

TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR WILDERNESS PLANNING
 Newsletter No. 142, June 3, 1985*

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Where to write, and how:

Senator John Doe	The Hon. John Doe	Governor Lamar Alexander
United States Senate	U.S. House of Representatives	State Capitol
Washington, DC 20510	Washington, D.C. 20515	Nashville, TN 37219

Dear Senator Doe	Dear Congressman/woman Doe	Dear Gov. Alexander
Sincerely yours,	Sincerely yours,	Respectfully yours,

To call, dial Congressional switchboard, 202, 224-3121

* Editor: Liane B. (Lee) Russell, 130 Tabor Road, Oak Ridge, TN 37830. Ph. 615, 482-2153
 Star in margin means "Action Needed." Don't be overwhelmed -- check the ACTION SUMMARY!

1. RE-STUDY OF COLUMBIA DAM BENEFIT/COST RATIO RAISES QUESTIONS

In a May 2 news release, TVA announces that it is re-studying the benefit/cost ratio for Columbia Dam and asks citizens to submit comments and their own evaluations when the TVA draft is issued (by 8/1/85). The reason for the re-study is a directive by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to limit benefits to those allowed by the 1983 "Economic Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies," namely flood control, water supply, and recreation. Using these and additional benefits -- shoreline development, transportation savings, redevelopment, and enhanced employment -- TVA's projections for the Columbia Dam b/c ratio came out to 1:1 originally, and to 0.8:1 in a 1977 calculation. So far so good. The only problem is that in its current re-study, TVA will use not total cost, but only remaining cost of the dam.

TCWP has written to OMB asking for clarification of a procedure that appears to us to be a giveaway of all the costs that have already been incurred -- a highly dangerous precedent to set for public-works projects in general. In the meantime, we would very much like to hear from TCWP members and other concerned individuals who may be interested in helping with any comments on TVA's upcoming draft and/or in providing their own evaluations of Columbia Dam. Please contact us at the address or phone number listed at the bottom of p. 1.

2. GREAT NEWS ABOUT STATE NATURAL AREAS

A. The \$2 million appropriation is passed

The \$2 million item in Gov. Alexander's budget for natural/cultural areas acquisition survived all recent budget juggling by the General Assembly and is now on the books, added to the \$2 million appropriated in 1984. The special significance of these two successive appropriations is brought out by noting the contrast with preceding years: between 1975 and 1983 an average of only \$67,000/year was appropriated, and the Natural Areas system practically died on the vine. Altogether less than \$3 million in State funds have been spent since the system was born in 1971.

Our special thanks for this year's success are due Gov. Alexander, Commissioner Howell, the Dept. of Conservation (DoC) staff and all the many of you who wrote the supporting letters that convinced our legislators to retain the item in the budget despite strong pressures to the contrary. (Those of you who attended our letter-writing social on March 6 know that this was a very special concern of ours.)

The degree of success in this year's legislative session is hard to believe: passage of the Rare Plants Protection bill (NL 141 ¶3B), establishment of the Natural Resources Trust Fund (NL 141 ¶3C), and now the natural areas funding! In addition, the DoC got new appropriations to hire a botanist for rare plants protection and to purchase microcomputers.

B. Natural Areas additions

Besides the (a) Walterhill Floodplain (NL 141 ¶4E) the following areas were added to the Natural Areas system: (b) the 700-acre Laurel Run Gorge, adjacent to Bays Mountain Preserve, and (c) Hawkins Cove, 240 acres, in Franklin County.

C. DoC staff changes

Sam Pearsall, chief of the Department's Ecological Services Division, will leave for Hawaii in August and will be replaced by Dan Eagar. Sam will be studying for a Ph.D. at the University of Hawaii and will be accompanied by his wife Linda, who is currently doing a big job for the Tennessee Nature Conservancy. The re-birth of the Tennessee Natural Areas System is in no small measure attributable to Sam. He is leaving a great legacy, but we'll miss him and Linda in a big way.

