Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning

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Taking Care of Wild Places

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Shaded box or star means "Action Needed." Don't be overwhelmed -- check the ACTION SUMMARY on p. 2

13. ACTION SUMMARY

¶No.	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or Action
5A	**#1 Priority: Antiquities Act**	Both your US senators	"Oppose S.33 and any bill blocking National Monuments!"
5B	Environmental regulations	Both your US senators	"Oppose REINS Act or similar anti-regulation measures!"
5D	Public lands giveaways	Both your US senators	"Oppose any bill giving away public lands!"
..8	Cabinet confirmations	Both your US senators	Urge vote AGAINST nominees you consider worst
11F	Fast-breaking crises	Sandra Goss and others	Sign up to receive e-lerts.. Take actions

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Dear Senator Doe Sincerely yours,	Dear Congressman Doe Sincerely yours,	Dear Mr. President Respectfully yours,	Dear Gov. Haslam Respectfully yours,

Sen. Bob Corker
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To call any Repr. or Senator, dial Congressional switchboard, 202-224-3121. To find out about the status of bills, call 202-225-1772.
URLs: http://www.house.gov/lastname/ and http://lastname.senate.gov/ General contact info: http://www.lcv.org
With mail to Congress still slow following the anthrax scare, consider faxing, phoning, and other modes of communication.

You can find contact information in our Political Guide. It's on TCWP's website (http://www.tcwp.org), as are some current "take action" alerts
You can also choose to receive e-lerts by contacting Sandra Goss (see below).

WHAT IS TCWP?

TCWP (Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning) is dedicated to achieving and perpetuating protection of natural lands and waters by means of public ownership, legislation, or cooperation of the private sector. While our first focus is on the Cumberland and Appalachian regions of Tennessee, our efforts may extend to the rest of the state and the nation. TCWP's strength lies in researching information pertinent to an issue, informing and educating our membership and the public, interacting with groups having similar objectives, and working through the legislative, administrative, and judicial branches of government on the federal, state, and local levels.

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PREFACE

This is an unusually long Newsletter. But these are unusual times. The new administration and new session of Congress bring concerns and outright threats. We need to know something about who the new players are. On the other side, a rush of good happenings occurred before the end of the last administration. We'll need to work hard to ensure that achievements are not lost.

These are vital issues, and they'll require increased dedication on our part. We hope very much we can count on you. Respond to our action calls (p.2). Things may happen fast. So, especially between Newsletters, we urge you to check our new website, which has an important Take Action button. And get on the E-lert list, so we can reach you by e-mail, if you're willing.

Happy New Year!

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1. TENNESSEE NEWS

1A. Record of Decision is issued on ridgeline mining

The Land Unsuitable for Mining petition for ridgelines in the North Cumberland Wildlife Management Area and Emory River Tract Conservation Easement (NL330 ¶2) was granted on December 7, when the Record of Decision was issued. This means that about 570 miles of ridgeline within roughly 75,000 acres of the Cumberland mountains are now protected from surface mining.

In addition to helping the areas themselves, this decision will benefit the aquatic environment of the New River and Big South Fork NRRA downstream, where a dozen or so federally endangered aquatic species are at risk. Thank you, Gov. Bredesen, and thank you, Don Barger for initiating the LUM petition and carrying it to its successful conclusion. It was a great example of State-Federal cooperation.

Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) was quoted as saying: "This means those ridgetop landscapes – and the rivers, streams and forests that surround them – can continue to bring millions of tourists and thousands of jobs to Tennessee."

1B. Crooked Fork restoration project funded by grant; needs volunteers

[Contributed by Mike Sale]

A partnership between the Emory River Watershed Association (ERWA) and the Obed Watershed Community Association (OWCA) recently won a substantial new grant for a 3-year project to demonstrate methods for controlling stream bank erosion in Morgan County, TN. The new project will restore approximately 600 feet of the stream channel of Crooked Fork, a major tributary to the Emory River that is currently suffering from sedimentation problems. The work will take place in a section of Crooked Fork upstream of Hwy 62, between the Petros-Joyner School and Petros.

Funding will consist of $96,000 from the State of Tennessee's Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and $24,500 in cost-sharing from the project partners and the major land owner at the site. The TDEC share of the funding comes from the Emory, Clinch, and Watts Bar Watersheds Habitat and Recreational Restoration program that distributes funding from the Tennessee Valley Authority, part of a natural resources damage settlement associated with the 2008 Kingston ash spill.

Dennis Gregg of OWCA will serve as the project manager. Volunteers will be recruited from ERWA, OWCA, and TCWP members to help with revegetation and habitat monitoring in 2018 and 2019 after construction has been completed. If you are interested in participating in that, or want addition information, contact Mike Sale, ERWA President, at 865-719-4794 or mjsale@frozenhead.net

1C. General Assembly back in session

The General Assembly began its session on January 10, but only a fraction of the 1500 bills expected to get filed by the February 9 deadline have been filed so far. High among the priorities for Tennessee Conservation Voters (TCV) is to "Protect and expand funding mechanisms for the acquisition of wetlands, public lands, and historic lands as well as agricultural conservation efforts (Real Estate Transfer Tax)."

Representative Harwell was reelected to her post as speaker of the House. Sen. Randy McNally has replaced Ron Ramsey as Lieutenant Governor, i.e., leader of the Senate.

The General Assembly website is http://capitol.tn.gov/. You are encouraged to familiarize yourself with this website and its capabilities (e.g., legislators can be researched, bill lists created, etc.). Another website to look up is that for Tennessee Conservation Voters, www.tnconservationvoters.org (615-269-9090). These are the folks who will tell us about the bills, analyze some, and perhaps suggest actions. Then it's up to us. Hopefully you'll be in frequent contact with your legislators.

1D. Cooper Ridge Mining Permit covers huge area

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

Kopper-Glo Mining LLC seeks to develop the largest coal surface mine in the state. A public hearing was held at the Knoxville Field Office of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation on December 20. With 45+ attendees, the comments were overwhelmingly against granting the permit.

TCWP sent comments on this permit application. Among other things, we oppose the addition of a third mine in the Clear Fork River watershed. Threatened blackside

dace use this watershed for spawning. The TCWP comments also stated that the cumulative effects of the drainage of three mines require a holistic look at the mine discharges in order to have a true picture of the water-quality degradation in that watershed.

