

TENNESSEE CITIZENS for WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 203

February 12, 1995



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Star in margin means "Action Needed." Don't be overwhelmed – check the ACTION SUMMARY!

10. ACTION SUMMARY

No.	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or Action
1A	Clear Creek dam proposal	TVA and RECD TCWP	"(a) Put me on mailing list; (b) provide long comment period; (c) designate meaningful study area!" Ask us to notify you of hearings, etc.
1C	Obed General Mgmt. Plan	W.T. Brown, NPS	"Thanks for excellent document!"
2B	Golf courses in state parks	Sundquist; Dills (TDEC)	"Rescind golf-course contract!"
2C	Cumberland Trail		Attend Feb. 25 meeting
3A	Champion's operations	TCWP	Volunteer for committee
3B	Wolf River land acquisition	Sundquist; Dills (TDEC) Gary Myers, TWRA	"Allocate funds without delay!" "Cut little or no timber from area!"
3D	Abandoned stripmines	US Rep and Senators	"RAMP program needs adequate funding!"
4A	Logging around Wilderness	Supervisor Ramey US Rep and Senators	"Cancel timber sales in compts. 347, 352, 369!" "Intervene in timbering plans! Sponsor a wilderness bill!"
5A	Parsons Branch Road	Supt. Karen Wade	"Under Devt. Concept Plan, study alternative uses!"
7A	Onslaught on envtl. laws URGENT!	US Rep and Senators	"Oppose HR 9 and similar Senate bill!"
7C	Arctic Natl. Wildlife Refuge	US Rep and Senators	"Support Roth/Vento bill for ANWR wilderness!"
8A	March and April activities	TCWP	Participate in activities; bring friends

Senator John Doe
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

Governor Don Sundquist
State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243-9872
615-741-2001; Fax 532-9711

Dear Senator Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Congressman Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Gov. Sundquist
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. OBED RIVER AND WATERSHED

A. Clear Creek EIS becomes Regional Water Supply Project

For the past 2-3 years, we have been deeply concerned about the uncoordinated proliferation of existing and proposed water-supply reservoirs on the Cumberland Plateau -- most recently, Otter Creek dam and the proposed Clear Creek and Crooked Creek dams (see also ¶1B. below). The multiplicity of such reservoirs has a cumulative effect on the water flow (as well as the water quality) of rivers that we are dedicated to protecting -- the Obed, Big South Fork and their tributaries.

We were most gratified, therefore, that our efforts have finally resulted in agency decisions to generate a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for one of these proposals, an EIS that promises to have broad implications. The proposal for the Clear Creek dam (NL191 ¶1B; NL193 ¶2A; NL195 ¶2A; NL198 ¶2A), for which the Catoosa Utility District is seeking Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) funding, provoked the outrage of a large number of people (members of TCWP, the Friends of the Obed Network, NPCA, and others). Incredible amounts of mail started pouring into agency offices (one official recently described it as "a bushel-basket-full"). This outpouring of sentiment, along with the contacts we made with key agency personnel, were major factors in the decision to generate a full EIS and in determining the process by which this is to be done.

The Rural Economic & Community Development Agency (RECD), which is FmHA's parent agency, recently contracted with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to do the EIS for what is now known as the Catoosa Utility District Regional Water Supply Project. TVA has experience in region-wide (not just local) water-resource planning, has no vested interest in building the Clear Creek dam, and has actually authorized \$100,000 of its own money for the study. TVA, and RECD have the status of joint lead agencies in the study.

A steering committee, made up of representatives of organizations with an interest in the project, met in Cookeville on December 15 to make suggestions about the process. TCWP and NPCA were represented by Joan Burns and Don Barger, respectively. The following are the major conclusions from this meeting (as summarized by TVA and RECD), plus comments on the meeting

summary that we subsequently transmitted to TVA and RECD.

- The study area was delineated as including the boundaries of water utilities operating around and between Jamestown, Monterey, and Crossville. We have urged that the study also include boundaries of utilities that could clearly interact with these (e.g., the Crab Orchard Utility District, which is building a 120-acre water-supply reservoir on Otter Creek).
- A full range of alternatives will be considered. We were pleased that the initial listing includes waterlines to Watts Bar, Center Hill, and Dale Hollow Reservoirs. Each of these has the potential of providing long-range solutions to the Plateau's water needs.
- Responding to the invitation to identify issues, we supplied the following:
 - (a) An overriding issue is protection of the water supply of the Obed National Wild & Scenic River, the bottomline being the non-impairment standard in the 1916 National Park Service Organic Act (i.e., maintaining the resource "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations").
 - (b) Because a Clear Creek reservoir would stimulate development around it, it must be questioned whether a reservoir project designed to supply current water customers will not be partially used up by the population growth that would be stimulated.
 - (c) Also, because of the development bound to occur around the reservoir, an important issue to be considered is sewage -- specifically, the impact on ground-water supplies of septic systems located in the local geology.
 - (d) The impact on endangered and threatened species is an issue.
 - (e) Potential interactions with utility districts outside the study area might alter feasibility projections for various alternatives, e.g., by spreading the costs of waterlines over a larger base.

Any day now, the Federal Register will publish the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS. A public Scoping Meeting will be held about 4 weeks after the Notice of Intent is published. Please look for the notice in area newspapers, and plan to attend the meeting!!! Alternatively, leave your name and phone number on the TCWP-office answering machine (481-0286) and we'll notify you as soon as we have the date. There will be a time for written comments after the scoping meeting.

* WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Write identical letters to (1) Tom Mayberry, Jr., Rural Economic & Community Development, 3322 West End Avenue, Suite 300, Nashville, TN 37203,

Feb 28, 6pm CST, Crossville, Cumberland County Courthouse

and (2) Jack Davis, Water Resource Projects and Planning, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37902-1499.

Make the following points about the Catoosa Utility District Regional Water Supply Study:

(a) Request that you be placed on the mailing list of interested persons to receive all future announcements and information connected with the proposed project.

(b) Urge that the period during which written comments are accepted after the Scoping Hearing be at least 60 (and preferably 90) days. Many people in a wide geographic area, who have a vital interest in issues affecting the Obed, need to be given time to find out about the project and to comment.

(c) Stress that the study area must include a large enough region of the Upper Cumberland Plateau to be able to examine all alternatives. Only thus can interrelated needs, problems, and solutions be identified.