3. OTHER NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATEA. Dale Hollow Plan

Our comments on the controversial Dale Hollow Natural Resources Management Plan, and particularly the timber-cutting aspects, were summarized in the last NEWSLETTER (NL 141 ¶4C). The Corps of Engineers has appointed a multidisciplinary team consisting of natural-resource management professionals and concerned citizens to advise on modifications of the Plan. This group met May 13-14, and will meet again after the revised report (based on the group's recommendations) is issued by the Corps in late summer. Among issues to be addressed are how to minimize the esthetic and recreational disturbance caused by timber harvests (presently planned as a series of successive small and moderate-sized clear cuts, 6000 acres altogether), whether or not there would be a significant impact on rare or endangered plant as well as animal species, and how to insure that erosion control and other mitigating measures will not be neglected partway through the projected time course. It is not clear whether the re-drafting exercise will address additional issues, which were brought out in the extensive TCWP comments (e.g., contour changes caused by logging-road construction, increased abuse by off-road vehicles).

B. More on the National Guard Training Center

Add this to your information on this issue (NL 139 ¶1; NL 141 ¶2): the Grace Commission for the study of waste in government reported that of about 4000 military installations in the USA, only about 300 are considered important. Is it not possible that one of the other 3700 could be used -- more economically -- for the purpose proposed for the Spencee Range area? Here are some tidbits from a Wall Street Journal (5/7/85) article on the subject. (thanks, Betty Anderson). Paul Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Housing, is quoted as saying "The chances [for approval of the Tennessee proposal] are somewhere between nil and nothing;" and, commenting on the Gen. Wallace's argument that the terrain resembles Germany's Black Forest, "we've already got a lot of places that look like Europe." General Wallace is quoted as saying "Probably the largest marijuana-growing area in the state is in this area. I think some of the opposition probably started from that." The Wall Street Journal article points out that the project's cost estimates (figures between \$138-250^{million} have been cited) are peanuts considering that the Pentagon spends \$1 billion every business day. That's something to worry about!

WHAT TO DO: The most important people to write to are Senators Gore and Sasser, Reps. Jim Cooper, Marilyn Lloyd, and Bart Gordon, and Gov. Alexander. See p. 1 for addresses. (See NL 139 ¶1 for fact sheet). Send copies to Gen. Wallace. (In our last NL we listed a wrong address for him. Correction: Tenn. Adjutant General Carl D. Wallace, National Guard Center, Sidco Drive, Nashville, TN 37204. We have requested that any letters that went to the wrong address be forwarded.)

C. Finally a good flood-reduction program

For too many years have stream channelization and reservoir building been touted by various agencies as a panacea for flood damages. Now the U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS) has come up with a much sounder method for the Wolf and Loosahatchie Rivers in West Tennessee: hand clearing of debris from altogether 264 miles of these rivers (and selected tributaries), coupled with a massive "nonstructural" land treatment plan that is designed to solve the 80 tons/acre/year soil erosion problem in the area. If successful, the double-barreled plan will protect almost 55,000 acres of wetlands, prevent flooding, and provide canoeing opportunities for the Wolf River.

D. More on the Tennessee River Gorge

Since our recent brief report on this project (NL 141 ¶4D), we have learned quite a bit more. The project area encompasses 25,000 acres within a 22-mile stretch of the Tennessee River, from the Old Hales Bar Dam site to the southern tip of Williams Island, and from bluffline to water level on both sides. The river flows between steep wooded slopes and 1,000 ft cliffs, and the gorge is considered to be the fourth largest canyon in the eastern U.S.

To date, the project has protected 9800 acres of public lands (Div. of Forestry, TN Dept. of Conservation; TN Wildlife Resources Agency; TVA) and 4400 acres of private land (with negotiations for an additional 1700 acres nearing completion). The two primary land-protection methods currently in use are (a) management agreements (non-binding) between the Nature Conservancy and property owners, and (b) conservation easements (which become part of the title to the property), i.e., the signing away of certain development rights via a legal document (making the owner eligible for federal income tax deductions). Adele (Mrs. John) Hampton, a TCWP member, is chairperson of the Tennessee River Gorge Project Committee and may be reached at the Project office, 2100 S. Broad St., Chattanooga, TN 37408.

