost of a few dollars. Mining companies have to pay no royalties for the extraction of mineral wealth, nor do they have to fund reclamation. Many of these operations are devastating to the environment. For example, gold mining operations use millions of pounds of cyanide that kills rivers and generates millions of tons of highly toxic waste. Some western activists have suggested you write a letter to the editor of local newspapers urging a national gold boycott, to last until the 1872 law is abolished or reformed.

10. OTHER NATIONAL ISSUES

A. Energy bill passes House

Apart from having deleted all provisions calling for oil exploration in ANWR, the Senate energy bill (S.2166), which passed in February, is only slightly better than last year's S.1220. (NL187 ¶8A). A House energy bill was passed May 27 by a vote of 381-37. Like the Senate bill, it is heavy on provisions that promote energy production (e.g., reducing regulatory barriers for nuclear plants, the electric power industry, and gas-pipeline construction) and light on provisions to increase energy conservation. It does provide some tax incentives to promote the development of renewable fuels and to encourage mass transit, requires government to promote new energy standards for construction, appliances, motors, and lights, and sets timetables for the use of alternatively-fueled government vehicles.

The House was stronger than the Senate in restricting off-shore oil & gas drilling, banning this activity for the next 10 years from the entire US coast, except for the Gulf of Mexico from Alabama to Texas. The Senate bill permits oil leases off North Carolina's Outer Banks, off the Gulf coast of Florida, and in Alaska's Bristol Bay. The Bush Administration has declared its intention to push for the Senate version during conference committee deliberations. The White House also prevailed in having a provision deleted on the House floor that would have required refiners to set aside some oil for the government's Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

Neither the Senate nor the House bill contains measures to improve automobile fuel efficiency. A report, released in April by the National Research Council, (National Academy of Sciences) concludes that significant fuel-economy results can be achieved without a disastrous effect on safety. While some adverse safety elements exist, they are going to be small, according to the report. The raising of the speed limit to 65 mph has had an infinitely greater adverse effect on safety; and it decreases fuel efficiency. The auto industry has long claimed that fuel efficiency could be obtained only by greatly compromising vehicle safety. The NRC report, 2 years in the making, concludes that technology already exists to increase average fuel efficiency from the present 27.5 mpg standard to 33 mpg by 2001, and 37 mpg by 2006.

Here's an interesting piece of info from *Worldwatch*. In the 1980-90 decade, the USA used 1.11 million barrel of oil per billion dollars of GNP, almost twice the oil dependence of the Japanese or West German economies.

B. *How safe is ANWR?*

Thanks to vigorous opposition by environmentalists, oil & gas exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) are not included -- as such -- in either the Senate or House version of the energy bill. But watch out! Sen. Bennett Johnson (D-LA), who had made ANWR oil exploration the centerpiece of last year's energy bill, is trying to get in by the backdoor. He and 4 others managed to attach an amendment to the Senate energy bill that would create an Indian Energy Resources Development Commission to promote resource extraction on Indian and Eskimo lands. The Secretaries of Interior and Energy would be part of the Commission that is charged with "identifying barriers or obstacles to the development of energy resources" on Indian and Eskimo lands and reporting to Congress. An exploratory well has already been drilled in a 92,000-acre inhospitable in ANWR, owned by the Eskimo village of Kaktovik; unless Congress gives a green light, however, any oil found there cannot be extracted. -- Another threat to ANWR: drilling provisions may be attached to the President's "Jobs Bill."

C. *House Energy bill contains good coal features, including definition of VER*

Several amendments that relate to damages caused by coal mining were added to the House energy bill in committee, but are not in the Senate bill. One of these would require prompt replacement of waters polluted or diverted by mining. Another amendment specifically includes in the federal surface mining law (SMCRA) the subsidence effects of underground mining. Yet another would force the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) to comply with

SMCRA by collecting millions of dollars in fines issued against mining companies that have violated the law.