(d) Leave your name and phone number with TCWP (481-0286, or 482-2153) if you wish to be notified about dates of hearings, deadlines, and other matters.

B. Obed watershed impoundments

As part of the Catoosa Utility District Water Supply project (1A, above), TVA has recently completed an inventory of impoundments in the Obed River watershed. The inventory, which was based on combined topographical map records and 1994 aerial photography, cataloged 2,903 impoundments. While many of these are small farm or private ponds, about two dozen are of significant size. In aggregate, the impoundments were found to cover 3,818 acres. (Note: the 120-acre Stone Lake, an Otter Creek impoundment currently under construction - NL182 11A; NL190 12C), will bring the aggregate close to a round 4,000 acres).

TVA also cataloged the years in which the impoundments were constructed, and divided the period into three parts: pre-1976, 1976-1987, and 1988-1994. Significantly, by far the largest increase in construction activity was found to have occurred in the most recent period. Clearly, the time is ripe for overall water-resource planning for the region, and we hope that the study reported in 1A, above, will make a very good start in this direction.

C. We comment on good Obed GMP

January 30 was the deadline for commenting on the Obed Wild & Scenic River, Tennessee, General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (GMP, for short). We commended the National Park Service

(NPS) for the highly professional and thorough manner in which the 161-page document was produced, and for the numerous opportunities for public input into the GMP process that were provided along the way and in which we participated.

The GMP delineated two alternatives, A and B, with A constituting NPS' proposed course of action. We unequivocally supported NPS in their choice of A. Underlying this alternative is a management-zone system based on resource protection and visitor experience (as opposed to Alternative B, where management zones are based primarily on land-ownership patterns). The two management zones designated are the Wild Zone and the Development Zone. Within the Wild Zone, any development must be limited to existing bridge crossing areas.

A salient feature of Alternative A, which we enthusiastically applauded, is a single developed overlook, to be located at Lilly Bluff. This decision is supported by the Wild Zone criteria, as well as by the results of a special study. (By contrast, Alternative B would build a major developed overlook at the Obed/Clear Creek junction, which is not a bridge-crossing area and which would result in a visual intrusion from the river for boaters and hikers.) We also applauded making Obed Junction and Norris Ford accessible by trail (Alternative A), rather than by motorized vehicles (Alternative B).

Alternative A also proposes a series of important boundary adjustments that would add critical lands to the Wild & Scenic River area, including the mouths of 4 tributaries, a stretch on the north side of the Obed that was inadvertently omitted from the original boundary, extension of the boundary upstream to Adams Bridge on the Obed and 6 miles upstream on Daddys Creek, and additional land at Lilly Bluff (we urged that even more land be added at Lilly Bluff to accommodate a trail and a buffer zone). Many of these adjustments could be accomplished by administrative action alone.

We also strongly supported proposed studies that might clear the way for further boundary adjustments, which would require legislative action. These include additions of segments of the Emory, White Creek, and upstream portions of Obed and Clear Creek.

We were very pleased to find that Alternative A of the GMP places a good deal more emphasis

than had been given in an earlier draft on the need to maintain water quantity as well as quality. (See ¶18. above, on proliferation of impoundments in the watershed) Alternative A wisely recommends basin-wide/regional comprehensive water-resource planning. -- Among several other features of Alternative A that we strongly supported was changing the language of both existing and new easements so as to do away with current loopholes that are damaging the resource.

There were only a few features of the GMP for which we suggested improvements. Most important, in our opinion was that more stringent objectives be set for water quality. NPS should formally urge the State of Tennessee to classify the Obed and its tributaries as "Outstanding National Resource Waters." (see ¶2D, this NL.). We also cautioned against over-development of trails.

A recent Open House (info session) about the GMP, held at Obed HQ in Wartburg, attracted 36 people, almost all of them enthusiastic about the Plan. Among the visitors was Jack Copeland, Rep. Zach Wamp's field director, who was impressed by the high level of interest.

*** WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Although the comment deadline has passed, it is not too late to congratulate NPS on an excellent document, and to concur with them in the choice of Alternative A. Write to W. Thomas Brown, Assoc. Regional Director, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service, 75 Spring Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

D. To protect land along White Oak Creek

Barbara Staggs of Historic Rugby is engaged in a major effort to raise about \$90,000 to pay off loans that made possible protective land purchases along White Oak Creek and tributaries. White Oak Creek, a major tributary to the Clear Fork (one of the two main stems of the Big South Fork) enters the BSNRRA boundary very close to Rugby. Of about 151 acres acquired, 100 acres will remain undeveloped, except for a hike/bike trail along the old Allerton Ridge Road. In the remaining 51 acres, future developments will be permitted provided they have no negative impact on White Oak Creek and are seen as vital and feasible by both Historic Rugby and the TN Historical Commission.

2. TENNESSEE: DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION ISSUES

A. New Commissioner of Conservation

Governor Don Sundquist has appointed Don E. Dills as his Commissioner of Environment and Conservation. Dills, a Businessman-Farmer from Dyersburg, with strong ties to the Tennessee Farm Bureau, served in the Tennessee House of Representatives in the 1980s. Deputy Commissioner is Ollie Keller. For the Department of Agriculture, which includes the Division of Forestry, Sundquist had earlier announced his choice of Dan Wheeler as Commissioner (NL202 ¶2A). Wheeler has worked for the Tennessee Farm Bureau since 1964, and most recently was the Farm Bureau's chief administrative officer.

In the past, the powerful Farm Bureau has frequently -- and often successfully -- worked against environmental initiatives, such as wetlands protection, strong water-quality standards, and various natural-areas-protection initiatives; it has been a prime mover in advancing the agenda of the "wise use" and property-rights movements, e.g., in pushing "takings" legislation last year. It is to be hoped that, as the heads of two major government departments, the new Commissioners will permit philosophies besides those of the Farm Bureau to enter into deliberations and decision-making.

B. Golf courses don't belong in state parks!

On January 26, TCWP filed a complaint in Nashville Chancery Court against the State of Tennessee for its recently signed contract with Golf Services Group, Inc. of Houston, TX. Our reasons:

(1) State parks are there to provide for such "public goods" as protected natural, cultural, or historical resources, nature-observation opportunities, hiking, picnicking, relaxation in scenic natural settings, etc. The free-enterprise system does not provide these, but it can and does provide for "private goods" such as golf courses. Around Panther Creek State Park, one of the four parks slated to receive a golf course, there are already 30 courses within a 50-mile radius, including one just 4 miles away. In the close vicinity of Cumberland Mountain State Park (near Crossville), there are 9 courses.