4. TROUBLESOME - NO BUSINESS: A PROPOSED WILDERNESS STUDY AREA

An effort is underway to have a portion of the Big South Fork NRRR designated as a Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The proposed ca. 1500-acre WSA lies on the West side of the Big South Fork roughly between Station Camp Creek in Tennessee and Troublesome Creek in Kentucky. Under an earlier Forest Service evaluation, a portion of this area was given the highest "Wilderness Attribute Rating" in the Southeast. The Kentucky Sierra Club has for some time sought to include "Troublesome" in a Kentucky wilderness bill, but the originally proposed outline of the area would have included little more than so-called Gorge Area lands, which are already protected under the terms of the legislation that authorized the BSFNRRR. Many negotiations and contacts have finally resulted in more supportable boundaries (encompassing also ridges and upland areas between the gorges) and in a receptivity by Kentucky Congressman Hal Rogers to the idea of including a Troublesome WSA in the Kentucky wilderness bill (HR.1627/S.703). The boundaries would exclude already established facilities, such as the Charit Creek Hostel. Since a major part of the proposed WSA extends into Tennessee, Congressman Jim Cooper must be familiarized with the proposal. Representatives of the Sierra Club (TN and KY) and of TCWP will meet with him on June 7.

5. TVA NEWS

A. Watts Bar Reservoir Planning process is underway

Watts Bar is the fourth reservoir for which TVA is carrying out a planning exercise. There are about 11,000 acres of TVA lands around the reservoir that have not yet been committed or developed. The idea is to generate a 10-year guide for handling future requests for the use of these lands. As the first step in this process, TVA conducted a series of public meetings May 13-16. Comments recorded at these meetings will be used -- along with information about natural resources, socio-economic factors, adjacent land uses, and existing local and regional plans -- in generating a draft TVA plan. The draft and its revisions will be made available for public review, and the TVA Board may hold a listening session in the reservoir area before eventually approving the Plan.

TCWP members attended two of the three May meetings. At both, the overwhelming sentiment expressed by the ca. 60 and 30 attendees was for keeping the natural scenic beauty and maintaining wild undeveloped areas. We hope others of our members will become involved. This is a rare opportunity: (a) here is an agency actually willing to carry out land-use planning, and (b) public input is really being sought. As you know, TCWP already succeeded in having TVA set aside the Whites Creek Small Wild Area (see also ¶6, this NL); here's our chance to get other natural areas preserved. For input into the plan, contact Wm. S. Ambrose, Project Leader, Watts Bar Reservoir Lands Planning, Div. of Land & Economic Resources, TVA, Norris, TN 37828. We should appreciate a copy of your comments or suggestions.

B. TVA budget outlook

The Reagan budget proposes to slash the TVA non-power appropriation by 70% (from \$135 million requested -- last year's level -- to only \$38.6 million). This would virtually eliminate the agency's natural resource conservation and restoration activities. (NL 139 ¶2). On May 9, the Senate narrowly (50:49) passed the First Budget Resolution for FY 1986, which, alas, includes the President's proposed cut for TVA. An amendment, co-sponsored by

Senators Gore and Sasser, which would have frozen TVA's budget at the 1985 level, failed by a vote of 44:52. At this time, the most probable action in the House may be a 10% cut below last year's level. Hopefully, the conference committee will accept at least the House version. Letters to your Congressman/woman can still help in this regard (address on p. 1).

C. TVA submits testimony on water quality

The TVA Board of Directors recently submitted a lengthy statement to a Senate subcommittee holding hearings on reauthorization of the Clean Water Act. Degraded water quality associated with nonpoint sources is one of the biggest water-pollution concerns in the 7-State region according to the statement. Such pollution comes from agriculture, urban areas, mining, and construction. A national program of landowner-State-Federal partnership is essential in reducing nonpoint sources of pollution. TVA also supports a more comprehensive national framework for integrating the numerous Federal and State agencies currently involved in groundwater protection. For a copy of the 4/19/85 testimony, write to Martin E. Rivers, Director, Environmental Quality, TVA, Knoxville, TN 37902.

