

TENNESSEE CITIZENS for WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 173

November 9, 1989

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

11. ACTION SUMMARY

No.	Issue	Contact	"Message" or Action
1	Frozen Head mining	Gov. McWherter OSM	"State should become intervenor in petition! Come to hearing Nov. 16 and/or send comments."
2A	Big S. Fork	Sens. Gore, Sasser; Rep. Cooper	"Do <u>not</u> amend Act; allow <u>no</u> additional roads in Gorge Area!"
3A	State Scenic Rivers Act	Gov. McWherter, (copy to Comm. GIII)	"I agree with Atty General's Opinion: the state should implement the Act!"
3B	State Rivers Assessment	Gov. McWherter,	"Initiate and fund this assessment!"
3C	Rivers in Cherokee NF	U.S. Forest Service	Get an input into river studies.
3C	Nolichucky proposal	Rep Quillen	"Sponsor Nolichucky WSR bill!"
4E	State Forests	Bob Rochelle	Suggest areas that need protection
5A	Endangered species mngt	U.S. Forest Service	Send comments on Red-Cockaded Woodpecker habitat protection.
5C	Natl Forest clearcutting	U.S. Rep	"Co-sponsor HR 2406!"
6A	Abandoned Mine Lands	U.S. Rep U.S. Senators	"Support HR 2095" "Support companion bill!"
8A	Amer. Heritage Trust Fund	Reps Quillen, Sandquist Clement, Other Reps	"Co-sponsor HR 876!" "Thanks for co-sponsoring HR 876!"
8B	Antarctica	Pres. Bush US Sens	"Support Antarctic World Wilderness Park!" "Do <u>not</u> ratify minerals treaty; support park!"
8C	California Desert	U.S. Rep & Sens	"Co-sponsor HR 780/S 11!"
8D	Arctic Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Rep & Sens	"Co-sponsor HR 39/S 39!"
8E	Auto Fuel Efficiency	Sen. Gore	"Support strengthening amendments for S 1224!"
8F	Tongass NF reform	U.S. Senators (copy to Pres. Bush)	"Co-sponsor S346, but include protection for wildernesses!"

Senator John Doe
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

Governor Ned McWherter
State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37219

Dear Senator Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Congressman/woman Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Gov. McWherter
Respectfully yours,

To call a Representative or Senator, dial Congressional switchboard, (202) 224-3121

To find out about the status of federal bills, call (202) 225-1772

HIGH PRIORITY ITEM

1. DECISION NEAR ON MINING AT FROZEN HEAD: YOUR INPUT IS VITAL

The Background

All of you who have visited the beautiful Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area have noticed a small stripmine scar high on the horseshoecrest of mountains that head the Flat Fork Valley. It is on the left as you approach the park, and visible from almost all view points within the park. What keeps it from growing into a full-fledged stripmine (extending for quite some distance in all directions) is a citizens' petition to designate the Flat Fork Valley as unsuitable for mining. At this time, however, there is considerable danger that the federal Office of Surface Mining (OSM) may deny this petition, and this is why we are requesting your help.

The original petition was filed 3/24/83 by three groups (including TCWP) under Section 522 of the federal stripmine law. On 4/16/84, the Tenn. Dept. of Health & Environment (DHE) -- at that time the chief regulator of surface mining in Tennessee -- ruled in our favor (NL141 ¶7). Not long thereafter, however, the legislature repealed the State stripmine law, and OSM became the enforcer of federal stripmine regulations in Tennessee. OSM refused to recognize the unsuitability determination for the Flat Fork Valley that had been made earlier by the State's DHE. Consequently, on 9/27/85 we filed another "522" petition, this time with OSM (NL45 ¶3). In September of 1988, OSM conducted a "scoping" hearing in Wartburg to determine whether to prepare a full-fledged Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a much more superficial Environmental Assessment (EA), which provides no mechanism for public input. A large crowd turned out (including quite a number of TCWP members), virtually all of them opposed to mining in the Flat Fork Valley, and calling for the full EIS (NL166 ¶1). OSM subsequently embarked on the preparation of a draft EIS, which, under the provisions of NEPA, must now be followed by public input before the final EIS is generated.

Contents of the Draft EIS

The Draft EIS is a lengthy document which, among other things, makes statements on the affected environment and the socioeconomic of the area, and analyses potential coal resources (2.5 million tons, of which, however, 0.6 million would be recoverable by deepmining from outside the petition area); designation of the area as unsuitable for mining "would not significantly influence coal price or supply in the domestic or export market." The EIS then goes on to analyze the allegations made in our petition, agreeing with several of them, but throwing out others, based on OSM's assumption that reclamation will proceed according to the regs and that it will be perfect. We know only too well that this never happens. The most cogent example is the extension around the back of Bird

mountain of the very stripmine we can see a little piece of as we approach the park. Despite the fact that this mine was reclaimed under the current regs, and supposedly under OSM supervision, a disaster area of landslides and erosion was left behind that has been photographically documented by the petitioners. OSM shrugs this off by attributing it to "improper spoil placement on the outslope" (so, what's the probability it wouldn't happen again?) It is our position that the terrain in the petition area is too steep to allow proper reclamation.

OSM does agree with some of the allegations in our petition. It agrees, e.g., that the chemistry and aquatic biota of the streams flowing into the park would be affected; that, by degrading the views from the park, mining would be incompatible with the park master plan; that mining would significantly impact the aesthetic quality of the petition area and of the park and would destroy the last remaining unmined views of the Cumberland Mountains; that water-quality impacts would eliminate the use of Flat Fork Creek as a "scientific baseline" stream; that mining-associated noise would have a noticeable impact on the solitude of the area, and that blasting would be audible in a large portion of the park; and that surface mining "could diminish" the Frozen Head recreational experience, which is unique in that no other similar lands or facilities are available.

However, OSM keeps coming back to the argument that the Frozen Head master plan is not applicable to the adjacent private land holdings which are not under the authority of the State park plan." It seems to us that OSM misses the whole point of the "522" process, which is intended to zone land-use -- analogous, perhaps, to a city's ruling that a dump shall not be allowed in the middle of a residential area, even though the land is not in the city's ownership. There is, further, a precedent for granting 522 petitions on the basis of protecting the viewshed from a park: thus, OSM several years ago designated lands unsuitable for mining because they were visible from lookouts in Bryce National Park. It might also be noted that the State had already "zoned" the Flat Fork watershed as a buffer zone for the park when it granted our 522 petition in 1984. Just a few months ago, the Tenn. Commissioner of Conservation wrote to OSM to urge that the petition area be considered as a "fragile land" based on the scientific and natural values it shares with the park -- values which cannot be separated (e.g., several species found in the park also need the adjacent forest areas for their survival) (NL 171 ¶2B).