(2) Golf courses would consume scarce and significant open-land resources in parks. Further, they open the door for other inappropriate developments in or close to the parks (e.g., a water park has already been proposed for Crossville).

(3) In signing the contracts with Golf Services, the State is taking serious financial risks. The law that authorized the State to issue a \$20 million general obligation bond (i.e., debt) against the cost of building the golf courses requires that there be a prior determination to the effect that sufficient revenue would be generated by the developments to cover cost of operation, maintenance, and debt service. It seems, however, that the State took the developer's word for this, and did not make independent projections. The lease runs for 25 years, with an extension of 15 more years at the option of the developer; the State cannot renegotiate the contract during this period. If the golf courses are financially successful, the developer (who does not have to buy the land nor pay for construction) reaps a profit windfall. If they are not, the developer is obligated only up to a limit of \$2 million (1/10 the debt assumed by the State for building the courses), and the State is stuck with repaying the bond.

(4) Revenues generated from the >\$28 greens fees and other golf-course fees will NOT return to the State Parks system; they will be used only for paying off the \$20 million bond issue. Incidentally, most private golf courses in the state charge a greens fee close to \$16/round.

By filing the complaint in court, we hope to buy time within which to convince the Sundquist administration to rescind the contract. A fiscally conservative state government should seriously consider whether scarce funds should be used to guarantee a risky private-profit-making venture or might be better spent on improving schools, for instance.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write, call, or fax the following and ask them to honor their commitment to fiscal responsibility by rescinding the golf-course contract signed by the McWhorter Administration.

- (a) Gov. Don Sundquist (see p.2);
- (b) Don Dills, Commissioner, TN Dept. of Environment & Conservation, 401 Church St, L&C Tower, Nashville, TN 37243-0435, Ph. 532-0109, Fax 532-0120.

C. *Efforts to revive the Cumberland Trail*

The Cumberland Trail (CT) is one of several State Scenic Trails designated by the State Trails Act of 1971, and the only one that has been developed to any significant extent. At one time, over half the trail (5 sections) was in place. The trail's projected path runs along the eastern edge of the Cumberland Plateau, all across the state, from Cumberland Gap to Chattanooga.

Unfortunately, the CT — along with the entire State Trails System — has fallen on hard times, partly as a result of apathy and parsimony on the part of state government. The important State Trails Administrator position was eliminated some time ago. The portion of the CT north of Oliver Springs has, furthermore, suffered from hostile feelings that were stirred up in some of the local residents during the dispute over a proposed large landfill.

The leadership of Tennessee Trails (TTA), the organization that has done much to develop the CT, is interested in pursuing efforts to revive the trail. To this end, they are hosting a gathering on Feb. 25, 7 pm (Central Time) at Cumberland Mountain State Park to discuss this initiative. We urge interested TCWP members to attend this gathering. For further information, contact TTA President Rob Weber (269 Harpeth View Trail, Kingston Springs, TN 37082, Ph. 615-952-2949).

D. *Tennessee Water Quality Standards were a compromise*

Tennessee Water Quality Control Board (WQCB) Chairman James Haynes recently responded to a letter from TCWP that regretted WQCB's failure to adopt their staff proposal for strengthening the Antidegradation Statement of the State Water Quality Standards (NL202 §2B). The chairman's letter concedes that "the majority of comments may have favored the staff proposal," but notes that "a number of others argued persuasively for modification." We have, in fact, heard by the grapevine that groups like the Tennessee Municipal League and the Farm Bureau stood ready to scuttle the entire process, and that Mr. Haynes deserves credit for salvaging as many of the staff proposal's features as were retained.

Even though the proposed tier system for classifying streams was not adopted *per se*, the WQCB agreed with the *concept* that while all of Tennessee's waters deserve protection, some should be designated for a higher level of protection. This is a significant improvement over the existing rule.

However, in the new rule adopted by the WQCB, in contrast to the staff proposal, no specific streams were identified as high-quality water and the designation process must now proceed on a case-by-case basis. Because the provision whereby the public could nominate rivers was also scrapped, it will now be a matter of the staff making recommendations to the WQCB about selected rivers to be classified as Outstanding National Resource

Waters. Mr. Haynes writes: "Citizen input to this process may be facilitated by supplying, in written form, candidate streams and water bodies to the Division of Water Pollution Control for staff consideration." TCWP plans to pursue this avenue.

E. *Status of Tennessee Rivers Assessment*

About 4 years ago, TCWP (Jerry Freeman) and TSRA (Bill Allen) were instrumental in getting the State to initiate a rivers assessment, and they managed to get foundation money (Lyndhurst) for this project (NL186 ¶4B). The information-gathering effort has made considerable progress. Here is the latest information (records are classified into "recreational boating" and "scenic qualities").

	River miles assessed	No. records in database
(a) Boating	4462	1607
(b) Scenic	7888	2326

No. of total participants to date: 196

The total number of miles assessed has almost quadrupled since our last report 8 months ago (NL199 ¶7A). But this effort still needs our help; to make sure your most beloved rivers are in the database, call David Duhl (615-532-0438) or Betsy Bunting (532-0435). You will be asked to answer a few short questions.

3. OTHER STATE ISSUES

A. *Champion plans to log 10,000 acres/year*

Champion International Paper Co., which in July acquired 85,000 beautiful acres of forest land in Campbell, Anderson, and Scott counties, is locating a chip mill ("wood fiber processing plant") in Campbell County. For the anticipated air emissions, Champion applied for – and received – a permit from the Tennessee Air Pollution Control Division. The permit application states that the chip mill would process up to 256,000 pounds of timber an hour, a quantity which translates into 3-4 acres of logging an hour, or 10,000 acres per year.

Doug Murray, on behalf of several organizations (including TCWP) sent a formal request to have the permit revoked on two grounds: (a) that the application contained incomplete information (namely, "intuitive" statements rather than facts about the fugitive dust that would be generated; no mention of combustion and dust

emissions from hundreds of daily heavy-truck trips needed to load the logs); and (b) federal funds may be involved in the mill operation (e.g., participation of federal-agency personnel on Champion's corporate advisory board; maintenance or reconstruction of roads damaged by hundreds of heavy-truck trips daily).