2. OBED and BIG SOUTH FORK NEWS

2A. Wilderness eligibility being assessed for BSFNRRA and Obed WSR

The National Park Service published the following Notice of Intent on December 20.

"The National Park Service (NPS) intends to assess lands within the authorized boundaries of Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area and Obed Wild and Scenic River for wilderness eligibility.

"It is anticipated that the assessments for both parks will be completed by October 1, 2017.

"Interested individuals, organiza-tions, and agencies are encouraged to provide written comments or suggestions to assist the NPS in determining the scope of issues related to the eligibility of land considered as wilderness at Big South Fork National River Recreational Area and Obed Wild and Scenic River. Written comments may be sent to: Superintendent, 4564 Leatherwood Road, Oneida, Tennessee 37841.

"A determination of eligibility and subsequent future actions will be announced in the Federal Register upon completion of the assessment."

No official comment period is stated, but in view of the early completion date, it may be prudent not to delay submission of comments.

2B. Repairs and rehabilitation

BSFNRRA. O&W Bridge repair started late Dec. and is expected to be complete before spring. Access to the bridge is closed during construction operations.

Obed WSR. Rehabilitation of the Nemo Picnic Area also started in December. The project includes replacement of picnic tables, concrete pads, and cooking grills. Once complete, the picnic area will be Americans-with-Disabilities-Act-accessible to include pathways and parking.

2C. Parks to present Scientific Research Meeting

The Obed WSR and BSFNRRA are preparing to present a Scientific Research Meeting for the Cumberland Plateau on Wednesday, April 19, at the Rugby Visitor Center. The peer-reviewed presentations will be focused on natural and cultural scientific research in the parks, or on issues linked to the parks. Presentations will be oral and in poster sessions.

For more information, contact Etta Spradlin, etta_spradlin@nps.gov.

2D. Night-sky viewing in the Obed WSR

With a competitive grant from Eastern National, the park purchased a Dobsonian reflector telescope with a 12" parabolic primary mirror, complemented with special eyepieces. The grant was also used to offer a new youth-focused night-sky activity, the NPS's Junior Ranger Night Explorer Program, an activity guide for youth ages 5-12.

2E. Capsules

- Botanists have documented ~800 different plant species in the Obed WSR already, and the number continues to grow.
- Climbing activities in the Obed WSR were featured in a profusely illustrated article in the Dec.2 Knoxville News Sentinel.
- A number of special events are planned for the Spring. Details either in this NL or the next one.
  March 25, Obed river trip with trash pickup (¶11A, this NL)
  April 22, Obed Volunteer Appreciation and Cleanup

3. TVA NEWS

3A. Floating Houses Policy Overturned

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

After gathering quantities of environmental data and public input, TVA produced an EIS and developed a plan for gradually phasing out floating houses that have been cluttering up certain TVA reservoirs and polluting their waters (NL326 ¶3B; NL330 ¶4). The phase-out would have taken 30 years. Instead of lending support for this plan, however, both Houses of Congress passed an amendment that would prevent the TVA initiative.

The amendment was added to the Water Resources Development Bill, a must-pass legislation. As things now stand, there will be no new permits for floating houses; it seems that existing floating houses will, however, be permitted for an indefinite length of time.

TVA will be developing new rules with attendant public hearings, and opportunities for public comment. TCWP Newsletter and E-lerts will provide more information in the coming months.

3B. TVA urged to contract for wind power delivered via new transmission line

[Based on information from SACE]

Low-cost high-quality wind power from Oklahoma and Texas could become available via the Plains and Eastern Clean Line, a high-voltage direct-current transmission project that has been approved by DOE after extensive review. The Clean Line has not yet been constructed; however, to qualify for the important incentives of the federal production tax credit, contracts for wind power can be signed today, and take delivery as late as December 2020. TVA has been urged to immediately contract for at least

1,000 megawatts of wind power on the Plains and Eastern Clean Line.

3C. Board vacancies

[From a newspaper column by Ambassador Victor Ashe]

Last year's U.S. Senate did not confirm three Obama re-nominations to the TVA Board of Directors. These three, who rotated off the Board December 31, are Joe Ritch (chairman), Mike McWherter, and Peter Mahurin. Their departure leaves the Board at 6 members. The new chair is Lynn Evans, an African-American woman from Memphis, an accountant.

The terms of Directors Marilyn Brown and Lynn Evans will expire May of this year. Until they are replaced by new nominees, they can serve until December 31, 2017. Should there be no confirmed nominees by year's end, the Board will be down to four members, who do not constitute a quorum.

Trump has made promises about rejuvenating the coal industry, and his nominees to the TVA Board are likely to reflect that change in policy. Over the past decade, TVA has shut down, or announced plans to shut down, nearly half of the 59 coal-fired units it once operated.

4. SMOKIES

4A. Sustainable-energy project at Mt. Sterling

[Contributed by Jimmy Groton]

Duke Energy has proposed installing an array of solar panels, coupled with a zinc-air battery, to power critical park communications equipment located atop the remote Mt. Sterling in the Haywood County area of the park. Duke Energy currently delivers power to the site along a 3.5-mile overhead line that extends from the park boundary at Mt. Sterling Road (Hwy NC284) to the Mt. Sterling Fire Lookout Tower.

The proposed solar array would consist of 30 panels and would cover an area approximately 40 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 10.5 feet tall at the highest point. A small area south of the panels would need to be kept free of tall trees to minimize shading. Current estimates show that fewer than 10 trees would need to be cleared. If approved and installed, the microgrid would allow the existing overhead line to be decommissioned and the existing maintained corridor would return to a natural state.

The comment period on this project ended Dec. 13. If the project is approved, implementation could begin in Spring 2017.

4B. Don Barger on list of people most influential in Smokies history

In connection with last year's National Park Service Centennial, the Great Smoky Mountains Association came up with a list of the "100 Most Influential People in the History of Great Smoky Mountains National Park." Don Barger, NPCA's Southeast Regional Director, is one of them for advocating for ecological health of the Smokies and, particularly, for reducing air pollution. His effort, beginning with a lawsuit against TVA, led to an enforceable strategy to retire 18 of TVA's 59 coal-fired boilers and ensure that the remainder are brought up to modern standards.

4C. Tremont Institute offers Smokies experience

The Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont (http://www.nps.gov/grsm/index.htm) offers nature exploration, backpacking and science-based camps for ages 9-17 in June and July. Early-bird pricing available until February 24, 2017. Financial aid available. More information from 865-448-6709, or mail@gsmit.org.