Perhaps the most important amendment would put into law what is presently only part of the regulations, namely, the definition of Valid Existing Rights (VER). As you may recall, starting with Interior Secretary Watt, there have been several dangerous attempts -- the latest one less than a year ago (NL 184 ¶4A) -- to depart from the previously used "good faith/all permits" definition under which a person is considered to have VER to mine the coal under national parks, rivers, etc., or near homes, schools, etc., only if he/she had made a good faith effort to obtain all needed permits before August 3, 1977, the date SMCRA was signed into law.

D. *Endangered Species Act reauthorization will be battle*

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) has weathered 3 re-authorizations in its 20-year history. It is up for renewal in September, but the process is expected to extend well into 1993, and promises to be the battle of the decade. Says Audubon president A.A. Berle: "The ESA is not just about wildlife, it is about humanity's relationship to the planet. For despite the act, species are vanishing faster than ever -- proof that we humans are living beyond our ecological means."

The "Wise Use" movement (NL 186 ¶9E), a loose coalition of industry-funded groups, has put the ESA at the top of their hit list. Resigned to probably being unable to repeal the ESA, Wise Users are trying to emasculate it by a number of weakening bills. Endangered species protection, however, has strong support among the general public. A recent poll found that 66% of voters support the ESA, and even more said that a politician's stand for protecting endangered species would influence them to vote for him/her.

Species protection does not lead to economic decline; on the contrary, habitat abuse often harms the economy (e.g., in the Everglades, where wetland degradation has already hurt the state's huge commercial and sport-fishing industries). The ESA does not block economic development; of 120,000 federal projects reviewed for their possible effect on listed species, all but 34 were able to proceed. The ESA does not protect plants and animals at the expense of people; on the contrary, by reducing the diversity of species, we risk our own well-being. The ESA has been effective; it has saved the lives of dozens of US species, and has led to stabilization or even growth of populations of nearly half of all listed species.

However, the Act has been underapplied, underfunded, and under-enforced. Hundreds of already investigated species remain unlisted, and

thousands of candidate species still await investigation. And implementation of the Act could certainly be improved by increased appropriations. In 1991, Congress requested the National Academy of Sciences to study several key issues relating to the ESA. Although this study may delay congressional consideration of the ESA, it is expected to confirm the view that the Act is fundamentally sound and only needs more funds and more determined enforcement to be effective.

The most promising proposal currently before Congress for strengthening the endangered species program is HR 4045 by Gerry Studds (D-MA). Under current law, species often receive protection only when they are already on the brink of extinction. Besides, there is a backlog of 3,800 candidate species awaiting decisions on whether they should be listed. Studds' bill would protect both listed and candidate species, as well as the ecosystems they depend on. The bill also features multi-species recovery plans and sets recovery deadlines. Funding for the Act would also be increased.

TCWP Board member Larry Pounds recently wrote to all members of the Tennessee Congressional delegation in support of HR 4045. He received 6 responses, two positive (Gore, Gordon), two noncommittal (Tanner, Lloyd), and two negative or hostile (Sundquist, Duncan); Duncan accused "radical environmental groups" of forcing "hundreds of thousands of people out of work."

WHAT YOU CAN DO: (1) Ask your Representative (address on p.2) to respond to your question of whether he/she will be a co-sponsor of HR 4045. Inform him/her that the ESA is a key environmental law that must be strengthened for the protection of the Earth's living things, including man. (2) Write to the National Audubon Soc. for ESA Activist materials, including a "toolkit", brochure, video, references, etc. (ESC, National Audubon Soc., 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022).

11. POLITICIANS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

A. Clinton's energy policy

In an Earth Day speech, Gov. Bill Clinton proposed an energy policy that includes the following features:

- acceleration of our progress toward more fuel-efficient cars
- increased reliance on natural gas
- a push for revenue-neutral incentives that reward conservation and make polluters and energy-wasters pay

- increased investment in the development of renewable energy sources.

"We have an unprecedented opportunity to protect the Earth and make our economy grow," he said.