6. WHITE CREEK SMALL WILD AREA: TCWP SIGNS TRAIL AGREEMENT WITH TVA

Some time ago, TCWP offered to maintain the trail in the White Creek Small Wild Area (Watts Bar) that TVA had designated as a result of our suggestion. The contract formalizing this agreement was finally signed May 10. TCWP will inspect the entire trail network in early spring and late fall, and will report trail conditions to TVA. We shall also perform maintenance functions as mutually agreed upon with the agency staff, who will provide technical assistance. TVA will erect signs at all trail entrances, specifying that use by motorized vehicles is prohibited. Any descriptive material prepared by TVA will include this same restriction.

We have also met on site with Bowaters representatives and agreed on trail routings through the paper company's land, which adjoins the TVA Wild Area.

Now we need to hear from any of you who are willing to help us with our biannual inspection and maintenance duties. This can be a fun project, so please volunteer!

7. TCWP's HARVEY BROOME FILM SERIES TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY DEPT. OF CONSERVATION

For many years, TCWP's collection of environmental films, the Harvey Broome Memorial Film Series, was distributed by the Oak Ridge Public Library, with services rendered primarily by Mrs. Womack and Friends of the Library, to whom we are most grateful. The series had been purchased by us over a period of several years with money donated to TCWP's Harvey Broome Memorial Fund by Ann Broome and other friends, and was made available to requesters without charge. Films were selected for purchase by a TCWP committee. Some members donated their artistic and photographic talents to produce a TCWP leader for each film.

In the past 2 or 3 years, we have lacked resources to advertize the films and to repair those that had become damaged. As a consequence, circulation dropped radically. Following discussions between Charles Klabunde and Mack Prichard, the TCWP Board voted to accept the Dept. of Conservation's offer to overhaul, publicize, and distribute the films -- which will remain TCWP property -- and to retain the TCWP leader. If you know of school systems or civic clubs that could use this excellent resource, have them contact Mack Prichard at the Tenn. Dept. of Conservation (701 Broadway, Nashville 37203).

8. STRIPMINE CAPSULES

A. Federal coal leasing to be resumed?

After then-Secretary Watt held the Powder River Basin sale -- the governments first major coal-lease sale in 11 years -- it became very clear that not only environmental but economic values were being violated: the government received far less than fair market value. In October 1983 Congress suspended coal leasing from public lands until 7/1/84, and established

the Linowes Commission which subsequently issued a very critical report. After the 7/1/84 deadline passed, then-Sec. Clark decided not to resume coal leasing until USDI had prepared a new environmental impact statement. This draft EIS, recently issued, predicts drastically lower coal production from federal leases than forecast in 1979, and, hence, smaller environmental impacts. A House subcommittee has held hearings on Interior's plan to resume its coal-leasing program.

B. OSM asks National Academy of Sciences to help with Abandoned Mine Lands Program

OSM has funded a \$250,000, 18-month study that will examine how to make the AML Program more cost effective. The NAS has been asked to recommend scientifically sound methods for assessing the extent of various problems and for correcting them. Among issues to be addressed are subsidence, acid mine drainage and other water-pollution problems, and land slides.

C. OSM's new Acting Director, Jed Christensen (see NL 141 ¶8E), on being introduced by Sec. Hodel, called for stronger enforcement of the 1977 law and listed the following priority issues: the surface mine permit process, civil penalty collections, internal communications in OSM, adequate resources for OSM work, the two-acre exemptions.

D. We respond to OSM's response to our petition

Complicated? To those of you interested in the sequel to NL 141 ¶8D (our Petition for Rule-making concerning OSM regulations for the Tennessee program), we bring this newest piece of information. On March 4, we commented on OSM's Feb. 1 response to our petition (in which OSM granted eight and denied six of our requests). The 6 pages of comments submitted by LEAF, SOCM, TCWP, EPI, and Sierra Club conclude: "Wherefore, petitioners urge that OSM grant each and every paragraph of the amendments to the Tennessee program as set forth in our original petition dated November 30, 1984."