TCWP and SOCM have teamed up to take a proactive stand in letting Champion know about our interests and concerns for the land (NL200 ¶7B). Doug Murray, a member of both TCWP and SOCM, and Maureen Cunningham, TCWP Board member, compiled a database of all the endangered, threatened, and rare species that are found on the land. A list of these species, with their locations and status, has been sent to Champion International, and will be kept updated by us.

Additionally, SOCM members are conducting a water-quality study (pH, iron, and manganese) for streams that contain rare aquatic species, and for streams where acid mine drainage is now or could in the future become a problem. These data will also be sent to Champion. The organizations plan to identify areas that they believe should be declared as lands unsuitable for clear-cutting, and have asked Champion for timely notification of any areas that are slated to be logged.

Instead of spending money on slick commercials, Champion could earn public good will by taking concrete actions showing responsiveness to our concerns. In particular, they could participate in locating areas most in need of protection, and declare these areas unsuitable for clearcutting. Additionally, they could take the longer view of developing and utilizing alternate fiber sources. Champion could also be forthcoming on the question (NL202 ¶1C) of whether clear-cutting will be followed by a mega-dump.

Champion's operations in Campbell, Anderson, and Scott counties, have been the impetus for bringing people and groups together to discuss strategies and positions. Linda LaForest and Jenny Freeman attended these meetings on behalf of TCWP in January. We hope very much that we'll be able to form a committee of additional TCWP members who take an active interest in this issue. Please call Joan or Linda at the TCWP office (481-0286).



B. *Wolf River Conservancy purchase*

Can the State machinery be made to budge before it is too late? At stake are 4,055 acres of high-value forested wetlands that border the last

unchannelized headwaters of a West Tennessee river. The pristine cypress swamps have been compared to Okefenokee. Unless current protection efforts are successful, this land, presently owned by the Beasley estate, goes on the auction block on February 25, where it will probably be sold to a large timber company that plans to log it and then subdivide it.

Of the purchase cost of about \$4 million, \$2 million are supposed to come from the Wetlands Acquisition Fund (the money is "in the bank"), but the State is terribly slow in allocating the money (remember how we almost lost Pickett? - NL196 ¶3). TWRA (Tenn. Wildlife Resources Agency), which would manage the entire area, is to contribute an additional \$1 million (money to come from sale of timber from the land - see below). The remaining \$1 million is being raised by the Wolf River Conservancy, with time being bought through a loan promised by the Conservation Fund - provided the State allocates the wetlands funds prior to the deadline.

D. *The future of RAMP*

Under the terms of the 1977 federal stripmine law, the Rural Abandoned Mine Lands Program (RAMP) is funded by a trust fund fed by a small per-ton fee on currently mined coal. Despite this provision, money must each year be appropriated by the Congress, and the levels have been way below what's available in the fund (note parallelism with the Land & Water Conservation Fund, NL197 ¶6B). For FY 1995, RAMP received \$7.85 million (nationwide), only just over half the FY 1994 level (and the cut would have been even greater had it not been for the efforts of Sen. Sasser). In Tennessee alone, there are over 46,000 acres left to reclaim. In addition to being eyesores, these "orphan mine" sites are causing continuing environmental devastation (stream pollution, land slides), and their restoration would significantly help the economy of the counties, which are among the most economically depressed ones in the nation.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Contact your representative and senators (addresses on p.2) and urge that the RAMP program be adequately funded in the FY 1996 budget.

4. CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST

A. *Big Frog timber sales must be stopped*

As is so often the case in land/water protection issues, imminent irreversible destruction threatens to preempt the probable salvation that is just down the road. A new Cherokee National Forest Management Plan is just 2-3 years away (¶4B, below), and emerging philosophies about national forest management objectives (e.g., the ongoing Southern Appalachian Assessment - see ¶4C, below) make it likely that additional areas in the Cherokee will receive protective classifications such as "backcountry," "primitive area," or "scenic backdrop." Prime among such areas will be the perimeter of the Big Frog Wilderness.

The ca. 1-mile wide strip that lies between this designated Wilderness and the surrounding perimeter roads and powerlines is ecologically, scenically, and visually inseparable from Big Frog (7 trails into the wilderness cross the strip) and provides important bear habitat. It is, however, classified as part of the general-forest zone and thus subject to timbering. Six timber cuts are currently planned in the perimeter strip; at least some of these entail clearcutting and conversion to pine plantations. Additional timber sales are on the planning schedule for the next three years.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** (1) Call Gov. Sundquist (615-741-2001) and Commissioner Dills (615-532-0109) and urge that the wetland funds be allocated without further delay. (2) Write to Gary Myers, Chairman, TWRA, PO Box 40747, Nashville, TN 37204, supporting TWRA's contribution of \$1 million, but urging that little or no timber be cut from the area. For any further information, contact Larry J. Smith, 4819 Barfield Rd., Memphis, TN 38117; 901-685-5643 (h), 901-452-6997 (w).

C. *Exotics threaten natural areas*

Hundreds of thousands of acres of natural areas in Tennessee are threatened by invasion of exotic species. While kudzu, Japanese honeysuckle, and purple loosestrife may be the best-known, numerous other invasive mile-a-minute plants also have devastating effects on natural biodiversity. At risk are a large number of State Natural Areas, 63 TVA Natural Areas, portions of federal areas (such as the Smokies, Cherokee NF, Big South Fork NRR, Obed WSR), and lands owned and managed by private conservancy or land-trust organizations.

The Tenn. Exotic Pest Plant Council (TN-EPPC) was recently formed to raise public awareness on this issue and facilitate exchange of information on management and control of exotics. TN-EPPC will hold its second annual symposium in Nashville, April 7-8 (see ¶9, this NL for details).

These "harvests" would occur just before and during the 1996 Summer Olympics that include whitewater events on the Ocoee River (just north of Big Frog). This circumstance reinforces the conclusion that cutting this timber does not make sense, even from a purely economic point of view. The timber sales will be "below cost" (i.e., they cost the tax-payer more than the amount of money that is generated by the sale). On the other hand, recreation is a potential revenue maker, according to studies conducted in connection with the Olympics. Destruction of forest quality will result in diminishing the area's attraction for future recreationists that will learn about the Cherokee from floating the Ocoee, or attending the Olympics events.