5. NATIONAL: FIRST, THE BAD NEWS

5A. Antiquities Act in grave danger

The new Congress has lost no time trying to block creation of new parks. In the first week of the new session, multiple bills have been filed to gut the Antiquities Act, the 111-year-old law under which nearly half of our national parks got their start as national monuments (including Grand Canyon, Acadia, Zion, Olympic). Other bills would repeal designations made by Pres. Obama and/or protections for existing parks and monuments.

A significant bill to eviscerate the Antiquities Act is S.33 (Murkowski), introduced January 5 with 26 Republican senators co-sponsoring. No longer can we count on a presidential veto. We must get a majority of senators to oppose it. Your voice will be very important. Please contact both of your senators (see Action Box, below) to strongly urge their opposition to S.33 and to any other bills that block creation of national monuments. Also oppose any attempts to undo prior designations of national monuments, or to diminish their protections.

Here are a few talking points.

- The Antiquities Act has been one of the most significant tools for preserving the nation's diverse natural, historic, and cultural treasures -- our shared American heritage.
- This opportunity for quick protection is particularly important where these treasures are threatened by destruction or degradation (America is losing more than one million acres a year to development).
- Several polls show that the American people (even 80% of western voters, 66% of Utah residents) are overwhelmingly opposed to efforts to block new parks and repeal protections for the places they love.
- The Antiquities Act, signed by Pres, Theodore Roosevelt in 1906, has been used by 14 of the 16 presidents of both parties that have followed him, creating 152 national monuments. No president has attempted to undo a national monument designation and thus dismantle our conservation legacy.

- Our national parks welcome more than 300 million visitors annually, generate billions for gateway communities, and create tens of thousands of jobs. For every dollar invested in the National Park Service, about $5 is generated for local economies ($16 billion).
- The average American family pays roughly as much in income taxes for our national parks each year as it would cost them to buy a cup of coffee —~$2.50.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Without delay, urge both of your senators (address p.2)* to strongly oppose S.33 and any other bill that would block creation of national monuments, which are often the first step toward new national parks. Also oppose any attempts to undo prior designations of national monument or to diminish their protections.
*To contact any other Senator: 202-224-3121 (switchboard). Or http://lastname.senate.gov

5B. Environmental regulations in jeopardy

The Republican Congress has several tools available for dismantling a host of late-issued Obama administration regulations. One is the Congressional Review Act for existing regulations. This 1996 law is written such that the 60-legislative-day clock resets at the beginning of each Congress for all rules enacted in the 60 legislative days prior to the final day of congressional adjournment.

Among a new package of bills package of bills aimed at destroying, blocking, and delaying environmental protections, one of the most dangerous is the Regulatory Accountability Act, H.R. 5, which combines a number of tactics to prevent agencies like the EPA from making rules. The bill's sole purpose is to infuse so much delay into the rulemaking process that it comes to a screeching halt. The consequences of delay are serious, with real and harmful impacts for real people.

Then there is the REINS Act (Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny), which requires regulations expected to cost in excess of $100 million to receive Congressional approval. This could effectively freeze almost all future regulatory measures. The House passed the REINS Act in early January.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Urge your senators (address p.2) to vote against the REINS Act or similar anti-regulation measures when they come up.

5C. Senators propose oil exploration in ANWR's Coastal Plain

Alaska's two senators and its representative recently introduced legislation that would open a section of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to limited oil and gas exploration. The Alaska Oil and Gas Production Act would allow development of 2,000 surface acres in the sensitive Coastal Plain, about 60 miles from the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System. The Gwich'in people, who call their Coastal Plain "the sacred site where life begins," have formed a committee to protect ANWR. Pres.Obama started the process by which the Coastal Plain could become a designated Wilderness (NL330 ¶5D; NL326 ¶4E), but it requires Congressional action to complete it. In the meantime, we must be on the lookout for, and take action against, attempts to exploit this place. Trump has promised to quickly lift rules that restrict where oil drilling and other energy production are done, and that includes ANWR.

5D. Public lands giveaways may be coming

[Information from Friends of the Earth]

A recent change in House rules treats public lands as if they have no value. This will make it easier for Congress to give away our valued public lands by ignoring the budget implications, and it is therefore a signal that House leadership intends to give away our natural heritage. And giveaways are likely to happen in dozens of bills throughout the year, including must-pass spending bills.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Urge your senators (addresses on p.2) to oppose any legislation that gives away public lands.

6. NATIONAL: NOW, THE GOOD NEWS

6A. Pres. Obama designates even more National Monuments, including a marine one

First marine monument in Atlantic Ocean

Pres. Obama, having already designated more national monuments than any other president, recently not only added to the score, but included the first marine monument in the Atlantic. It is the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, ~150 miles SE of Cape Cod. The 5,000 square-miles area includes four deep-water seamounts (some rising 7,000ft above the seafloor) and three canyons (deeper than the Grand Canyon) in Georges Bank. It is a treasure of biodiversity, and the monument will safeguard marine ecosystems that include sperm whales, seabirds, and rare cold-water coral communities and kelp forests that provide habitat for numerous fish and invertebrate species. These populations are extremely vulnerable to overfishing, trawling, and climate change.

Bears Ears and Gold Butte

The first president to respond to a formal request from sovereign Native American Tribes (26 of them), Pres. Obama designated the 1.35 million-acre Bears Ears National Monument in SE Utah (near Canyonlands National Park), an area that contains an unparalleled concentration of ~100,000 archeological sites, including ancient petroglyphs, cliff dwellings, and burial grounds, in a landscape of red rock canyons, alpine peaks, and forested plateaus.

Gold Butte, which protects nearly 300,000 acres in Nevada, is a wild desert landscape containing breathtaking geological formations and irreplaceable cultural artifacts.

Members of the Paiute have been working to protect treasures of this area since the 1980's. Both of these areas have long been the target of vandals and looters, and been threatened by mining, drilling, and tar sands extraction.

6B. Arctic and Atlantic Oceans permanently protected from oil drilling

First, the Administration removed the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas in the Arctic, and certain parts of the Atlantic from the 5-year (2017-2022) Continental Shelf Oil & Coal Leasing Program. Then, in December, Pres. Obama permanently protected nearly the entire American Arctic Ocean and part of the Atlantic. The action was announced in a joint statement with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Protected in the Arctic are 115 million acres (excluding only 2.9 million acres that were previously leased near Prudhoe Bay, Alaska). In the Atlantic Ocean, Pres. Obama protected 3.8 million acres, stretching from Massachusetts to Maryland.