See NL187 ¶6A for the League of Conservation Voters' environmental assessment of Clinton and Bush

B. Bush's recent record

"The 'Environmental President' now seems mainly interested in becoming the 'Re-elected President,'" starts a May 19 *New York Times* editorial. Here are some recent examples. (1) Bush's Agriculture Dept. has eliminated the public's 85-year-old right to appeal US Forest Service decisions (see ¶6A, this NL). (2) In mid-May, Vice President Quayle and the President's Council on Competitiveness (which operates in semi-secrecy) allowed companies to increase air-pollution emissions without public hearings (note that the Clean Air Act explicitly requires public comment). (3) A Cabinet-level committee chaired by Interior Sec. Lujan (the God Squad, see ¶9B, this NL) overruled the Endangered Species Act. (Lujan, incidentally, is quoted by *Time* magazine as discounting evolution: "Here is what I believe. God created Adam and Eve, and from there all of us came. God created us pretty much as we look today.") (4) Lujan recently canceled the public's right to contest BLM decisions to grant grazing permits, mining leases, and oil-exploration licenses. (5) Gov. John Engler of Michigan, who managed Bush's 1988 campaign in that state, was permitted to drain a 114 sizeable wetland for construction of a golf course, overruling a permit denial by the Regional EPA administrator. As Anthony Lewis recently pointed out, it is significant that these and other profound environmental decisions have been made by the executive branch alone, and often in the teeth of congressional statutes.

It has been pointed out that the ostensible purpose of the White House Council on Competitiveness is to search out and destroy any regulation that causes inconvenience to the Administration's corporate allies. Quayle is using the Council as a base on which to build support for a run at the presidency in 1996, and to help Bush hang on in 1992. For more information on the Council, contact Public Citizen, 215 Pennsylvania Ave, SE, Wash. DC 20003; Ph.: 202-546-4996.

C. State-specific versions of the National Environmental Scorecard

You can call the League of Conservation Voters (202-785-8683) to obtain (free of charge) one or many copies of your state-specific Environmental Scorecard. These scorecards contain not only the votes on environmental legislation of the House and

Senate members of the state, but also voter-registration and federal- and state-race information

D. **Environmental Scorecard for Interior Committee**

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) recently released another of its Committee Scorecards, this one for the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs actions on the Energy Bill. Since a strong bill can be watered down in committee, or a weak one strengthened, the actions of Congressmen during committee deliberations can be more revealing than their floor votes on the final product. In this particular score card, 12 Congressman (all Democrats) earned a score of 100, and 16 (1 Democrat, 15 Republicans) scored 20 or less. Among the latter is the only Tennessean on the committee, John Duncan, Jr. His constituents should let him know how they feel about this score.

E. **More on Gore**

Sen. Al Gore, Jr., chairs the US Senate delegation to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), better known as the Earth Summit. As author of the recent book *Earth in the Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit*, (see NL 187 1B/C), he is probably the most thoughtful voice in government on global environmental issues. In a recent interview, he said: "The effort to save the environment must become the organizing principle of the post-Cold War era, and UNCED is the first place that idea will be addressed in a global forum." He referred to the Bush Administration's performance relative to the Summit as "the worst failure of political leadership. ... With U.S. obstructionism, the world becomes cynical at a time when it is ready to be inspired. It is embarrassing to see 139 countries lined up on one side and the United States on the other."

F. **We'll lose one of the best**

Sen. Tim Wirth (D-CO), one of the most effective advocates of energy conservation (particularly as it relates to automobile fuel efficiency) and a major voice for the protection of ANWR, has announced that he will not run for reelection. Expressing frustration with the process, Wirth said, "When something as relatively simple as a Colorado wilderness bill cannot get through the gauntlet of negatives... I cannot help but be discouraged about the prospects of really complex and far-reaching legislation."

12. TCWP NEWS

A. **Annual Meeting dates set**

Our annual meeting will be held October 23-25 at the Dubose Conference Center in Monteagle. This is right in the beautiful South Cumberland,

close to Savage Gulf, Fiery Gizzard, and other attractions. The Conference Center has comfortable accommodations and good food. We are grateful to Patrice Cole for making the arrangements. Look for a separately-mailed announcement later in the summer, but set the dates aside now. We especially hope to attract members and friends who have never been to our annual meetings. Our programs are always interesting, and we always have a great time.