The Big Frog Wilderness and the adjacent Cohutta Wilderness form one of the largest roadless areas in the East. In the original proposal for wilderness boundary, which included all of the forested area within the Big Frog perimeter road, the forest stands that are now threatened would have been protected. Unfortunately, their inclusion was blocked by special interests on two occasions.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- (1) Write to Forest Supervisor John F. Ramey (Cherokee NF, PO Box 2010, Cleveland, TN 37320) and urge him to cancel timber sales in Compartments 347, 352, and 369. Further, in Compartment 347, Stand 10 (cove and upland hardwoods), and in Compartment 369, Stand 9 (white pine), should be inventoried as Old Growth stands for future designation. Point out that the Big Frog perimeter is sure to get high priority for "backcountry" or "scenic backdrop" classification in the upcoming Forest Mngt Plan and should be managed as such in the interim. Point out, also, that two of the threatened forest stands have been inventoried as roadless areas on Forest planning maps; provided the USFS follows the law, this should mean that they cannot be timbered without full EIS. Send a copy to the Chief, Southern Region, US Forest Service (1720 Peachtree Rd, NW, Suite 951, Atlanta, GA 30367).
- (2) Using some of the points made in the above article, write to Rep. Wamp and to Senators Thompson and Frist (addresses on p.2) and urge them, (a) to intervene in the timbering plans, and (b) to sponsor a bill that would incorporate the perimeter into the existing Big Frog Wilderness. Currently, less than 10% of the Southern Appalachian forests are designated wilderness, yet the public demand for such areas is growing rapidly.

B. Cherokee NF Plan revision

To provide a basis for the upcoming Forest Management Plan revision, the Cherokee National Forest is in process of compiling various resource inventories, which will be used to develop a geographic information system (GIS) data base. Inventories currently in progress are as follows:

1. Roadless areas that meet the definition of wilderness as defined in the 1964 Wilderness Act
2. Older forest community resources
3. Lands tentatively suitable for timber production

Two open houses will be held on these three topics, as follows:

Feb. 21, 5-8 pm, Cleveland, TN Holiday Inn (I-75 exit 25);

Feb. 22, 5-8 pm, Johnson City Sheraton Hotel (Roan St exit off I-181).

Both open houses will be informal. For more info, call Reese Scull or Sam Brocato, 615-476-9700.

C. Southern Appalachian Assessment

A joint-agency process, the Southern Appalachian Assessment (SAA), is proceeding in parallel with -- and will feed into -- revisions of National Forest Management Plans for the region. The SAA, which covers a region extending between the Potomac River and the NE corner of Alabama and northern Georgia, will support and facilitate ecosystem management decisions to be made in Management Plan revisions for the National Forests lying within this area. This, of course, includes the Cherokee National Forest.

The SAA is being conducted by SAMAB (Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Cooperative), an organization of Federal and State agencies. SAA's goal is "to facilitate management by providing comprehensive ecological, social, and economic data as a foundation for natural resource management." In response to sentiment expressed at public meetings during the summer of 1994, SAA will include in its studies a more explicit consideration of the role of recreation.

The assessment teams recently created for the SAA process are as follows:

1. Air
2. Water
3. Terrestrial:
 - A. Forest health
 - B. Plant and animal resources

4. Social, cultural, and economic
 - A. Roadless Areas/Wilderness
 - B. Recreation
 - C. Timber

Citizens are invited to attend working meetings of the assessment teams and may join with questions or comments. The charter and workplan for Team 3B, which will include such topics as threatened and endangered species and rare/unique biological communities (e.g., old growth, migratory songbirds), is available by calling Glen Gaines, USFS Regional Office, Atlanta 404-347-4084.

D. Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition

The forests of Southern Appalachia constitute one of the two most diverse ecoregions in the United States, and they are among the most diverse temperate forests in the world. The national forests in the region should provide excellent opportunities for protecting remote, undisturbed, forest habitat. On the contrary, the US Forest Service continues to manage these valuable lands primarily for timber production at the expense of native biological diversity.

The strategy of the Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition (a consortium of national and regional conservation groups) is to take an active role in the Forest Management Plan revision process that will occur over the next few years (see ¶4B and ¶4C, above). Biological information will be developed critical natural areas will be identified, and pressure will be brought to have these sites protected in the Forest Plans. The Coalition (temporary phone 804-977-4090) is currently recruiting an ecologist to perform some of these tasks (see ¶9, this NL).

E. Court rejects our challenge to Forest Plan

TCWP was one of five organizations that appealed the Cherokee National Forest Management Plan, and that (when the appeal was only partially settled) brought a court challenge to address the important issues of biodiversity protection, road construction and logging in roadless areas, and protection of visual quality. The lawsuit was filed by the Southern Environmental Law Center, SELC (NL185 ¶7A).

The court, not ruling on the merits, recently threw out our case on the basis of "standing" and "ripeness." The groups were deemed not to have standing because they were not directly harmed by the management plan (a very narrow view, indeed). The challenge was not deemed to be ripe because the Forest Service will be undertaking revisions that

might improve the Plan (the court's ruling now highlights the need for such major changes). SELC is studying the feasibility of an appeal of the court's ruling.

6. SMOKIES

A. Parsons Branch Road

Among the roads that sustained major storm damage in the spring of 1994 was Parsons Branch Road, which connects Cades Cove with US 129. The road had been used as a one-way, low-standard, seasonal road, only infrequently driven by Park visitors.

The current impassability of the road provides an opportunity to study alternative uses under the Development Concept Plan for the Cades Cove Area that is now in progress. Given this opportunity for re-evaluation, we have expressed the view that the use of emergency construction funds to rebuild the Parsons Branch Road is premature. Currently, the road separates a 186,000-acre roadless area north of Fontana Lake from a 40,000-acre roadless area west of Cades Cove and Rich Mountain. The re-evaluation study we are supporting should consider the present scarcity of large roadless areas in the Southeast, and the value of gaining a larger roadless area by not rebuilding the Parsons Branch Road for motorized traffic.



To comment on this issue, write to Supt. Karen Wade, Gt. Smoky Mtns. National Park, 107 Park HQ Road, Gatlinburg, TN 37738.

B. Status of the Abrams Creek/Chilhowee Mountain purchase

The FootHills Land Conservancy (FLC) did not quite reach its goal of raising about \$13 million in time for the December 31 deadline to purchase 4,600 acres of land from ALCOA. The Conservancy had to spend an additional \$50,000 to purchase a 6-month extension of the option. The land stretches from Abrams Creek (at the border of the Gt. Smoky Mtns NP), across Happy Valley and Morton Bluff, over into the Tennessee Valley; 300 acres would be given to the Park, the remainder to TWRA (NL200 ¶4B).