In considering the impacts of various alternative OSM decisions on the petition, the draft EIS assumes a scenario under which 200,000 tons/year would be mined for a 5-year period from a 150-acre strip mine, after which mining would stop. (It's not clear why it is assumed to stop, since another 900,000 tons of surface reserves would remain unmined.) Under Alternative 1, the entire petition area would be designated as unsuitable for all surface or underground coal mining operations, while, under Alternative 4, underground mining would be

permitted. Alternative 2 would designate none of the petition area as unsuitable for mining. Alternative 3 would designate parts of the area or some of the usages; three sub-alternatives (3a, 3b, and 3c) are considered.

Although the draft EIS does not explicitly come out for any one of these alternatives, contacts with OSM appear to indicate that the agency favors Alternatives 3a and 3c. 3a would protect a sliver of mountainside immediately adjacent to the western park boundary, and including a couple of creeks that drain into Flat Fork within the park boundary. The entire remaining mountainside, more than 80% of the petition area, would remain unprotected, including Bird Mountain, on which the presently-halted mine is located. 3c would include the area designated under 3a, as well as all the lands underlying Tenn. Dept of Correction property (i.e., the prison you pass on your way into the park). About half the mountainside would remain unprotected, again including the area on which the presently-halted mine is located.

The State position

It is clear from the draft EIS that OSM does not consider the petition area to be part of the park's master plan. Yet, the Commissioner of Conservation has stated (see above) that the petition area shares inseparable values with the park and must be considered fragile lands. And the Commissioner of Health and Environment ruled in 1984 that the petition area should be designated unsuitable for mining. What is needed at this time is for the State to become an *official intervener* in the petition process, thus joining the three groups that filed the petition. Gov. McWherier must be convinced to do so.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- (1) Write Gov. McWherier (address on p.2) and urge him (a) to designate the petition area as an *established park buffer zone*, and (b) to have Tennessee become an *intervener* in the petition to have the Flat Fork Valley designated unsuitable for coal mining. Send copies to your State legislators (addresses in TCWP Political Guide).
- (2) Comment on the draft EIS, orally and/or in writing. Help us have a good turnout at the hearing which will be held Thursday, November 16, 1989, 7 pm EST at the Central Elementary School, Warburg. A very simple oral statement is all that is needed at that time, stressing that you favor Alternative 1, and giving one or two reasons. If you would like to carpool, call David Adler 482-1274, or Jenny Freeman Johnson 577-5219. Regardless of whether or not you attend the hearing, you can send written comments by Dec 11 to the Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation, 530 Gay Street, SW, Suite 500, Knoxville, TN 37902, attention Willis L. Gainer. Be sure to mention that your comments refer to the Draft Flat Fork, TN, PED/EIS.

2. BIG SOUTH FORK AND OREED

HIGH PRIORITY ITEM

A. *Renewed pressure for roads in gorge must be conducted*

Once again, the Scott County Commission has passed a resolution requesting the Congress to allow additional roads into the Gorge Area of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. Because it took the Corps of Engineers 14 years after passage of the authorizing legislation to acquire road rights-of-way in the BSFNRRA, the issue grew out of proportion in the minds of a few of the local people and went on to fester. Though three of the counties (Fentress, Pickett, and Morgan) have been perfectly happy to indicate they had no interest in any Gorge roads, the two others (Scott and McCreary) have oft and on agitated about the road question, and there have been unpleasant exchanges between various people.

The law that authorized the BSFNRRA established two management zones, the Gorge Area and the Adjacent Area (uplands). While various sorts of development are permitted in the latter, the Gorge Area is to be maintained with the least possible amount of man-made intrusion; mining, drilling, timber cutting, structures, and motorized land or water vehicles are expressly barred. The legislation did, however, permit 11 species of road crossings or river accesses (6 in TN, 5 in KY), including 7 that involve the BSF itself and 4 that involve major tributaries. These 11 vehicular accesses or crossings provide ample opportunities for people of all types to visit or use the river. Any more accesses -- and certainly any roads running any distances within the gorges -- would destroy the feeling of wilderness and solitude that makes the BSF such a valuable resource in the first place.

Finally, in 1988, the Corps issued a Declaration of Taking for the Scott and McCreary County roads in the BSFNRRA, making it clear that all Adjacent Area roads that appear on 1988 County road maps would be kept open. All gorge roads, except those specified in the legislation, would be closed in the spring of 1990. Scott County now wants Congress to amend the law so as to keep 5 of these gorge "roads" open (several of them are, in fact, little more than trails). Not only did the Scott County Commission pass such a resolution, but they also authorized the County Executive and another County official to travel to Washington to lobby Rep. Cooper and Sens. Sasser and Gore on the subject.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: High priority

It is very important that this push to degrade the Gorge Area be neutralized. The additional roads would destroy the very values that the law

attempted to protect, and which make the BSNFRRRA unique. People from all over the USA come to the Area because of these values, and eventually (we hope) the county politicians, too, will recognize this. The law that established the BSNFRRRA was very carefully crafted, with input from a lot of diverse interests. Opening it up for a roads amendment seems almost unthinkable. PLEASE, write a short note to Senators Gore and Sasser and to Rep. Jim Cooper (addresses on p.2) and tell them NOT to open the Act for amendments, and especially, not to allow the gorges to be degraded by the addition of roads (we've got 11 already!) Your letter can be very short, but please don't fail to write.

B. The BSNFRRRA Deferred Areas problem

The problem of Deferred Areas (NL172 ¶1) has been with us for several years now. They are major and important portions within the authorized boundary of the BSNFRRRA that the Corps of Engineers decided were not subject to land acquisition, until conditions radically changed. First, the Corps was waiting for the authorized spending limit to be raised (since all the money had been used up for BSF developments, instead of land acquisition). Then, when the limit was raised, this was done as part of a bill that contained complex requirements for local cost sharing for water projects (e.g., dams); the Office of Management & Budget (OMB) and the Corps interpreted these provisions as applying to BSNFRRRA land acquisition. It became apparent that two steps were needed before Deferred Areas could be acquired: (a) removal of the cost-sharing requirement for this project, and (b) an appropriation for federal acquisition.

In the midst of the overall problem, a specific crisis arose: within the largest and most significant and beautiful one of the Deferred Areas (surrounding North Whiteoak Creek and its Laurel Fork) was a 900-acre tract whose owners wanted it logged and perhaps otherwise developed without delay. This threatened to produce a domino effect that could impact a very major portion of the area. Several avenues for trying to avert this crisis were explored by us and the Park Service (NL172 ¶1).