9. TCWP POTLUCK, AND OTHER TCWP ITEMS

A. Come to our potluck, July 24

Ed and Jean Sonder are hosting a TCWP potluck in their backyard (or house, depending on weather), Wednesday, July 24, 6 p.m., 102 Woodridge Lane, Oak Ridge (483-9615). Bring any dish (meat or pasta, vegetable, salad, or desert); beverages will be provided. Also bring paper, pen, envelopes, because this is a letter-writing party: only 1 hour of writing letters on environmental issues will earn you an evening of good food and pleasant company. One or more people will be present who can provide helpful advice on the issues of current importance and on whom to contact, and how.

B. Executive Director needs assistance

Because of other work obligations during the next several months, Sandra Edwards is having to curtail the number of days per year that she can put in as executive director. She is therefore looking for a part-time assistant who can be trained to take over some of the many issues she has had to deal with and who would be paid on a proportionate basis. If you know of a candidate, please contact us (address on p. 1).

C. Don Todd awarded national prize

Although we had known about Don's award for several weeks, we were unable to share our information until the news was officially released. Fortunately this happened just before the last page of NL 141 was printed: thus, TCWP members got the news ahead of almost anyone else. The ceremony was held in Washington on May 23 and was attended, among others, by Rep. Jim Cooper, Don's Congressman. Don was the only Tennessean among 22 men and woman who received the 31st annual Gulf Oil National Conservation Award, and only the sixth Tennessean ever to be honored in this manner. While the prize was awarded for his role in protecting lands adjacent to Frozen Head Natural Area from stripmining, the extensive news coverage of the event also mentioned Don's role in having Frozen Head designated a state park, his effort in mobilizing local support for Obed National W & S River designation, and his past presidency of TCWP, among other things. Noone knows better than we do how well he deserves his prize.

D. Report on NorthRidge Trail maintenance

Nine people showed up for the May 19 maintenance hike announced in NL 141. Thank you folks! One group tackled the trail between Illinois Avenue and Key Springs Rd, and the other went east from Orchard Circle. No major problems were encountered, and most of the work consisted of clipping small stuff and picking up trash at the Illinois access (no trash was found elsewhere). The City is being notified of major erosion problems on one segment of the trail that utilizes one of the old evacuation routes. Trail maps will be made available at the public library and the Energy Museum.

E. Dues

If there is a dues statement enclosed with this NL it means you owe TCWP dues. Please send your check with statement before you forget again.

See elsewhere for other TCWP news: ¶6 (White Creek Trail) and ¶7 (our film series).

10. NATIONAL NEWSA. National Park Service has new director

After the departure of Russell Dickenson, NPS was without a director for almost 4 months. The man we reported to be frontrunner for the job (NL 141, ¶10E), William Penn Mott, has now been chosen. Mott is the former director of the California Dept. of Parks & Recreation, and, before that, served as Superintendent of Parks for Oakland, CA. He has had 7 years of experience with the NPS. Among Mott's plans for the agency are improvement of the resource-management and interpretation programs.

B. Endangered Species Act (ESA) reauthorization

Man's encroachment on his environment is now so great that every day, 1-3 species become extinct around the world! In the USA, over 1800 species are considered to be in danger of extinction, but less than half that number have to date been officially listed under the terms of the ESA. At the current rate of funding, it would take about 25 years just to eliminate the backlog, and another 70 years to tackle presently known candidate species -- let alone species that will become candidates in the future.

Currently, the prospects for increasing funding look poor, but the remaining news about ESA reauthorization is at least moderately good. Status of bills: (a) subcommittee hearings were held in mid-April on S.725 (Chafee), but no Senate markup has been scheduled; (b) HR.1027 (Breaux) got full committee approval on May 14, but another hearing may be held prior to floor action. The House bill provides for a 3-year reauthorization of the ESA at the FY 1985 level of \$39 million, with only moderate increases allowed for FY 1987 and FY 1988. Weakening amendments pushed by Western water-development interests (see NL 141 ¶10C) and Montana game officials (who sought expansion of sport hunting for grizzlies and wolves) were defeated. Adopted was an amendment requiring USDI to monitor the status of species that are candidates for endangered-species listing. In recent years, several such candidate species have become extinct while waiting to go through the formal listing process.