Now, another \$185,000 needs to be raised by the end of June. This includes (in addition to the remaining acquisition funds) the money for the option renewal, plus a sum to replenish FLC's depleted operating funds and reserves. Since the start of the campaign, the FLC has received money or pledges from 2,300 donors in 32 states (one

anonymous donor from Chattanooga has offered to match up to \$40,000 donations from school children). However fewer than 01% of East Tennessee residents have contributed thus far -- so talking to your friends and neighbors should help. Contributions can be sent to Foothills Land Conservancy, 352 High Street, Maryville, TN 37804, Ph. 615-681-8326

TCWP members contributed over \$7,100 (including \$1,000 in TCWP matching funds) at our well-attended 10/24/94 meeting on the subject during the weeks following (we thought we'd do well to raise \$2,000!). Many thanks to all of you who contributed so generously!

6. TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

A. TVA's Shoreline Management study

In June and July of 1994, TVA held 13 public meetings to solicit input on the way the agency should manage its reservoir shoreline (NL199 ¶5B; NL200 ¶6B). About 2,000 people participated (1,200 at the meetings and 700 through written or phone communications), and their comments are currently being reviewed. In addition, TVA has small teams at work to research answers to specific questions, and is getting input from other government agencies. A draft Environmental Impact Statement will be generated in which alternatives are described and evaluated.

We have received a report of the Knoxville meeting, which was attended by 87 people, including a number of TCWP members (NL200 ¶6B). The largest percentage of comments was in the category "environmental protection," with many participants concerned about shoreline erosion, loss of wildlife habitat, and removal of vegetation. TVA invites questions, suggestions, concerns, or additional comments; call 1-800-TVA-LAND.

B. Power-plant pollution reduced

TVA's power-plant system includes 59 units at 11 stations. Among these, the largest are the two 1,300-megawatt units of the Cumberland Steam Plant (NW of Nashville). These units emitted an annual 470,000 tons of sulfur dioxide into the air (which makes acid rain). Now, TVA has installed scrubbers at both units, cutting emissions to 30,000 tons (6% of the former amount). By so doing, TVA has exceeded the 1995 Clean Air requirements, commendably without buying pollution credits from other utilities (a procedure permitted under the latest version of the Clean Air Act). The SO₂ taken

out by the scrubbers is retained in a limestone slurry that may be marketable as gypsum for wall board, etc.

While the scrubbers have helped the acid-rain problem, many other problems of coal-fired power plants remain. Nitrogen oxide and other pollutants are still being emitted; coal is still being stripmined to feed the plants. The Integrated Resource-Planning (IRP) process that is currently under way to define TVA's power agenda for the next 25 years will hopefully look at solutions such as demand-reduction and alternate energy sources.

C. Mussels on the decline

Indigenous mussels are the prime indicators of the health of a river system. The Tennessee River system -- which has more species of native freshwater mussels than are found on any other continent -- used to be outstanding mussel habitat, but no longer. Originally, the river system supported 100 species of mussels, of which 40 were not found in any other state. After decades of dam building (flow and temperature changes), land clearing (siltation), and industrial and residential pollution, there are now only 50 of the 652 miles of the main Tennessee River that contain abundant mussel stocks. Several mussel species are now federally listed as endangered or threatened.

While it may be difficult to reverse conditions on much of the main Tennessee River, there are constant opportunities to protect our tributary streams, which are (were?) equally rich in mussels. Anytime a developer or dam proponent makes fun of a mussel with a funny name, remember that he is talking about the prime indicator of the health of the river.

7. NATIONAL PROBLEMS

A. EMERGENCY: H.R. 9 -- the worst bill in decades

Congress could vote in a matter of weeks on an Act that would sweep away virtually every barrier that now shields us against rampant logging, polluted air and water, and dozens of other environmental threats. This blueprint for environmental destruction is buried inside the fine print of H.R. 9, innocently named the Job Creation and Wage Enhancement Bill, which was part of the Contract with America. Note that the Contract, widely advertised before the election, never mentioned the word "environment." The sponsors knew that Americans would not -- and did not -- vote against the environment on Election Day. Even

Business Week magazine is calling the Job Act a "stealth environmental policy" that amounts to "a guerrilla war on green laws." Unless we do something about it, this bill could be enacted without Americans even knowing that it exists.

This is such an emergency, that we hope all of you will take action, and below we suggest easy ways for you to do so. First, here's a summary of what H.R. 9 would do.

- It would stop any regulations from being written if their combined cost exceeds a certain amount to the "private sector." It disregards the unmeasurable benefits of protecting public health and living in a beautiful environment.
- It creates a new entitlement program that will compensate any individual who demonstrates even a 10% reduction in property value or water rights that may result from a law. This means paying polluters not to pollute. Other nightmares: an individual could, for example, propose a huge development on wetlands, not because he actually wanted it, but just so he could collect "lost property value" due to wetland protection laws.
- It creates panels of "outside experts" (employed by the polluters) with veto powers over new environmental rules.
- It requires an elaborate array of new analyses to be done on virtually every federal regulation, and allows any person who is "adversely affected" by a rule to challenge it in court by attacking the analyses. Courts would be flooded by industry lawsuits whose real objective is simply to block environmental laws.
- It creates huge loopholes by which state and local governments can get out of implementing national environmental laws (e.g., the Clean Water Act) if the federal government does not pay the total cost of implementing the law. Further, states would not be required to control pollution that affects downwind or downstream states.
- It gives environmental violators an arsenal of new weapons with which to dodge prosecution. E.g., the government would have to "tip off" suspected lawbreakers before inspecting them.

WHAT YOU CAN DO -- MUCH IS AT STAKE!

The message is simple: you oppose House bill H.R. 9 (the "Job Creation Act") or any Senate bill that incorporates the anti-environmental provisions of the House bill.

(1) Call to your Representative or Senator (dial the Capitol Switchboard, 202-224-3121, and ask to be connected), or fax it (call the offices of your Rep and Senators and ask for their fax number).

(2) Call or meet with your Congressman's local field representative (get number from phone info under the Congressman's name).

(3) Write a letter to the Editor of your paper, using one or more of the items of information from the above article.