B. **Recently, TCWP was involved in:**

- An Earth Day event in the Whittle Communications courtyard in Knoxville. We are grateful to Marion Roedel for setting up, and sitting with, the 3 panel TCWP display, which attracted quite a few interested spectators.
- A time capsule. TCWP contributed a copy of NL 186 to be sealed in a 1992-2042 time capsule that will be placed in Jackson Square during the opening ceremony for Oak Ridge's 50th birthday.

C. **News about TCWP members and friends**

- On April 2, Bill and Liane Russell received the Oak Ridge Rotary Club's Vocational Service Award for their efforts on behalf of TCWP as well as for their professional work. The awardees got attractive plaques, and TCWP received a \$100 donation. TCWP president Maureen Cunningham attended the ceremony and accepted the check.
- At the Department of the Interior's Honor Awards Convocation, Leroy Fox was presented with a departmental Honor Award for his long-standing efforts on behalf of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
- Paul Somers, who has on various occasions represented TCWP on the Environmental Action Fund, is leaving the TN Dept of Env't and Conservation and moving out of state. He will be located at Westboro, 40 miles W of Boston, and working for the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Program. We'll miss him!
- Sam and Linda A. Pearsall are back from several years in Hawaii (Sam was working on his Ph.D. there), where they produced an offspring, Paul. But they overshot Tennessee and are located in Raleigh, North Carolina. Before they left Tenn. to go to Hawaii, Sam was in the Dept. of Conservation, and Linda worked for The Nature Conservancy.
- Don Barger, formerly on the SOCM staff, recently left Friends of the Earth in D.C. to become the new Southeast Regional Rep for the National Parks and Conservation Assoc (NPCA). He arrived here in time to attend the Obed GMP workshop with Lee Russell (see 11, this NL) and will be living in this area. TCWP has had many interactions with NPCA in the past (e.g., we are their official "park watchers" for the Obed

and BSNRRA), and it will be great to have one of their staff -- who is also a friend -- right on the spot!

- Lynn Wright and Jenny Freeman recently made it into the paper. Lynn as part of an extensive article on biofuels research, and Jenny as the "spokeswoman" for Ogden Environmental & Energy Services.

D. Reminders

- Have you paid your dues?
- Have you filled out and mailed the Rivers Assessment questionnaire that was enclosed with NL186?
- Did you save your POLITICAL GUIDE in an accessible place? And are you using it often?
- If you have an interest in working on one of TCWP's issues, have you contacted us (p.t) or the responsible Board member (see NL187 ¶11A)?

E. We thank our volunteers

The appeal for volunteer Newsletter assemblers that was sent with NL187 was highly successful. Enough people signed up to take care of this activity for more than a year. We look forward to working with you!

We are grateful to the following people who helped assemble Newsletter 187 on April 2: Maureen Cunningham, Marion Garber, Harry and Sylvia Hubbell, Charlie Klabunde, Louise Markel, Diantha Pare, and Kay Scarborough. Thank you!