These historic permanent protections were carried out under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, which says the president "may, from time to time, withdraw" federal waters that are not already leased from oil and gas exploitation. About 400 scientists had signed a letter urging the elimination of Arctic offshore drilling.

In December, Pres. Obama protected yet other areas of our northern waters by establishing the Northern Bering Sea Climate Resilience Area. This puts in place critical safeguards for the northern Bering Sea and the Bering Strait, and assures Alaska Native people a role in the future management of this amazing place.

6C. Stream Protection Rule is finalized

The long awaited Stream Protection Rule was finalized by the Dept. of the Interior (USDI) in mid-December, and has already been targeted for elimination by the new Congress and incoming administration, which refer to it as part of the "War on Coal." The new rule, which forbids coal mining within 100 ft of streams, or placement of mining waste within streams, superseded the 2008 Stream Buffer Zone Rule (NL324 ¶4D). It is intended to avoid or minimize adverse impacts of coal mining (especially mountaintop removal) on ~6000 miles of watercourses and their watersheds. Communities will be protected against toxic water pollution

The coal industry and their allies in Congress have argued that keeping coal in the ground will lead to the loss of tens of thousands of jobs. USDI, however, projects that fewer than 300 jobs would be lost after the Stream Buffer Zone Rule takes effect.

6D. Fuel-economy requirements will nearly double new-car gas mileage

EPA's required mid-term review of the Fuel Economy standards that were put in place in 2012 was completed in November. Extensive technical analysis, prompted by industry attacks, showed that automakers can meet (and probably even exceed) proposed emissions standards and fuel economy requirements for model years 2022-2025. The standards will nearly double new-car gas mileage, dramatically cut carbon pollution, maintain regulatory certainty for the auto industry, and save U.S. drivers billions in gasoline costs. The rule has therefore been finalized, continuing current standards as planned through 2025. Unfortunately, there are indications that it will become an early target for the incoming administration and Congress.

6E. NPS Centennial Act provides public-private partnership

The National Park Service Centennial Act (H.R. 4680), which passed the House with broad bipartisan support and the Senate by unanimous consent, addresses the $12 billion infrastructure repair backlog. It provides dedicated funding for the Centennial Challenge Fund, a proven public-private partnership that uses federal funding to leverage private dollars for national parks. (Over the past two years, a federal investment of $25 million from appropriated dollars cultivated twice that amount in private donations.). The bill also establishes an endowment to build long-term funding support for our parks.

Other policy provisions provide clear authority to NPS for better interpretation and education programs, offer additional opportunities for young people and veterans by expanding the Public Land Corps, and allow for extra funding support for volunteer programs.

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7. ENERGY; CLIMATE CHANGE

7A. NASA's climate-research funding in jeopardy

Trump plans to eliminate all of NASA's climate-change research (which a Trump advisor called "politicized science") and dismantle NASA's system of earth-observing satellites. The Space Agency's research into climate phenomena is highly valued by the world's scientists and policymakers. Eliminating this scientific work would devastate international efforts to understand and decelerate human-caused climate change. Gutting NASA's Earth science division, warned one scientist, could put us back in the "dark ages" of climate research; it could become next to impossible to track changes in our climate.

7B. Political witch hunt for climate-change workers

The Trump transition team requested the Department of Energy to 'provide a list of all DOE employees or contractors who have attended' certain climate change meetings along with those who helped develop the Obama administration's social-cost-of-carbon metrics, used to estimate and justify the climate benefits of new rules. DOE

officials resolutely rejected the request, while reassuring the workers.

7C. Extreme weather events

- Heat vs. cold records. In the absence of man-made climate change, the number of heat and cold records should be roughly equal. In 2016, there were six hot records for every cold, and for the 2010s, overall, the ratio is 2.2. A recent study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences predicts that if we warm another 4.5ºF, the ratio will be 15.
- The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) recently found that more than half of world extreme weather events investigated from 2011 to 2014 were contributed to by climate pollution. Around the world, in 2016 alone, such events (hurricanes, floods droughts, wildfires) killed at least 1,000 people, destroyed or severely crippled thousands of people's homes and livelihoods, caused tens of billions of dollars worth of damage, and are expected to contribute to millions of people's famine and displacement. (http://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release/global-climate-2011-205-hot-and-wild).

7D. Progress of the Paris Agreement

At the November international climate-change conference in Marrakech, country after country made it crystal clear that it intends to implement and strengthen the Paris Agreement, regardless of whether the incoming Trump administration stays in it or decides to leave. Not one country has said that if President Trump pulls the U.S. out of Paris, they will follow.

Numerous U.S. states, cities, and hundreds of companies have stated their determination to stay the course on climate action. More than 360 companies (including Intel, Kellogg, Starbucks, Nike, General Mills, and Hewlett Packard) sent a letter to President-elect Trump, and other U.S. leaders urging them to remain committed to the Paris Accords and to creating a low-carbon economy.

The upcoming timetable: in late 2018 (with input from a special report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), countries will evaluate the adequacy of their global warming emission-reduction commitments against the Paris temperature-limitation goals. In Paris, nations were invited to put forth, by 2020, long-term strategies outlining how they intend to drastically reduce their global warming emissions by mid-century. The U.S., Mexico, Canada, and Germany released their plans in mid-December. A need that has become apparent is to build a clean-energy infrastructure, so as to avoid getting locked into high-carbon infrastructure.

Finance for developing countries to make a low-carbon transition and prepare for the impacts of climate change continues to be a major challenge. Although a few developed countries are jointly providing over $100 million to help meet near-term adaptation and technology needs, this is by no means sufficient in scale relative to the tens of billions of dollars that the poor developing countries still require.

How might Trump withdraw us from the Paris Agreement? The accord says in its Article 28 that any country wanting to pull out, after signing on, has to wait four years. In theory, this would make the earliest date for withdrawal Nov. 4, 2020, around the time of the next U.S. presidential election. The Trump team is weighing alternatives to accelerate the pull-out: sending a letter withdrawing from the 1992 international framework accord that is the parent treaty of the Paris Agreement; voiding U.S. involvement in both in a year's time; or issuing a presidential order simply deleting the U.S. signature from the Paris Accord.