B. Outlook: distinctly bleak

The new crowd taking over the Congress in 1995 may be an even greater threat to America's environment than was James Watt's taking over at the Interior Department in 1981. People did not vote on the basis of the environmental stance of candidates (in an election-night poll, 83% of voters described themselves as environmentalists); they focused on issues such as gridlock, immigration, crime, and welfare -- but the power shift has put rabid anti-environmentalists into key positions in both House and Senate. The following is a listing of chairmanships of the committees that most often deal with environmental legislation. The number preceding each name is the 1994 League of Conservation Voters score. LCV is a non-partisan organization that annually compiles an Environmental Scorecard representing the consensus of national environmental leaders.

Committee	Former Chair	New Chair
HOUSE		
Publ. Lands/Resources	92 Miller	0 Young
Transp./Infrastruct.	85 Mineta	15 Shuster
Agriculture	54 de la Garza	4 Roberts
Commerce	62 Dingell	0 Bliley
Appropriations	65 Obey	4 Livingston
Average	72	5
SENATE		
Env't/Publ. Wks	92 Baucus	85 Chafee
Energy/Nat. Res.	23 Johnston	0 Murkowski
Agric./Forestry	92 Leahy	31 Lugar
Comm./Sci./Transp.	77 Hollings	8 Pressler
Appropriations	54 Byrd	46 Hatch
Average	68	34

Not only full committees but pertinent subcommittees have fallen into the hands of rabid anti-environmentalists. Thus, James Hansen (Utah), who is chairing the House Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, has already threatened to close down a number of national park units. Incidentally, the Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, had a 1994 LCV score of zero.

With Alaskans (Murkowski, Young) controlling key natural resources committees, and Alaska's Sen. Ted Stevens chairing the Senate Rules Committee, both Alaska and public lands in general will get a

*
urgent!

lot more attention. Public land "utilization" will be emphasized, e.g., boosting logging in the Tongass National Forest, opening the Arctic Refuge to oil & gas exploitation, developing natural resources on federal lands. Other issues on Young's agenda: wetlands "reform," property rights protection, Endangered Species Act "reform."

The LCV Education Fund (1707 L St. NW, Suite 750, Wash., DC 20036) has profiled the new leadership, as well as all of the freshmen, in its recently published "The Green Book: Who's New in the 104th Congress." This useful book also contains lists of committee assignments and the full text of the Contract with America. Internet users will be able to access this information.

C. *Arctic Refuge in grave danger*

Three of the most powerful members of the new Congress are Alaskans who are avid supporters of expanding exploitation of public lands everywhere, but particularly in Alaska (17B, above). Nothing would please them more than to open the incomparable Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil & gas drilling which would devastate this fragile ecosystem. Already, the idea of *selling off* the great wilderness of ANWR to the oil industry has been launched in Congressional hearings.

ANWR, often called America's Serengeti, is home to huge caribou herds, polar bears, muskoxen, and millions of migrating birds. Bills to give ANWR Wilderness status have been introduced in past Congresses (and almost made it). Such a bill will again be introduced, with a Republican, William Roth of Delaware, as the Senate sponsor. The House sponsor will be Bruce Vento (D-MN).



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to your Senators and your Representative (addresses on p. 2) and urge them to support and co-sponsor legislation to designate ANWR as wilderness -- placing it permanently off limits to exploitation by the oil industry. -- Send a copy to Sec. Bruce Babbitt, Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Wash. DC 20240.

D. *Environmental and economic health go hand-in-hand*

A recent analysis by the Institute for Southern Studies (Bob Hall, 919-419-8311) showed clear correlation between key economic and environmental-health indicators. All 50 states were ranked with respect to 40 such indicators (e.g., business startups, annual pay, toxic emissions, spending for natural-resource protection). Nine

states scored in the top 12 on both scales, while 11 states scored in the bottom 14 on both scales (Louisiana ranked last on both lists). Conclusion: "the states that do the most to protect their natural resources also wind up with the strongest economies and best jobs."

8. TCWP NEWS

A. *March and April activities*

Worthington Cemetery, Saturday, March 4, 10 am. This will be our annual maintenance and trash-pickup day for this 29-acre natural area we had a major hand in getting designated. Meet at the Elza Gate Park at the east end of Oak Ridge. Bring work gloves and a lunch. For additional information, call the TCWP office at 481-0286.

March for Parks/Paddle for Parks, Saturday, April 22, 10 am at the Big South Fork NRR (exact location to be announced later). Mark your calendar now to participate in our annual event that raises the funds needed for water-quality/-quantity related efforts in the Park.

Incidentally, guess whose picture was featured in the National Parks & Conservation Association's March for Parks Handbook? It was the group of TCWP-sponsored hikers as they were getting ready for last year's "march" along the Clear Fork.

B. *Other activities for 1995*

TCWP activities for the months following the March for Parks are tentatively planned as follows. Updates and more detailed information will be provided in Newsletters. Non-members are most welcome to attend activities.

- May: Frog walk led by John Ayrd
- June: Bird walk led by Fred Holtzclaw, Jim and Betty Reed
- July: Haw Ridge Canoe Trail, led by Chuck Coutant
- August: Bike around Cades Cove
- September: Oak Ridge Cedar Barrens maintenance
- October: North Ridge Trail hike and maintenance
- November 10-12: Annual Weekend at Bersheeba Springs (near Savage Gulf, Fiery Gizzard, and the South Cumberland Recreation Area)
- December: Year-end social.

C. Great response to our annual appeal for contributions

Members responded with great generosity to the year-end/holiday-season appeal we mailed in December. At last count, the appeal had brought in almost \$3,700 in special donations and contributions above dues. This money is extremely important since dues alone are clearly insufficient to cover our costs of being effective. Some of the extra money will go toward lawsuits we are involved in, and some may be able to buy a little more staff time. Our sincerest thanks to all of you who made this possible.

D. TCWP to participate in regional forum

To launch a new era of park support for the Southeast (NL202 ¶7C), the National Parks & Conservation Association (NPCA), in cooperation with the National Park Service, is sponsoring a conference entitled "Citizens Protecting America's Parks: Establishing a Regional Grassroots Network in the Southeast." This will be held at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center in Atlanta, March 24-26. TCWP's executive director, Joan Burns, will attend. If you wish to join her, call the TCWP office at 481-0286, or Don Barger (SE Regional Director, NPCA) at 494-7008.