Now we may have a slight reprieve in the immediate crisis, while the efforts to solve the larger, overall, problem continue undiminished. It seems that the timber company that was said to have made an offer on the tract is not interested in pursuing this for the time being, giving us a little more time to work out solutions. A couple of approaches are being tried in parallel. One is to convince the Administration to drop its interpretation that the cost-sharing provision applies to the BSNFRRRA. In fact, this interpretation is clearly erroneous on several grounds, not the least of which is that aprior

Act of Congress clearly exempts National Recreation Areas from cost sharing. A number of prominent people have tried to get OMB to change its mind, among them former Sen. Howard Baker (who was so effective in getting the BSNFRRRA established in the first place), Sen. Sasser (chairman of the Senate Budget Committee), and high officials in the Dept. of the Interior. No positive response has to date been obtained from OMB.

The second approach being considered is to bring about at this time the transfer of the BSNFRRRA from the Corps of Engineers to the National Park Service (NPS) -- a procedure called for by the authorizing legislation for a time when the Area is "substantially" complete. This would place authority for the remaining land acquisition into the hands of NPS. Because NPS, in general, has very little money to do all it needs to do nationwide, this approach would be effective *only* if it were coupled with an appropriation of *new* money, specifically earmarked for BSF Deferred Areas acquisition. Our Senators are convinced of the urgent need to do something effective and do not, at this time need a large outpouring of letters from us. You may wish, however, to thank them for continuing their efforts on behalf of the Deferred Areas.

C. Obed compounds

- The Unit Manager of the Obed Wild & Scenic River, Walter Mayer, was named superintendent of Fort Donelson National Battlefield, and assumed his new duties on Oct. 1. Mayer was the first ranger to be assigned to the Obed, 11 years ago, and subsequently became Unit Manager. Until a replacement is made (probably not before December), Frank Doughman is Acting Unit Manager.
- Acquisition is proceeding carefully because NPS loses its authority to condemn after more than 50% of the authorized acreage has been purchased. The effort is therefore to try to buy from the potentially most difficult sellers first (in case condemnation should be needed), and leave the willing ones to the end. Sen. Sasser has requested an acquisition update from the SE Regional office of NPS.

3. RIVERS IN TENNESSEE

A. Will the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Act be implemented?

Three months ago, Tennessee's Attorney General issued an Advisory Opinion on the 1968 State Scenic Rivers Act (SRA). According to this Opinion, the Commissioner of Conservation has a legal responsibility (which, for 21 years has not been exercised) to establish boundary areas along

state scenic rivers, within which boundaries land-use restrictions will apply (see NL172 §2A for examples). The Opinion further finds that the Commissioner's designation of boundaries and the resulting land-use restrictions are a valid exercise of the state's authority to regulate land use and do not constitute a "taking of private property" for which the state would have to pay the landowner. However, the SRA encourages the Department to acquire -- through voluntary sales (condemnation is not permitted) -- easements (preferably) or fee title to preserve the natural environment within the boundaries of the system.

The Tennessee Scenic Rivers Advisory Council (TSRAC), a group that was created to examine SRA implementation after the Collins River was amended out of the system, met in September to consider the Opinion. Subsequently, they wrote a letter strongly urging the Commissioner of Conservation to proceed expeditiously with the designation of boundaries for each stream in the system. The letter also points out that, in the past, opposition to specific rivers remaining in the SR system had been the result of the State's failure to nurture local grassroots support. Members of the Council offer their assistance in identifying local interested groups and in working with these groups.

At the TCWP Annual Meeting on Sept. 23, Bob Allen, the Dept. of Conservation's Scenic Rivers Administrator, summarized the Attorney General's Opinion and we spent some time discussing follow-up actions. Like the TSRAC, we felt that there was an urgency to secure local grassroots support. We suggested that local advisory councils be set up (and discussed their possible composition), that the DoC add at least one staff person to work full-time with these local councils, and that the Commissioner of Conservation write immediately to County Commissions in affected counties to state that it was his intention to work through local councils.

Unfortunately, none of this is happening. Instead, DoC once again appears to be running scared of possible actions by certain powerful members of the legislature. A DoC letter was sent out to legislators of affected districts, asking for their views on the Opinion but making no mention of DoC's intention to work with local councils. The big fear in the DoC is that legislators who have been negatively lobbied about the Opinion will simply scuttle the entire Tennessee Scenic Rivers Act. This eventually could possibly be postponed by having the whole matter referred to a legislative study committee. [In fact, the Opinion is being viewed quite favorably in certain districts; thus, there was a very supportive article on the Hatchie River in the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*.]

A meeting was organized at DoC in early November with the Farm Bureau (a very powerful lobby in the General Assembly) and the Forestry Association, groups that are vocal about government "taking away the rights of individuals" by regulating land-use, even in a limited way. No representatives of the environmental community were asked to attend this meeting. We would suggest that the Farm Bureau be asked whether they feel certain river segments are worthy of protection. If they say "no," let that be known to the world. If they say "yes," they should be asked to come up with proposals for effectively doing so.



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Gov. McWherter (address on p.2) and send a copy to Commissioner E. Gill (Tenn. Dept. of Conservation, 701 Broadway Nashville, TN 37219). We need an outpouring of letters. Express your support of the Attorney General's Opinion. Tell him that Tennessee is fortunate in still having beautiful rivers, but that these must be protected. The State Scenic Rivers Act gives us an excellent vehicle for doing so, if only DoC will finally (after 19 years) implement it. The regulation of land use is a valid exercise of the State's authority (and is done all the time, e.g., when the State seeks to build roads or bridges), and in the case of the rivers can be done with local advice and support. -- If you live in a district that contains a State Scenic River (call us if you are not sure), send a similar letter to your state legislators.

B. Statewide Rivers Assessment is needed

Staff of the Depts. of Conservation and Health & Environment, and of the Tenn. Wildlife Resources Agency, have been working to generate a proposal for a Statewide Rivers Assessment. The National Park Service's Technical Assistance Branch would provide help for such an assessment. Recently, Gov. McWherter approached TVA to determine whether that agency would like to join in the effort which, he believes, would "increase public awareness of the value of river resources to the state." McWherter's letter also states: "My experience with the Clinch and Powell initiative and the Pigeon River problem ... have demonstrated to me that Tennesseans have strong feelings about the protection and preservation of our river resources."

TVA responded favorably to the Governor's request and offered a number of its resources that would be highly valuable to the rivers assessment. This was several months ago. The ball is now in the State's court as regards actually starting the project and funding it for 1990. With the current rapidly growing development pressures on our rivers, the undertaking would be timely indeed.