How are we doing, as of now? According to a recent paper in Nature Climate Change, the U.S. will not hit the 26-28% emissions cut that we promised last year as part of the Paris climate agreement. We would be even farther from the Paris pledge, if the Clean Power Plan were to be killed by the Trump Administration. On the other hand, additional new policies to cut greenhouse gases could bring us in line with our pledge.

7E. Limiting methane pollution from public lands

The Bureau of Land Management has finalized strong limits on the oil & gas industry's practices of venting and flaring on public lands. Venting is the intentional release of gas (methane) into the atmosphere; flaring is the burning off of gas. The limits apply to existing as well as future wells, and to tribal as well as public lands.

7F. Good-news capsules

- Between 2008-2015 (Obama years) CO_2 emissions have dropped 9.4%, while the economy has grown 10.6%. (Source: Energy Information Administration).
- Between 2008-2016, solar-energy generation has grown over 50-fold (from 865 to 45,000 thousand mwh).
- Even though the Clean Power Plan is still held up in court, the electric sector has already met the CPP's 2024 goal for slashing carbon emissions and its 2030 target for reducing coal use.

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8. THE TRUMP CABINET

Many members of the proposed cabinet could be discussed here, but we will focus on those with most potential influence over environmental and conservation issues.

8A. EPA Administrator – Scott Pruitt

As Oklahoma's Attorney General since 2010, Pruitt, a climate denier, was one of 27 AGs that sued to block the Clean Power Plan (CPP), which he calls an affront to states' rights and violation of the Constitution. Since 2002, he's received nearly $315,000 from fossil fuel industries.

As reported by the NY Times, letters challenging environmental rules sent by Pruitt to federal regulators were actually written by the oil and gas industry.

In addition to the CPP, Pruitt's other big target has been the Clean Water Rule, against which he led a multistate lawsuit in 2015. The rule expands federal protections for some 20 million acres of lakes, wetlands, and streams -- drinking water sources for 117 million Americans. Scrapping the rule is a core Republican objective.

During his confirmation hearings, Pruitt disagreed with Trump that global warming is a hoax perpetrated by the Chinese. He continued, however, to question whether the burning of fossil fuels was the primary cause, and he refused to say whether sea levels are rising.

Upon accepting the nomination, Pruitt had declared that the "American people are tired of seeing billions of dollars drained from our economy due to unnecessary EPA regulations." During his confirmation hearings, he said he would work with states and industry to return EPA to what he described as its "proper role." Pruitt could rework or rescind scores of environmental regulations officially -- or simply ease off on their enforcement. Or, EPA's budget could be cut beyond reckoning.

8B. Secretary of the Interior – Ryan Zinke

A second-term Congressman from Montana, Zinke, who has characterized climate change as "unsettled science," has advocated for increased energy (coal, oil, gas) development on public lands, while saying that he considers it prudent to include renewable sources in our energy strategy. Montana has the largest coal reserves in the nation. Zinke authored a bill that would have lifted the moratorium President Obama placed on new federal coal leases while their impact was being studied.

He has a LCV score of 3%, voting, among other things, for Congressional measures that would gut the Endangered Species Act, would dismantle, degrade or dispose of public lands, or support the Keystone XL pipeline. During his reelection campaign in the fall, he named among his priorities (though not among the highest) the protection of public lands (probably for the benefit of hunters), and the provision of more resources for American Indian tribes.

8C. Secretary of Energy – Rick Perry

While competing for the Republican nomination for president, this former governor of Texas vowed he'd abolish the Department of Energy (whose name he couldn't recall at the time). At his confirmation hearing, he said he regretted this recommendation. Also at the hearing, Perry, who had characterized climate change as a "contrived phony mess," allowed that "some of it is also caused by man-made activity." He currently sits on the board of Energy Transfer Partners, the company behind the Dakota Access Pipeline.

The Department of Energy has a serious, scientific agenda, doing respected research in physic, chemistry, materials science, and ecology, among other disciplines, and dealing with everything from building our clean energy economy to managing our nuclear arsenal. Recent DOE Secretaries have had Ph.D.s (one was a Nobel laureate). It's almost a joke (though a sad one) to think of Perry in that position.

8D. Secretary of State – Rex Tillerson

Though dealing primarily with foreign relations, the Secretary of State has great influence over decisions affecting environmental issues. Tillerson is the head of the world's 6th largest corporation, Exxon Mobil. He has worked at Exxon his entire life, since 1975. He isn't just a friend of Big Oil — he IS Big Oil. Exxon knew about climate change as early as the 1970s and spent millions over the next FOUR decades to spread climate denial and block climate action.

If confirmed, Tillerson would wield incredible power to unleash oil production around the globe: he could resurrect the Keystone XL pipeline; he could push to ease sanctions on Russia, which would benefit Exxon's oil development there; and he could pull us out of climate deals like the Paris Accords. As this is being written, there is the possibility that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee may vote against sending the Tillerson nomination to the floor.

8E. Attorney General – Jeff Sessions

Sessions is a climate skeptic and has a LCV Lifetime Score of 7%. He has opposed nearly every piece of climate change and environmental legislation since taking office in 1997. Among other things, he voted to defund solar- and other renewable-energy development, while renewing oil and gas exploration subsidies.

8F. Presidential Advisor – Steve Bannon

Steve Bannon, former editor of Breitbart News, will have one of the most powerful jobs in Trump's White House. Under Bannon's leadership, Breitbart News repeatedly referred to climate scientists as "talentless lowlives" and "abject liars." They called climate advocates "eco Nazis" and "scum-sucking slime balls;" and referred to environmentalists in general as "green-tards." Breitbart spreads the story that global warming was invented by climate activists, scientists, and clean-energy companies greedy for money and control. Bannon has labelled the government's pursuit of renewable energy "madness!"

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9. A TALE OF TWO PRESIDENTS

9A.The Obama legacy

The following is a very abbreviated list* of Pres. Obama's environmental achievements in the areas of addressing climate change and protecting valuable lands and waters.