E. We thank our many volunteers

Our sincere gratitude to Jean Cheney, a new TCWP member from Pleasant Hill, who volunteered to generate sets of mailing labels for the Friends of the Obed (FoO) Network, which is coordinated by Lee Russell. This was a very much needed task and facilitates rapid communications, such as the recent one we needed to get out about the Clear Creek dam study and Obed General Management Plan.

Thanks to Fred Holtzclaw for bringing his High School Biology class to Lee Russell's January 10 slide talk on TCWP history. It was great to have a roomful of young faces to look at!

Thanks to Judith Bartlow and 10 hardy souls who braved the falling snow and icy winds on February 4 and came out for the Whites Creek Trail maintenance hike. (Wonder how many we would have had on a pretty spring day?)

Thanks also to the following members who helped assemble Newsletter 202 in December: Anna George Dobbins, Carol Helton, Frank Hensley, Eileen Neiler, Marion Roesel, Danette Salpas, Fred and Phyllis Sweeton.

F. About TCWP members

Neil McBride and Chuck Coutant will serve on this year's nominating committee.

Will Skelton, Ray Payne, and Joan Burns met on January 19 with Dean Rice, local representative of Sen. Fred Thompson, to brief him on issues dear to our hearts, such as the Cherokee NF (below-cost timber sales, insufficient wilderness), Big South Fork (acquisition funds, O&W), and Smokies (funding, etc.). They report that he asked good questions.

Ken and Helen Warren have taken on the oversight function for the >8-mile North Ridge Trail (NRT) in Oak Ridge's northern greenbelt. Development and maintenance of the NRT (which is designated both a State and National Recreation Trail) has been a TCWP activity. The Warrens are measuring the trail and its access paths, and are considering construction of a database on significant trail features.

Joan Burns and Don Barger were named to the steering committee for TVA's Cumberland Plateau water-resource study (TIA, thru NL) and attended the initial meeting in Cookeville.

Jerry Freeman will be on WUOT's Segue Program, Feb. 15, 12-1pm, discussing golf courses in state parks.

Don Barger and Lee Russell went to Wartburg in late December to meet with Obed Unit Manager Moruka Mayr on a number of topics concerning the Obed WSR.

The Outdoor Writers Association of America recently presented their top conservation award, the Jade of Chiefs Award, to Mike Frome, calling him a "senior statesman of American Conservation ... fearless and dedicated to the earth and the public good."

(Better-late-than-never department). Eric Hirst spent the year prior to June 1993 on a sabbatical in Boulder, CO, working with the Land & Water Fund of the Rockies' Energy Project. His expertise in IIRP (integrated resource planning) and demand-side management contributed to the host group, while, in turn, he gained much practical experience on interactions between environmental groups and utilities.

The 200th issue of the TCWP Newsletter was celebrated in a column by Dick Smyser in The Oak Ridger (1/1/94).

9. JOBS, ACTIVITIES, and READING MATTER

- Job Opportunity. The Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition (see ¶4D, this NL) is seeking an ecologist (to be based in Asheville) for obtaining and analyzing data, and to develop a proposal for protection and recovery of biological diversity in the area. Qualifications include: graduate degree, regional knowledge/experience, communications skills, strong commitment to forest protection. Salary up to \$35,000, plus benefits. Send letter, resume, and 3+ references to Joan Wiley, Sierra Club Regional Office, 69 Franklin Street, 2nd Floor, Annapolis, MD 21401.
- Job Opportunity. The Knoxville Zoo is seeking an Education Specialist to coordinate outreach programming. Send resume with cover letter to Education Dept., Knoxville Zoo, POBox 6040, Knoxville, TN 37914 (but first call 637-5331, ext. 352, re deadline).
- Job Opportunity. The Clean Water Network, Washington, is seeking a Network Coordinator to manage a campaign of over 500 citizen organizations working together to strengthen the Clean Water Act in Congress. This is a highly challenging, full-time job. An Assistant Coordinator for a 6-month period is also needed. For either position, fax letter of interest, resume, short writing sample and references to 202-783-5917.
- Job Opportunity. The Shaker Lakes Regional Nature Center, Cleveland, is seeking to fill its executive director position with a strong leader with environmental background. Send resume and letter to SLRNC, POBox 22522, Cleveland, OH 44122 (but first call Norma Rodgers, 216-283-1060 re deadline).
- March 4, 10 am, TCWP's Worthington Cemetery maintenance and clean-up; see ¶8A, this NL.
- March 24-26, Atlanta, GA, NPCA conference on "Citizens Protecting America's Parks: Establishing a Regional Grassroots Network in the Southeast." See ¶8D, this NL.
- April 7-8, Nashville, Second Annual Tennessee Exotic Pest Plant Symposium (see ¶3C, this NL). Call Darlen Panvini (615-312-7290) or Brian Bowen (615-532-0436).
- April 22, TCWP's March for Parks/Paddle for Parks; see ¶8A, this NL.
- April 21-23, Salt Lake City, Mining Reform Leadership Conference, to develop national strategies for federal and state mining law reform, Clean Water Act, etc. Call Jim Lyon, Mineral Policy Center, 202-887-1872.
- Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont is now accepting registrations for its environmental summer camps in the Park: Discovery Camp (2 sessions) for ages 9-12, \$195; and Wilderness Adventure Camp (3 sessions) for ages 13-17, \$250. For adults, two sessions are offered of Naturalist and Educator Week, \$230. Call the Institute at 615-448-6709.
- "Nature Quest is the name of an environmental education workshop program sponsored by The National Wildlife Fed. for teachers, camp directors, nature counselors, etc. Three-day sessions are held in Kentucky, Virginia, Colorado, and California. For info, call 1-800-245-5484.
- A new edition of *Promised Land Adventures and Encounters in Wild America*, by Michael Frome, has recently been published by the University of Tennessee Press (\$19.95, cloth, at local bookstores; or call 1-800-621-2736 for info). Mike, a member and old friend of TCWP, is the author of numerous books, including *Strangers in High Places: The Story of the Great Smoky Mountains*.
- Americans for the Environment has issued a very useful and reasonably priced series of publications. Among the titles are *Media Advocacy* (\$2), *Lobbying Strategies* (\$3), *Jobs and the Environment* (\$3), *Introduction to Fundraising* (\$2), and many others. Write or call for a descriptive list (Americans for the Environment, 1400 - 16th St, NW, Washington, DC 20036; 202-797-6665.)