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Gov. McWherter

(address on p.2) and urge him to initiate and fund the statewide rivers assessment for which both TVA and NPS have already offered assistance

C. Cherokee NF rivers are candidates for National Wild & Scenic Rivers System

The Cherokee is the only eastern national forest in which rivers have been designated as candidates for possible inclusion in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System; nine rivers are affected. This candidate status was achieved as a result of the review of US Forest Service land-management plans by two national environmental groups (NL171 ¶4A). At the TCWP Annual Meeting on Sept. 23, Steve Hendricks of the Cherokee NF listed the 8 rivers that are eligible for formal study: the Conasauga, Doe, French Broad, Hiwassee, Little Tennessee (what's left of it), Ocoee, Tellico, and Watauga. Each study, including preparation of an EIS, is estimated to take about 2 years. We don't know which of these studies are being conducted simultaneously (if any).

A ninth river, the Nolichucky, has already been studied and recommended for National Scenic River status. We urge those of you who know the Nolichucky to analyze the USFS' study recommendations (are the boundaries extensive enough? is "Scenic" the best designation?) and to share your opinions with us. [Contact Steve Hendricks, Cherokee NF, PO Box 2010, Cleveland, TN 37311, Ph. 615-476-9700 to request a copy of the study report.] To convert an administrative recommendation into an actual designation requires an Act of Congress, and thus support of the district's US Representative. In the case of the Nolichucky, that's Jimmy Quillen. We urge all of you who live in Congressman Quillen's district to ask him to sponsor a bill making the Nolichucky part of the national System.

As regards the other 8 candidate rivers in the Cherokee NF, all interested persons should get an input into the studies as early as possible to ensure that the maximum river mileage is being considered and that no attributes are being overlooked. Contact Mr. Hendricks at the above address.

D. EPA issues final permit for Pigeon River

On September 25, EPA issued an NPDES permit to Champion International Corp (to become effective Oct. 25), which has only "minor changes from the tentative determination previously announced [in the draft permit]." i.e. virtually none of the modifications requested by persons testifying at the March/April or July/August hearings were made by EPA. One monitoring station was added and one sampling condition was set.

After repeatedly denying it in the past, Champion finally admitted in August that dioxin is

being discharged by the Canton mill. In its final permit, EPA set a dioxin limit (to be achieved by 6-2-92) but did not adopt the suggestion by the Dead Pigeon R. Council that dioxin levels be measured in fish rather than in water. However, the final permit does require Champion to develop a Plan of Study (due 12-23-89) to assess dioxin levels in ambient fish tissues on an annual basis. Another major concern expressed at earlier hearings was that the permit does not specify a set schedule of incremental improvements to be made during the 3 years in which Champion must come into compliance with EPA limits. Though the final permit still does not specify such a schedule, it requires the first of Champion's 6-month status reports to identify major milestones.

After the permit was announced, Champion's president, who had stated repeatedly that compliance with the permit would mean the loss of 1,000 jobs at the Canton mill, said that he did not now expect any significant lay-offs. Nevertheless, one day before the permit was to go into effect, Champion filed an appeal with EPA, contesting the discharge limits. The Dead Pigeon River Council (DPRC), which does not have the financial resources to go to court, filed a motion requesting a hearing on specific provisions of the permit. Champion said it would drop its appeal if EPA refused the DPRC's request for a hearing. By the end of November, EPA must decide whether or not to forward the appeals to an administrative law judge. Consideration by such a court could take months, and during this review the contested portions of the permit (in this case, the bulk of it) are suspended. -- Gov. McWherter has been quoted as saying that Tennessee would not appeal the permit unless the Pigeon R. is not cleaned up by the end of the 3-year period.

4. OTHER TENNESSEE ISSUES

A. How can we get Natural Areas funding?

Many natural areas in Tennessee are highly worthy of protection, but the funds available for acquiring and managing them are limited indeed. How to increase such funds and how to prioritize their expenditure were among the issues discussed by Ben Smith, Dan Eagar, Paul Somers, and Jeff Sinks at the TCWP Annual Meeting. During the Alexander Administration, \$2 million per year were appropriated for three years in a row to the Sale Growth Fund, available for acquisition of areas of natural or cultural significance. No further such appropriations have been made under McWherter, and there are only \$500,000 of the \$6 million left. This money has already been earmarked for acquisition of a few areas, including Short Springs Window Cliffs, and Burgess Fall expansion.

Another possible source of funding is the Natural Resources Trust Fund, established in 1985 as a result of the efforts of Charles Howell, Commissioner of Conservation under Gov. Alexander. This Fund is fed by revenues from the sale of State-owned non-renewable resources, such as minerals, or real estate (timber is excluded). The interest from this Trust Fund may be used for land acquisition, for the development of outdoor recreation facilities, or for the preservation of historic or archeological properties. Currently, the corpus of the Fund is over \$2 million (generating about \$200,000 in annual interest), and \$414,000 in interest has accumulated to date. How will this money be spent? Some constituencies, e.g., the Tenn Recreation and Parks Assoc (TRPA), are pushing for expansion of recreation facilities (lighting of ballfields?). It will require an effort by those of us concerned about natural areas preservation to get some of the money used for land acquisition.

The Environmental Action Fund (the lobbying arm of the Tennessee environmental movement, of which TCWP is a member) is considering support of legislation that will provide new natural areas funding (§4G, below). At this time, matters still under discussion are what revenue sources to tap (abandon issue? a tax on certain purchased items? a fee?), what to fund (only natural areas? or also greenways, urban open space, etc.), and what legislative vehicle to use.

For both, the existing money (Heritage Trust) and the new money that might come from legislation now being drafted, decisions have to be made regarding apportionment, (a) between natural areas protection and other possible uses, and (b) between a large number of natural area candidates. Areas with scientific significance are being inventoried through the Protection Planning effort, while areas with scenic or recreational value are brought to the State's attention by the public. Among sites of equal biological significance, preference is now given to those that have local support (usually, scenic sites).

B. ~~Protect the buffers around public lands~~

It is becoming increasingly evident that, as recommended by the Governor's Commission on Tennesseans Outdoors, protective buffers must be established around public lands. In the case of Savage Gulf, for example, developments could now occur right on the rim of the gorge and easily visible from within it. We learned at our Annual Meeting that there are \$500,000 in the capital budget of the Dept. of Conservation for acquisition of "defensible boundaries." (Another sum we have heard rumored is \$1,500,000. That would be good news indeed!) A bill has been drafted by the Tenn Recreation and Parks Assoc (TRPA) that would provide a

mechanism for limiting land use in buffer zones around not only state-owned but also federal publicly-owned resource lands in Tennessee. TCWP is in touch with TRPA about strengthening this bill.