- Facilitated the historic Paris Agreement on global climate
- His economic stimulus invested heavily in renewable energy, energy efficiency, green technology, green jobs

- Limited carbon emissions from power plants (CPP)
- Boosted fuel efficiency of vehicles
- Halted the climate wrecking Keystone XL tar-sands pipeline
- Strengthened energy-efficiency standards for appliances and equipment
- Designated more national monuments than any president in history, spanning a variety of ecosystems and important historical events; a total of over 550 million acres have thus been protected
- Permanently protected most of our Arctic and part of our Atlantic coast from ocean drilling

  * A hugely more extensive list had been available at https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-record/climate. This website was quickly deleted by the new administration, but a copy is available from TCWP.

9B. The Trump plan

[From Sierra Club]

- Back out of the Paris climate agreement
- Gut the EPA
- Dismantle the Clean Power Plan
- Weaken fuel economy standards
- Bring back King Coal
- Stop green-economy growth
- Revive Keystone XL
- Open public lands to oil & gas exploitation
- Add anti-environment Supreme Court Justices

Note: In the first hours of his presidency, Trump took down the White House's website on climate change and replaced it with an "energy plan." The plan says Trump "is committed to eliminating" the Climate Action Plan and the Waters of the US rule.

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10. OAK RIDGE AREA

10A. Greenway will not be used for powerline route

[Contributed by Doug Colclasure]

In 2012, an above-ground 69 KV power line, approximately 2 miles long, was proposed to supply power to Horizon Center, an Oak Ridge business park (NL309 ¶7). It would run alongside the Black Oak Ridge Conservation Easement (BORCE), the East Fork Natural Area (EFNA), and the North Boundary Greenway. (The EFNA is a 490-acre protected riparian area, set aside by DOE as mitigation for transferring Horizon Center to CROET. The BORCE is a 2,900-acre conservation easement given to the State of Tennessee as compensation for DOE's contamination of Watts Bar Lake.)

A number of groups and advisory boards appealed to the City of Oak Ridge & the Department of Energy, urging them to select an alternate option for adding electric service to the Horizon Center Industrial Park. Appeals came from the City Environmental Quality Advisory Board, Greenways Oak Ridge Committee, City Rec & Pks Adv. Bd, as well as TCWP, AFORR and the TWRA O.R. WMA Manager and TDEC Natural Areas Office.

A 69 kV power line along this route would have required the cutting of a 50'+ width ROW following the North Boundary Greenway through a forested canopy otherwise undisturbed for more than 70 years. On the one side of the Greenway is the East Fork Natural Area, and on the opposite side is the BORCE.

At the November 7, 2016 Oak Ridge Industrial Development Board Meeting, City Manager Mark Watson announced that the greenway route would not be used in proving additional electric service to the Industrial Park, thereby preserving the natural integrity of the greenway and adjoining areas.

10B. Parking for North Ridge Trail

To provide easier access to the North Ridge Trail, the City of Oak Ridge has constructed a small gravel parking area on Key Springs Road where it is crossed by the trail. The parking area, which is on the west side of the road, can accommodate 3-4 cars.

10C. Citizen input sought in development of "City Blueprint"

Oak Ridge officials want citizen input in developing a long-range development plan, or "city blueprint." There will be a kickoff meeting for the project on Thursday, January 26, at High Places Community Church in Grove Center, from 4 to 7:30 p.m.

According to a recent press release, "the last year has been an exciting period in Oak Ridge. New commercial buildings are being constructed in the city center, improvements in our parks and trails are on the horizon, and the National Historic Park is beginning to take shape. The Oak Ridge Planning Commission—with input from other boards, commissions, and city leaders—has decided that it is time to begin crafting an updated long-range development plan, or 'City Blueprint,' which would provide guidance in future growth and decisions. During the creation of this guiding document, it will be vital to receive input on its focus and content from the people of Oak Ridge."

Those attending the kickoff meeting on January 26 will be asked to provide information about where they live and their contact information. "Residents will be asked for feedback on what Oak Ridge is doing right, city services that can be done better, and new innovative ideas that can be implemented," the press release said. "The Blueprint will become the collective vision for our future together. The information provided will be taken, analyzed, consolidated, and fed directly into documents, which will form the new Oak Ridge City Blueprint." Everyone is encouraged to "attend the kickoff and share opinions, ideas, and dreams for the future of our great community."

For more information, contact the Oak Ridge Community Development office by phone at (865) 425-3531 or visit the planning website at oakridgetn.gov/online/2017masterplan.

11. TCWP NEWS

11A. Upcoming activities

[Compiled by Carol Grametbauer]

[NOTE: Times listed for all events are Eastern time unless specified otherwise.]

"Delights and Frights Along the Cumberland Trail" – Thursday, Feb. 2

TCWP board member Larry Pounds and his son Ben spent a month in 2012 hiking all then-existing 200 miles of the Cumberland Trail, then documented their experience in a book, Wildly Strolling Along. In a 7 p.m. program to be held February 2 in Room 102 of the First Presbyterian Church in Oak Ridge, they will share slides of their favorite sights along the Cumberland Trail and provide basic information about the Trail. They will also give a short reading from their book.

Alley Ford Cumberland Trail Workday – Saturday, Feb. 18

A day of trail work and hiking will take place on the 2.5-mile section of the Cumberland Trail at the Obed Wild and Scenic River between Nemo Picnic Area and Alley Ford adopted by TCWP in 1998. Participants should dress appropriately for winter weather, wear sturdy shoes or boots, and bring work gloves, loppers, small bow saws or folding saws, shovels and grubbing tools, as well as a lunch and plenty of water. Some tools will be available at the event.

Participants can meet for carpooling in Oak Ridge at the Gold's Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot (meet at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's) in time to leave Oak Ridge at 9 a.m. Eastern, or they can join the crew at Nemo Picnic Area or Rock Creek Campground at 10 a.m. We expect to return to the trailhead by around 3 p.m. (NOTE: If the weather is uncooperative -- excessive rain or snow and ice -- we will reschedule for February 25.)

Participants will need to sign a National Park Service volunteer form (parent's or guardian's signature required for minors). Forms can be requested in advance from TCWP, or NPS representatives will also have forms available at the event.

Spring Cedar Barrens Weed Wrangle® – Saturday, March 4

(Contributed by Jimmy Groton)

We will conduct our spring invasive plant removal at the Oak Ridge Barrens on March 4 as an official Weed Wrangle®, an invasive plant removal project coordinated by The Garden Club of Nashville and Invasive Plant Control, Inc. This is the first year TCWP has been a partner in this program.