13. JOB OPENINGS; ACTIVITIES; READING MATTER

- **JOB OPENING.** The six-year-old Foothills Land Conservancy, a community-based land trust in Blount and Sevier Counties, is looking for a half-time executive director (could develop into full-time). Position open August 1; resumes needed asap (Foothills Land Conservancy, POBox 6096, Maryville, TN 37802). For info, call Jim Rugh 584-6133 (day) 453-6726 (home), or Rick Everett 995-9633.
- **JOB OPENING.** SOCM is looking for a staff organizer to staff county chapters, work with committees, research issues, share administrative and fundraising tasks. Must own a car and be willing to travel. Call Maureen O'Connell at SOCM Lake City Office, 615-426-9455.
- **June 19-21, The National Carrying Capacity Conference,** Washington, DC, will address issues such as the relationship between ecology and economics, population and environment, etc. Call 1-800-466-4866.
- **June 27, Bus trip to Roan Mountain rhododendron gardens** from Knoxville, and hike from Carver's gap toward Grassy Ridge. Sponsored by Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy. Send check for \$20 each (payable to SAHC) to Murray Evans, 3213 Montlake Dr, Knoxville, TN 37920. For info, Ken Warren 483-1027.
- **September 1992, "Taking care of the Earth: a how-to course for environmental advocates,"** to be offered by U.T. Knoxville for the fall semester (non-credit, evenings). We'll bring you more info later; or call Emily Ellis, 588-3865 (evenings).
- **Sept. 11-13, Tennessee Environmental Education Assoc Annual Conf.,** Reelfoot Lake State Park. Call 901-678-2545.
- **Sept. 20-22, National Trails Symp.,** Missoula, Montana. Contact Bob Walker, 406-444-4585.
- **October 23-25, TCWP Annual Meeting,** see ¶12A, this NL.
- **Under National Audubon's Endangered Species Campaign,** a number of materials are available to activists at relatively low cost. Write Audubon Activist, Natl Audubon Soc, 950 Third Ave, New York, NY 10022.
- **Tennessee Green** is a new quarterly newspaper with a circulation of 10,000, published in Knoxville. It features articles on local ecological issues and activities, practical how-to information, interviews, profiles, and essays. The publication is distributed free of charge at 150 locations in Knoxville and surrounding towns, and is supported by advertising (environmentally- and socially-responsible sources only), subscriptions, grants and donations. Subscriptions (\$12 for 6 issues) should be sent to Tennessee Green, 3961 Greenleaf Ave, Knoxville, TN 37919.
- **The latest 14-page Issue of River Voices** is devoted to "Protecting River Corridors: Techniques for Local Activists." This is a very pertinent subject for many of us here in Tennessee. Contact River Network, POBox 8787, Portland, OR 97207, Ph.: 1-800-423-6747.
- **Earth in Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit,** by Sen. Al Gore, Jr., is strong in its science, and inspiring in its values. See NL187 ¶8C for review. (Published by Houghton Mifflin Co., available in area bookstores.)
- **Global Warming: Understanding the Forecast,** 180 pp. is a companion book to the current EDF/AMNH exhibition at the American Museum of Natural History. It is available for \$25 from EDF, 1875 Connecticut Ave, NW, POBox 96969, Wash., DC 20077-7254.

- *A New U.S. Program for International Development and the Global Environment*, by J. Gus Speth, is an 8-page "Issues and Ideas" publication from World Resources Institute, 1709 New York Ave, NW, Wash., DC 20006.
- *LandTrusts in America: Guardians of the Future* is a 14-minute video that explains howland trustswork. Available for \$25 (incl shipping) from Karen Deans, Land Trust Alliance, 900-17th St, NW, Suite 410, Wash, DC 20006-2501.
- *How Wet is a Wetland? The Impacts to the Proposed Revisions to the Federal Wetlands Delineation Manual*, 174 pp., written with input from outstanding scientists, discusses how wetlands are formed, where they are, what species they support, why they are valuable, and what the impacts would be of the changes in definition proposed by the Bush Administration. \$20 (\$15, for EDF members) from EDF 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, POBox 96969, Wash., DC 20077-7254.
- A two-page checklist for rating the effectiveness of local or state environmental protection programs is available (free) from Community & Environmental Defense Services. CEDS will also assist in preparing more sophisticated checklists, or will conduct a workshop -- all free except for minimal travel costs. The group also has a series of low-cost publications. (CEDS, POBox 206, Maryland Line, MD 21105, Ph.: 410-329-8194).
- For a copy of *The Cherokee's National Forest General Report to the Public for 1991*, call the Supervisor's Office at Cleveland, TN, 615-476-9700.
- *The Economic Benefits of Land Conservation* is a 4-page "Tech Memo" available for \$3 from Holly Thomas, Senior Planner, Dutchess County, 27 High St, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.
- *The Job Seeker*, published twice a month, lists vacancies in the environmental/natural resources fields. There is no charge for a listing; funding is provided through subscription fees. For a free sample issue, call 608-378-4290, or write *The Job Seeker*, Rt2 Box 16, Warrens, WI 54666.
- *The Directory of National Environmental Organizations*, 4th Ed., is available for \$54 (incl postage) from US Environmental Directories, POBox 65156, St. Paul MN 55165.