C. State acquisition of wetlands

In 1986, the Tennessee legislature passed the Wetlands Acquisition Act, which created an acquisition fund from a small increase in the real-estate transfer tax, and designated the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) as the implementer of the law. Ben Smith reported at the TCWP Annual Meeting that a Wetlands Task Force has been created and that an Acquisition Plan is under development. While TWRA's main wetlands focus is on waterfowl and hunters, many of the lands that will be acquired also have considerable value as natural areas. More than 70% of the State's wetlands are in West Tennessee; to help get the support of East Tennesseans, the Legislature this year passed an amendment that allows the Wetlands Fund to be used for purchase of the 40,000-acre Koppers Property in Claiborne County -- not a wetland. While hunters are again the primary constituency, it is safe to assume that in a tract this large there are bound to be areas of biological significance.

D. A significant wetlands acquisition

The Tennessee Nature Conservancy has provided significant assistance in the establishment of the Chickasaw National Wildlife Refuge, located in Lauderdale County along the Mississippi River. The area has been characterized as possibly the most outstanding wetland habitat remaining in Tennessee. Its preservation is particularly significant in view of the fact that bottomland hardwood forests in the Lower Mississippi Valley are disappearing at a rate of 250,000 acres per year. TNC has pre-acquired tracts in the area for the US Fish & Wildlife Service, which has been authorized to utilize money generated by the sale of federal duck stamps for eventual federal purchase of the Refuge. In addition to providing habitat for large populations of wintering waterfowl, Chickasaw NWR supports many other species of wildlife. The Refuge currently extends over 15,000 acres, and is expected to grow in the future.

E. State Forest management planning

The DoC's Division of Forestry has been very open to input on the Natchez Trace and then the Prentice Cooper Forest Management Plans. Large numbers of people turned out for the Prentice Cooper hearings (NL169 §4B) and urged that major emphasis be given to habitat protection and to nonconsumptive outdoor recreation, that timber harvesting be barred from the viewshed of the Tennessee River Gorge, and that, elsewhere in the

Forest clearcutting be kept to an absolute minimum or abolished altogether. The Penrice Cooper Management Plan was released in September and, while representing an improvement over previous management, turned out not to be the "radical departure" that we had been led to expect. Several parts of the 24,000-acre Forest, including the Tennessee River Gorge, have indeed been designated for low-intensity management (little or no timber harvesting), but about 70% of the area (over 16,000 acres) is open to the full range of multi-use activities, which include clearcutting.

Even a moderate amount of receptivity by the Forestry Div. to values other than board-feet of timber is, however, encouraging news. We must persevere in bringing these values to their attention. If you feel that certain specific scenic or ecologically significant areas in state forests should be protected from timber cutting, write to Bob Rochelle, Division of Forestry, TN Dept. of Conservation, 701 Broadway, Nashville 37219), and send us a copy.

F. Roan National Scenic Area proposal withdrawn

The carefully drafted proposal by the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC) to establish a Roan National Scenic Area (NL170 §3A; NL171 §5A; NL172 §3A) was so badly maligned and misrepresented that SAHC was forced to withdraw it in August. The intent of the proposed legislation was to ensure that an area of unmatched scenic vistas, great biological diversity, and distinct cultural heritage would remain free of the harmful developments that (despite the best intentions of local residents individually) are bound to be generated by pressures of population and money. Local citizens became so angered by what they learned from deliberately-spiced rumors and misinformation that they were unable to comprehend what was, in fact, being proposed. For example, the proposal did not create new federal land-grab opportunities; the Highlands of Roan are inside the National Forest proclamation boundary within which the federal government is already authorized to acquire lands. The proposal specified that land on the lower slopes could be acquired only from willing sellers unless owners were planning land uses incompatible with the national scenic area concept; agricultural uses such as grazing and Christmas-tree production were considered compatible and could continue in private ownership. On the other hand, the building of new homes was a non-allowed use, and that was the feature of the proposal that generated the greatest opposition.

What next? SAHC is working towards a series of dialogues with local leaders in each of the three counties involved and will give them ample

opportunity to participate in any future proposals. The local people are in agreement with SAHC in their abhorrence of commercial development of the Roan, but have not yet fully realized that protection on a completely voluntary basis is not achievable; sale of a single key tract for noncompatible uses could easily start a trend.

A footnote. The great biological value of the Roan has once again been demonstrated; the US Fish & Wildlife Service has proposed nominating two plants that exist only in the Roan Highlands area to the federal list of threatened and endangered species. They are the Roan Mountain bluebell and the spreading gaven.

G. EAF gears up for legislative session

The Environmental Action Fund (EAF), the lobby arm of the Tennessee environmental movement, has grown from 7 to 11 organizational members. Recent additions are Tenn. Trails Assoc., Tenn. Rec. and Parks Assoc., Tenn. Trial Lawyers Assoc., and Tenn. Federation of Garden Clubs. (TCWP has been a member since the time EAF was formed.) In an effort to establish a legislative agenda that is representative of issues across the state, EAF recently formed an Advisory Committee, which met for the first time in October to discuss interest items for the 1990 legislative session. Seven issues will be handled by EAF in 1990. The top priority ones are: natural areas funding (§4A, above), Dept. of Health and Env't. funding, and stream channelization. In the next priority group are: the State Scenic Rivers Act, golf courses in parks, underground storage tanks, and recycling in the legislature.

TCWP pres. Martha Kettle and exec. dir. Jenny Freeman are members of the EAF Advisory committee, and Rom Uppuluri represents TCWP on the EAF Board. If you have an interest in EAF's activities, contact any of these three people. (Contributed by Martha Kettle)

5. U.S. FOREST SERVICE ISSUES

A. Protection for Red-Cockaded Woodpecker

The endangered Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) is found in national forests in 11 southern states. Prompted by a Legal Defense Fund lawsuit, the USFS initiated a NEPA (Natl. Env't. Policy Act) process for amending the Regional Guide to institute management practices that would protect RCW habitat. Phase 1 of this process, an interim protective measure while the study proceeded, limited cutting within 3/4 mile of RCW colonies. A million acres were thereby put off-limits to logging, resulting in a formal appeal by the timber industry. Later phases in the process could result in an alteration of the initial protection.

The USFS is currently beginning the NEPA process for Phase 3, and is soliciting our help in defining the issues and concerns that should be addressed. The RCW is said to like open old-growth pine stands. Among possible RCW management strategies are changes in forest management, protection from predators, augmentation of sparse populations, etc. In addition to suggestions on strategies, the USFS is seeking comments on whether management should be intensive -- even if this interferes with timber harvest or recreation -- or conservative. Comments should be mailed without delay to David P. Smith, RCW EIS Team Leader, 1720 Peachtree Rd., NW, Atlanta, GA 30367.