The Barrens, a Tennessee State Natural Area, is located next to Jefferson Middle School in Oak Ridge. Its management is a joint project of the City of Oak Ridge, State Division of Natural Areas, and TCWP. One of only a few cedar barrens in East Tennessee, the area is subject to invasion by Chinese lespedeza, Japanese privet, autumn olive, mimosa, Nepal grass, multiflora rose, and woody plants that threaten the system's prairie grasses.

Volunteers should meet at the Jefferson Middle School parking lot next to the baseball field at 9 a.m., with sturdy shoes or boots, loppers, hand saws, weather-appropriate clothing, snacks, and water. TCWP will provide other tools and work gloves. Our efforts will eliminate shade-producing plants, benefiting the native prairie grasses and three rare plants. Volunteers will be treated to pizza following the event at around noon. The day's activities should conclude by 1 p.m.

For additional information, please contact Tim Bigelow, TCWP's Cedar Barrens steward, at (865) 607-6781 or at bigelowt2@mindspring.com.

Obed Trash Collection - Saturday, March 25 (See also ¶2E)

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

TCWP is working with Obed Wild and Scenic River to organize a down-river clean up trip on Obed on Saturday, March 25. The park will provide at least two oar-frame rafts with guides to transport garbage collected by the group.

Participants need to be experienced whitewater paddlers with the requisite skill to negotiate the park's streams and possessing the appropriate boats, gear and clothing necessary to do so.

Should Mother Nature not cooperate with the river trip, we will travel by car and foot to more remote river access sites and clean the trash there.

TCWP has secured a raft with a limited number of seats available for this event.

If interested in participating, please contact Sandra by Saturday, March 19.

Additional information on all TCWP activities may be obtained from TCWP Executive Director Sandra K. Goss at Sandra@sandrakgoss.com or at (865) 583-3967.

11B. Recent events

[Compiled by Carol Grametbauer]

TCWP Annual Meeting – Saturday, November 12

Thirty-five people, including a number of long-time board members and officers, turned out to mark TCWP's 50th anniversary at the annual meeting, held at Cumberland Mountain State Park. TCWP co-founder and board member Liane Russell, who was the organization's first vice president, kicked off the program, noting that two of the other original officers were present: Ruth Young, secretary; and Jean Bangham, treasurer. Reid Gryder, who served as vice president in 1974, was also at the meeting. Dick Lorenz,

TCWP's first president, had hoped to attend but was unable to be there. Lee read the names of the other first board members, and of board members from the first 10 years. She said Charlie Klabunde, who passed away in 2015, was the longest-serving officer, serving as treasurer for more than 30 years.

Current TCWP President Jimmy Groton introduced our keynote speaker, Don Barger, senior regional director of the National Parks Conservation Association's Southeast Regional Office, and also a former TCWP board member. Don prefaced his remarks by mentioning that the National Park Service is marking its 100th anniversary this year; TCWP has been in existence for half of that period. During his talk he discussed the recent presidential election, pointing out that "We don't have two political parties but two divergent realities in this country," and that the environmental community has to learn how to better communicate what our values are and why they're important.

Don's talk was followed by the annual business meeting, including the election of 2017 board members and officers. Johnny Cosgrove was elected to replace outgoing board member Jamie Herold. After lunch at the State Park's buffet, 12 meeting-goers left for a hike at Brady Mountain; five went on an outing to Ozone Falls.

Southern Environmental Law Center Program on Coal Ash Disposal – Tuesday, November 29

About 35 people came out to hear Amanda Garcia, a staff attorney in the Nashville office of the Southern Environmental Law Center who focuses on energy policy in Tennessee, discuss the SELC's current work on coal ash issues.

The Bull Run Fossil Plant sits at the confluence of the Clinch River and Bull Run Creek, with the drinking water intake for the West Knox Utility District just over a quarter-mile downstream from several of its ash pits. Garcia discussed TVA's current plan to close Bull Run's existing unlined coal-ash pits in place, capping them and leaving them indefinitely, as opposed to closure by removal. She outlined the pollution and risk involved with this closure method, the role of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation in reviewing TVA's plans and addressing the pollution at Bull Run and other sites, and opportunities for the public to weigh in.

TCWP Holiday Party – Thursday, December 8

Once again we had a wonderful turnout for our holiday party, held at the home of Jenny Freeman and Bill Allen in Oak Ridge. This much anticipated get-together annually provides us with the opportunity to celebrate the holiday season with other TCWP members and special guests in the relaxing setting of Jenny and Bill's beautifully decorated home, while enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts. As always, our sincere thanks to Jenny and Bill for hosting this popular event each year!

11C. Margaret Olson's poetry

Unbeknownst to us all, Margaret Olson (formerly married to Jerry Olson), who served on the TCWP Board in 1988 and 1989, was a poet. After her death in March 2015, her daughters discovered a collection of her poems, which they have recently published in a book entitled West of Yesterday. As they note in the Foreword, Margaret's creations reflect "a deep love of nature and wry flashes of humor." They have presented a copy of the book to TCWP. Anyone wishing to borrow it should contact Sandra at 865-583-3967, or Sandra@sandrakgoss.com. Anyone wishing to own a copy should call Margaret's daughter Karen E. Olson at 850-575-5625.

11D. Thanks, and a tip of the hat to …

--Jean Bangham, John Bates, Bob Compton, Katherine Hensley, Dick Raridon, Marti Salk, and Michele Thornton for their help in preparing the TCWP Newsletter for mailing.

--Don Barger, Chuck Coutant, and Sam Suffern for serving on the TCWP Nominating Committee. Chuck Coutant was chair.

--Ann and Mark Bevelhimer, Chris DeRolph, Cindy Kendrick, Natalie Landry, Jan Lyons, Lee Russell, Michele Thornton, and many others for help with Community Shares events and groups. These efforts contribute to the "sweat equity" TCWP must provide to be a member of Community Shares in good standing.

--Don Barger for providing an uplifting message at the November 12 Annual Meeting.

--Tim Bigelow for leading an outing to Brady Mountain as part of the Annual Meeting.

--The 2016 TCWP Officers and Directors, Jimmy Groton (President), Mark Bevelhimer (Vice President), Carol Grametbauer (Secretary), Tim Bigelow (Treasurer), Susan Donnelly, Jamie Herald, Larry Pounds, Lee Russell, Michele Thornton, Hannah Tippett, and Warren Webb for their leadership throughout the year.