B. USFS road construction budget is cut

Each year, the USFS requests huge sums of money for road construction; and each year, attempts to make cuts in this amount are only very partially successful, failing, generally, in the Senate. This is why it came as a pleasant surprise to learn that the Senate had recently approved an amendment by Sen. Wyche Fowler (D-GA) -- supported by Sen. Sasser, a member of the Appropriations Committee -- that cuts \$65 million from a proposed \$206 million USFS road-construction budget. Of this amount, \$25 million will be returned to the US Treasury, and \$40 million will be transferred to underfunded programs in habitat protection, wetlands conservation, stewardship, etc. The House bill, after \$22 million were cut from it, came up with a slightly higher total for roads. Differences between the House and Senate bills will be resolved in conference committee.

C. Bill to limit clearcutting in national forests

All of us know that clearcutting is extremely unsightly. But it is more than an aesthetic evil; it leads to erosion, and it eliminates habitat for vast numbers of species -- not only the obvious mammalian and avian ones but the plants that constitute the ground vegetation and the myriad of invertebrates that live among and below it. Following clearcutting, this wealth of life forms is generally replaced by a pine monoculture that provides few habitats indeed.

HR 2406 (Bryant) would amend the Forest & Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 so as to strengthen the restraints on clearcutting in national forests. Among early sponsors is Tennessee's Congr. Quillen, who deserves our thanks. Drop him a note, especially if you live in his district. If you live elsewhere, urge your own Congressman/woman to co-sponsor HR 2406. Sponsors need also to be found for a Senate version of the bill.

6. STRIPMINE NEWS

For our big stripmine story, see #1, this NL.

A. To extend Abandoned Mine Lands funding?

In September, the full House Interior Committee voted by a wide margin (27: 11) for HR 2095 (Rahall, D-W.Va.) which would extend the Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) program, to the year 2007. The AML program, a part of the 1977 federal Surface Mining Act (SMCRA), is currently set to expire in 1992. Reclamation fees collected from operators of post-1977 mining operations are used for the rehabilitation of mines abandoned pre-1977. Through September 1988, \$2.3 billion of such fees had been collected, but another \$4 billion will be needed to complete priority reclamation projects after 1992. The AML extension is opposed by Western legislators who see it as an attempt to get Western coal companies to pay for the cleanup of Eastern abandoned mines. To allay these concerns, HR 2095 halves the fees for any state that certifies that it has completed abandoned coal-mine cleanup.

Under existing law, 50% of the reclamation fees go to the Secretary of Interior, while the other 50% go directly for AML projects in the state where the fees are collected, but only if that state has primacy (i.e., is in control of its own regulatory program). Tennessee repealed its state stripmine law in 1984 and, since then, has had a federal regulatory program in place. It has not been able to receive the state's share of AML, and has had to tight for crumbs from the Secretary's share. As far as we can gather, HR 2095 would maintain the current allocation of funds, except that 20% of the Secretary's share would be earmarked for the Rural Abandoned Mine Program (RAMP), which both the Reagan and Bush Administrations have been trying to starve out of existence. Further, up to 10% of the Secretary's share could be used to reclaim sites abandoned after SMCRA was enacted, but before a state-regulatory program was approved.

Western coal interests will concentrate their opposition to AML extension on the Senate, where there is, as yet, no companion bill to HR 2095.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Ask your Congressman/woman to vote for HR 2095 when it comes to the floor. Urge both Senators to support a companion bill that would extend the AML program in a manner that makes assignment of funds independent of a state's primacy. Send a copy to Rep. Nick Rahall. Addresses on p.2.

B. OSMRE seeks environmental input

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation &

Enforcement (OSM) has invited environmental groups to participate in a Citizens Information Exchange Group with the Knoxville Field Office. The following groups were represented at the first meeting, Oct. 12: SOCM, TCWP, TSRA, and the League of Women Voters. OSM staff discussed several new programs, including the Abandoned Sites Rule under which the frequency of inspection of abandoned sites may be reduced so as to permit more frequent (twice monthly) inspections of Tennessee's 110 active sites. A new Permit Fee Rule, which will soon be published in the Federal Register, establishes a charge for OSM-issued mining permits, made up of a fixed fee plus an acreage add-on. -- OSM has offered to host the meetings quarterly and to respond to discussion topics of interest to conservation groups. If you have an interest in participating on behalf of TCWP, contact Martha Kettle, 522-2443.
(Contributed by Martha Kettle)

7. TVA CAPSULES

A. Nickajack and Chickamauga Plans

The Nickajack and Chickamauga Reservoir Land Management Plans are up for final approval at the 11-22-89 TVA Board meeting. The printed plans will be ready for distribution in January. To request a copy call Connie Woosley at 615-632-1549. -- Because of insufficient response to the prospectus seeking a commercial operator for the Running Water Recreation Area on Nickajack Res., TVA plans to retain control of this area for the immediate future.

B. Floodplain management

TVA has come a ways from the days when it proposed to eliminate flood-prone areas by building dams upstream from them. Its current goal is to "increase ... the recognition of the multiple benefits of floodplain management practices." TVA has produced a number of brochures toward this end and is currently cooperating in the development of a 30-minute videotape devoted to residential construction practices in flood-hazard areas.

C. Nonpoint source pollution

A bill recently approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee earmarks \$50 million of EPA appropriations for efforts to reduce nonpoint-source pollution, and specifically directs EPA to provide funds to TVA's nonpoint-source program.

8. NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

A. ~~Tennessee must support American Heritage Trust Fund~~

Charles Howell, III, former Tennessee

Commissioner of Conservation, who was instrumental in passage of the Tennessee Natural Resources Trust Fund (see ¶4A, this NL), has for some time been working hard for AHT legislation, HR 876; recently, he went to Washington to lobby for it. He reports that we have lost Congressmen Quillen and Sundquist as co-sponsors, probably as a result of pressure from the Farm Bureau and Chamber of Commerce -- organizations that, along with mining, grazing, and timber interests, are trying to kill the bill. Representatives Cooper, Gordon, Ford, Lloyd, Duncan, and Tanner are still co-sponsors (we don't know Clement's position), but Tanner is getting much pressure from the Farm Bureau.

The American Heritage Trust (AHT) would provide the means that should be -- but are not -- available under the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for completing already authorized park units and for slowing down the alarming loss of open space in America. Recently (NL171 ¶8; NL172 ¶7A), we re-acquainted you with the problem and with the contents of HR 876 (Udall). This bill would restructure the LWCF into a dedicated trust fund, invested in interest-bearing accounts. By the time \$1 billion in annual interest is generated, the Fund would become self-sustaining. The interest would be automatically appropriated for federal and state land-acquisition and outdoor-recreation needs.

HR 876 was approved by the House Interior Committee on May 3 but still faces opposition from the Bush Administration (despite a Bush campaign promise), from public-land users, and from park inholders. On the other hand, various associations of governors, state legislatures, and mayors support the bill. A companion bill (S 370, Chafee; Sen. Sasser is a co-sponsor) lies dormant in the Senate Energy Committee, which is waiting for the House to complete action before moving forward.



WHAT YOU CAN DO: We can't afford to lose any more Tennessee Congressmen as co-sponsors of HR 876. We hope you will thank those who co-sponsored the bill -- Reps. Cooper, Gordon, Ford, Lloyd, Duncan, and Tanner -- and ask for their continuing strong support. Ask Rep. Clement to become a co-sponsor (if he isn't already) and urge Reps. Quillen and Sundquist to sign on again. If you know of a local area that could be protected if only funds were available, use this as an illustration in your letter. Address on p.2

B. Help save Antarctica from mineral development

The Convention on the Regulation of Antarctica Mineral Resources Activities (CRAMRA), adopted in June 1988 by the 20 countries that operate research bases in Antarctica, would open this fragile continent to mineral exploration and

development. For the agreement to enter into force, it must be signed by 16 nations that have territorial claims on the continent. Recently, two such claimant nations, Australia and France, announced that they would not sign the agreement. Australia will, instead, explore prospects for the establishment of an "Antarctic Wilderness Park, and France will support such a park.

Here in the US, however, the Bush Administration strongly favors the minerals agreement, and the State Department has presented the CRAMRA treaty to the Senate for consideration. In a recent letter to Pres. Bush, nine environmental organizations urged the Administration to "respond positively and creatively to the Australian and French initiatives, which provide a way to demonstrate the new US commitment to protect the global environment."

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Pres. Bush (the White House, Wash. DC 20500) and urge him to support establishing the Antarctic World Wilderness Park. Ask both your Senators (addresses on p.2) NOT to ratify the Antarctic Minerals treaty, and instead, to support protection of the last wilderness continent.

C. *The future of the California Desert*

The California Desert is a magical place of sand dunes, mountains and valleys, home to 760 species of wildlife, a carpet of wildflowers in the spring, the location of over 100,000 archeological sites. Much of the desert has been put to extensive use, and today even the last remnants of the desert's natural and cultural treasures are threatened. In recent years, off-road vehicles have added tremendous pressures. The desert is very easy to injure -- through erosion, soil displacement, compaction, air pollution -- and it is very slow to heal (e.g., vehicle tracks show for decades).

The California Desert Protection Act, HR 780 (Levine)/S 11 (Cranston), would establish the nation's 51st national park on present BLM lands -- the 1.5 million-acre Mojave National Park. Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments would be expanded and would become national parks. A total of 4.5 million acres of spectacular BLM lands would be preserved in 81 wilderness areas, representing a cross section of the desert's ecosystems. The bill is violently opposed by the California Desert Coalition (mining, ranching, and motorcycle industries), which has poured great deals of money into a campaign of misinformation. Contrary to their allegations, the bill leaves open over 30,000 miles of roads; off-road-vehicle enthusiasts would continue to be able to use an area larger than Sequoia National Park; all active mining and all valid claims would continue; grazing

would continue, even within designated wilderness areas; existing military uses of the desert would continue.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to your US Representative and both Senators (addresses on p.2) and urge them to co-sponsor HR 780/S 11. Chances are, they have already been lobbied with misinformation by the bill's opponents; therefore mention some of the rebuttals (above) in your letter, along with reasons of why it is important to preserve the desert.

D. *National Arctic Wildlife Refuge (ANWR)*

On August 22, the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) filed suit against the Dept. of the Interior, asking the court to declare as deficient the 1987 Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (or "1002 Report") that recommended opening ANWR to drilling. If NRDC wins the suit, USDI will have to prepare a new LEIS. Environmental and civic groups that have analyzed the 1002 Report believe that it fails to address a number of important environmental impacts and does not examine all reasonable alternatives to oil development; 250 such groups (distributed over all 50 states) earlier this year petitioned Sec. Lujan to prepare a new LEIS. After the Exxon Valdez disaster, Lujan was again asked to do so. The lawsuit was filed only after no substantive response had been received to either of these petitions. In September, USDI declined to respond to a TCWP letter about ANWR, citing the pending NRDC lawsuit as the reason.

Each time we read about ANWR, we run across new facts that we'd like to share with you. Did you know that virtually all of Alaska's coastline is already open to drilling? The ANWR Coastal Plain ("1002 Area") that the oil companies lust for would add only 3% to the 55,000,000 acres already under development. All the oil that may be under ANWR (under optimistic projections) would last only for a six-month "oil fix." The Prudhoe Bay oilfield, adjacent to ANWR's western edge, emits 1/3 as much nitrogen oxides as does all of New York City; a suppressed USFWS report documents an alarming decline in wildlife around Prudhoe.

TCWP's letters about ANWR have brought recent responses from a Senator and a Congressman. Al Gore, Jr., states that he does not support S 684, the bill that would open ANWR to drilling. The leasing proposal, he writes, "reflects the failure of the Reagan and Bush Administrations to develop a credible, comprehensive energy policy." -- John Duncan, Jr., on the other hand, is impressed by USDI's estimates of how much oil there might be under the Coastal Plain and says that "any exploration would have to adhere to strict environmental laws."

Although all ANWR legislation (good and bad) is currently on hold while memories of Exxon Valdez are still vivid, it will probably be brought up again next year. If you support protection for "America's Serengeti," your Senators and Congressman/woman should know that you would like them to co-sponsor S 39 and HR 39, respectively, the bills that would designate the Coastal Plain as wilderness.

E. Increased auto fuel efficiency could alleviate several environmental problems

There's something we *can* do about global warming, about air pollution, and about the pressure to drill in areas like ANWR (§8D, above): we can greatly increase the fuel efficiency of our cars. Unfortunately, this efficiency was lowered, instead of raised, when Pres. Reagan rolled back the CAFE (Corporate Fuel Economy Average) standards for new cars that had been set by Congress. For 1986, the CAFE standard was 27.5 miles per gallon, but the Administration reduced the requirement to 26 mpg. Fortunately, Pres. Bush has raised the standard, at least back to 27.5 mpg for 1990 cars.

The Motor Vehicle Fuel Efficiency Act, S 1224 (Bryan), would require that each manufacturer improve average fuel economy of both cars and light trucks by 90 million tons a year by at least 20% by 1995 (average, 34.4 mpg), and 40% by the year 2000 (average, 40 mpg). Consider what would be accomplished by every *one* mpg improvement: (a) a reduction of 320,000 barrels a day of oil imports; (b) a reduction of \$1.5 million/yr in our trade deficit. Over the next 20 years, we would save more than 10 times the amount of oil that could be recovered from ANWR (under the most optimistic projections). The bill would also result in major reductions in CO₂ emissions, which cause global warming: the first step alone (20% improvement by 1995) would reduce CO₂ emissions by 90 million tons a year.