--North Ridge Trail Stewards Jo Ann and Ray Garrett, along with North Ridge Trail section adopters Jean Bangham, Tim Bigelow, April Dixon, Jimmy Groton, Hal Hoyt, Jan Lyons, Butch Newton, Liz Norred, Dennis Wolf, Julie Wolf, and Harold (Duck) Waddle.

--Amanda Garcia, Southeastern Environmental Law Center, for her very interesting presentation about TVA's coal-ash policy, particularly at Bull Run Steam Plant.

--Jenny Freeman and Bill Allen for extending outstanding hospitality for the legendary TCWP Holiday Party.

--Jimmy Groton and Larry Pounds for their leadership of the January Whites Creek Trail outing.

11E. Friends and members in the news

[Compiled by Sandra Goss]

--Joe Feeman penned articles about his Norway travels in the November 9 and December 21 issues of the Norris Bulletin.

--Chief Ranger Matt Hudson is quoted extensively in an article about climbing at the Obed WSR in the November 13 and December 2 issues of the News Sentinel.

--State Naturalist Randy Hedgepath is mentioned in the November 14 News Sentinel article about Tennessee waterfalls.

--JoAnne and Ray Garrett are pictured at ADFAC's Celebration and Fundraiser in the October 27 Oak Ridger.

--Jeff Mellor's Letter to the Editor about Knox County teacher recruitment appeared in the November 28 News Sentinel.

--Harriett McCurdy's letter to the editor about sentencing reform appeared in the December 6 Oak Ridger.

--Pat Morales wrote a letter to the News Sentinel editor on December 8. The letter was about a proposed strip mine in Claiborne County.

--Don Barger was quoted in the December 8 News Sentinel article about the Department of Interior ban on surface mining on North Cumberland ridgetops.

--Mark Campen was featured in an article in the December 15 Knoxville Mercury about conservation efforts at Turkey Creek.

--Dawn Coppock penned a letter to the editor of the December/January Garden and Gun Magazine about southern poetry.

--The December 16 Oak Ridger carried a report about Manhattan Project National Historic Park superintendent Niki Nicholas's comments to the Oak Ridge Lions Club.

--Axel Ringe penned a letter to the editor of the December 20 News Sentinel about TVA's possible purchase of wind power.

--Mary Headrick's letter to the editor of the News Sentinel about Trump's nominees for key departments appeared on January 2.

--Articles about the Oak Ridge YWCA in the December 20 Oak Ridger and the December 30 News Sentinel quoted Neil McBride extensively.

--A photo by Clark Annis showed a kayaker going down Ozone Falls, and was published in the December 30 Crossville Chronicle.

---John Byrd and Clinch River Environmental Studies Organization (CRESO) were featured in an article in January/February Tennessee Conservationist.

--Rita Harris wrote a letter to the editor of the Commercial Appeal about Scott Pruitt, nominee to head the EPA. It was published January 7.

--Several friends were mentioned in the January 15 News Sentinel story about the Children's Museum gala that was themed "A Tribute to the National Parks—a Centennial Celebration," including Don Barger, Veronica Greear, Charlie Hensley, Niki Nicholas, Rich Norby, and Ellen Smith.

--Mary Ann Crowe wrote a letter to the editor of the January 18 News Sentinel about privatization of state park management.

11F. Executive Director's Column

Dear TCWP Friends,

Thanks so much for the many good wishes sent my way after my appendectomy. My recovery has been complete and speedy.

The transition to 2017 has provoked reflection, planning, and reporting. Some years-long efforts, particularly the Lands Unsuitable Petition, came to fruition during 2016. Other efforts, such as the campaign for Wilderness Designation for six special places in the Cherokee National Forest, did not succeed.

In light of current events based in Washington, one struggles to sustain a good attitude. I've always set great store by humor, grace, dignity, and bravery as core values. To these I need to add optimism and steadfastness.

It's likely that frequent telephone calls to our senators and representatives will be needed. Please join me in resolving to make our voice heard by our elected and appointed leaders. Those of us who favor clean air, pure water, and adequate habitat for all creatures must work together to educate our leaders and their staffs about the threats inherent in proposed policies. We must speak as one in support of adequate protection of our lands and waters.

Let's get these numbers on speed dial: Sen. Lamar Alexander 202-224-4944, and Sen. Bob Corker 202-224-3344. Be sure you're enrolled for our TCWP E-lerts so you can know the latest.

Meantime, let us all get outside as much as we can. TCWP has trail or wild area maintenance events each month from now till summer. I encourage you to join us at one of these events.

Thanks for all you do to Take Care of Wild Places.

Sandra

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12. CALENDAR; RESOURCES

•• CALENDAR

(For more information, check the referenced NL item; or contact Sandra Goss, 865-583-3967, or Sandra@sandrakgoss.com)

- January 26, Oak Ridge, "City Blueprint" meeting (see ¶10C, this NL).
- February 2, "Delights and Frights Along the Cumberland Trail" (see ¶11A, this NL).
- February 18, Alley Ford Cumberland Trail Workday (see ¶11A, this NL).
- March 4, Spring Cedar Barrens Weed Wrangle® (see ¶11A, this NL).
- March 25, Obed Rafting Trip with Trash Cleanup (see ¶11A, this NL).
- April 19, Rugby, Scientific Research Meeting for the Cumberland Plateau (see ¶2C, this NL).

•• RESOURCES

- More information about the Southern Environmental Law Center's work in connection with coal-ash disposal (see ¶11B, this NL) is available at southernenvironment.org/cases-and-projects/coal-waste.
- A new edition of Paul J. Adams' *Mount LeConte* has added photographs and an introduction and notes by Ken Wise and Anne Bridges. Published by the University of Tennessee Press.

"The world is a dangerous place to live, not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it."
-- Albert Einstein

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Hannah Tippett .....Director
Warren Webb.....Director
Sandra Goss .....Executive Director

Coming Events (see page 11 for details)

February 2 - Larry and Ben Pounds program "Delights and Frights on the Cumberland Trail"
February 18 (snow day February 25) - Alley Ford Section of Cumberland Trail workday
February 20—TCWP Program Committee meeting

March 4 - Spring Oak Ridge Cedar Barren Weed Wrangle
March 25 - Obed River Clean up

Action Alert (details on page 5)

Call Senators urging NO repeal of Antiquities Act