The bill could be strengthened by requiring a 65%, instead of 40%, increase in CAFE standards by the year 2000, equivalent to an average of 45 mpg. Most of this is achievable with existing technology. Further, the bill should specify procedures that would prevent the currently common practice of overestimating mpg; an additional 5 mpg could be achieved that way.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Sen. Gore, who is a member of the Committee on Commerce, Science & Technology (which is handling S 1224) has announced his intention to co-sponsor the bill. Express your appreciation, and urge him to support the strengthening amendments summarized above.

F. Timber management reform for the Tongass

The strong House bill, passed overwhelmingly in July, that reformed management provisions which have led to greatly excessive timber cuts in the Tongass National Forest (NL172 §7E) was incorporated into the budget reconciliation bill (since it saves a great deal of money). Alaska's Sen. Stevens (who in past years had successfully fought any Tongass reform), urged Senators to reject inclusion of the bill in the budget reconciliation, which he characterized as a House maneuver designed to circumvent Senate debate on the Tongass issue. In the Senate, Tongass-reform legislation had not gone beyond the hearing stage; S 346 (Wirth) is similar to the House-passed bill except that it does not contain any wilderness designations (the House bill designates 1.6 million acres).

As differences between the House and Senate budget reconciliation bills are worked out, the Tongass reform will hopefully stay in the final package. Should this, however, fail to happen, it will be very important to get a good Senate bill passed in this session.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to your senators (address on p.2) and urge them to co-sponsor the Tongass Timber Reform Act, S 346. They should support a reform package that includes *all* the provisions of the House-passed bill, including protection of 23 wilderness areas (as currently written, S 346 supports only interim protection). Send a copy to Pres. Bush and urge him to help end taxpayer-subsidized destruction of the magnificent Tongass.

G. Plastics in national parks

According to a recent AP dispatch, Interior Secretary Lujan told National Park Service officials that he would like to see concessionaires in the parks ban all non-biodegradable containers, packages, and utensils. An exception to this policy might be made for plastic items that are disposed of through a recycling program.

9. TCWP NEWS

- The following were elected at our Annual Meeting and will serve TCWP in 1990:

President:	Martha Kettelle
Vice Pres.:	Maureen Cunningham
Secretary:	Louise Markle*
Treasurer:	Charles Kiabunde
Directors:	Chuck Coutant
	David Adler
	Bob Luxmoore
	Dick Ambrose
	Neil McBride*
	Judith Barlow*
	Lee Russell

* marks newcomers to the Board

Nominating Committee:
 Miriam Kertes (chair)
 Sylvia Hubbell
 Lynn Wright

• **Annual Meeting Report**

Over 50 of us spent a delightful and highly informative weekend at Pickett State Park, Sept. 22-24. An outstanding program had been arranged by Marsha Ketelle and Jenny Freeman Johnson, most of it focussed on discussion of water- and land-resource conservation in Tennessee. This NEWSLETTER reports on quite a bit of what we learned about the state Scenic Rivers Program (§3A), candidate National Wild & Scenic Rivers (§3C), funding strategies for land acquisition for natural-areas protection (§4A), other resource-protection strategies (§4B, C, E), and the problem of Big South Fork Deferred Areas (§2A). Special mention should also be made of the highly informed and informative wrap-up by John Williams and the delightfully illustrated after-dinner talk by Chris Brown about river conservation.

The thoroughly scrumptious meals and snacks were catered by Jenny's sister, Martha Friedman, and her husband, Richard. The weather was just right: raining and drizzling while we listened to talks and panels, then clearing mid-afternoon Saturday, exactly in time for our short pre-dinner hike. Sunday was a brilliantly clear day, which many of us enjoyed by hiking to the Twin Arches, and on partway toward Slave Falls. Altogether, a memorable weekend.

- Board member David Adler has taken on the large task of updating the ICWP phone tree. He'll be grateful to any of you who agree to call a short chain (usually, 7 people) when an occasion arises.
- The following assisted in assembling NL 172 and in getting it ready for mailing: Dick Ambrose, Marion Garber, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hensley, Louise Markel, Alice Runtzsch, and Fred Sweeton. They have our gratitude.
- Bill and Lee Russell received the Tennessee Nature Conservancy's annual conservation award.

10. ACTIVITIES: READING MATTER

- Needed: people to teach in a residential environmental education program near Chattanooga; pay based on background and experience. Contact John Shober, Env'tl Program Dir., Camp Lookout Outdoor Education Center, Rt 2, Box 290, Rising Fawn, GA 30738, Ph: 404-820-1163.
- EARTHBEAT is the name of a new weekly environmental news TV program on the Turner

Broadcasting Syst: airtime, 11-11:30pm, Sundays. The program suggests practical actions that viewers can take to follow through on the solutions to problems discussed on the show.

- The week of April 22, 1990, has been designated for a National Celebration of the Outdoors, when, it is hoped, groups throughout the USA will organize activities to create public awareness of, and support for, protection of scenic resources and open space. One function of the Celebration is to include protection of land resources among the issues that will gain prominence when the 20th Anniversary of Earth Day is celebrated in April 1990. For suggestions on activities that you might wish to organize, and for other info, write Nat'l Celebration of the Outdoors, 1250 - 24th St, NW, Suite 500, Wash. DC 20037.
- "The Tennessee Recycling Report" is the name of a new publication by the Tenn. Env'tl. Council's Solid Waste Program., 1725 Church St., Nashville 37203.
- Recycle Source, Inc., Nashville 615-254-9559 sells recycled paper suitable for a variety of uses.
- "Clearcutting: A Crime Against Nature," by Ned Fritz, is available through the Texas Committee on Natural Resources, 5334 Royal Lane, Suite 223, Dallas, TX 75230; send check for \$16.50. Fritz is a trial lawyer and was a leader in the effort to establish Big Thicket National Preserve.
- The 1989/90 guide, "The most Energy-Efficient Appliances", \$3.00, is one of several publications by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (Suite 535, 1001 Connecticut Ave, NW, 1001 Connecticut Ave, Wash. DC 20036).
- "E, The Environmental Magazine" will go on sale in January as a 64-page bimonthly. It promises to synthesize a lot of diverse information, provide overviews, and take an activist stance. \$20 for 1 year. Call 1-800-825-0061.
- "Land Letter" is an information service on natural resource policy, legislation, litigation, etc., that provides three reports every month. \$100/year. Call 202-783-7762.
- "Ominous Future Under the Ozone Hole: Assessing Biological Impacts in Antarctica," by Mary Voytek, 69 pp., \$10 from EDF, 1616 P Street, Wash. DC 20077-6048.