There is still time for you to write to your Senators (address on p. 1) and urge them to work for reauthorization of a strengthened ESA and for a higher level of funding. (A reminder: the Act makes it a federal offense to buy, sell, etc. a listed species or any product made from such a species; prohibits construction of federal projects that might jeopardize listed species; and requires the government to prepare and carry out recovery plans, which may include acquisition of habitat for the endangered species.)

C. Protection of public lands

(a) In December 1982, then-Sec. James Watt ordered 1.5 million acres removed from the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) wilderness study inventory. The lands dropped by Watt were "split estates," tracts of less than 5000 acres, and areas contiguous to wilderness managed by other agencies. In mid-April of this year, a U.S. District Court ruled that the dropped lands must be reinstated as BLM wilderness study areas. Sec. Hodel is not

expected to appeal this court decision, but he has the option of issuing an order to de-list any less-than-5000 acre tracts from BLM's wilderness-management protection.

(b) The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) directs BLM to review lands that have previously been "withdrawn" (i.e. protected) from certain uses, primarily mining. The National Wildlife Federation has recently charged that BLM has revoked withdrawals from ca. 185 million acres of land without the reviews required by the FLPMA and without analysis by EISs.

D. Air pollution in national parks and other air quality news

- A House Interior subcommittee on May 20-21 heard testimony on the appalling deterioration of air quality in national parks. Chairman Vento agreed with former NPS Director Dickenson that this currently constitutes the foremost threat to the parks. NPS officials and superintendants (John Cook and Boyd Evison among them) testified that pollution not only diminishes scenic views (more than 90% of the time) but that it is destroying trees (e.g., the giant sequoias) and stream habitats. Levels are dangerously high for SO₂, for ozone (sometimes above the National Ambient Air Quality Standard), and arsenic. All of us should be concerned about these findings and transmit these concerns to our elected representatives (addresses on p. 1).
- The forest-products industry -- responding to growing concern over massive German forest damage thought to result from acid rain and other pollution -- is undertaking a multi-million dollar research effort on the effects of gaseous pollutants on forest growth.
- The National Clean Air Coalition is again calling for 50% reduction in SO₂ emissions from 1980 levels by 1993. In addition, the Coalition will also lobby for an amendment requiring major new stationary sources to reduce their NO_x emissions. Aside from hearings, there has been no Congressional action on air quality so far this year.

E. Clean Water Act reauthorization

On May 22, the House Public Works Committee approved a reauthorized CWA that weakens the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) by allowing the NPDES permit term to be lengthened to 10 years for applicants who have "consistently complied" with permit conditions. The 5-year term would be retained for toxics dischargers. The bill (HR.8) also shirks the problem of non-point-source pollution (see ¶5C, this NL) by obliging the states to "identify" waters thus polluted and to develop plans for control. By contrast, the Senate bill, S.1128, which is expected to go to the floor during the week of June 3, contains a \$300 million authorization for non-point pollution cleanup, and 5-year terms for all NPDES permits. This, and other provisions of S.1128 will have to withstand floor amendments fuelled by some industry and state lobbyists.

F. Wetlands protection

Although the Section 404 dredge-or-fill permit program is part of the Clean Water Act (¶10E, above), the Senate Environmental Pollution Subcommittee held hearings on it only after the CWA reauthorization was approved by the full committee. To avoid stalling the already troubled S.1128, Chairman Chafee is considering handling any needed remedies to the 404 program administratively or through separate legislative action. The oversight hearings were triggered by widespread charges that the Corps of Engineers has systematically gutted the program, interpreting its mandate in a way that fails to extend any protection to the wetlands. Case histories have been assembled to show that the Corps has issued "after the fact" permits, has defined wetlands too narrowly, and has often argued that waste disposal does not qualify as "fill." It is estimated that 450,000 acres of national wetlands are lost each year, with bottomland hardwood forests being hardest hit. (Thus, in the lower Mississippi Valley, 18.8 million acres have been lost to clearing and draining for crop production, flood control projects, etc.) EPA is the only federal agency with veto power over Corps-proposed 404 permits; administrator Lee Thomas is credited with recent improvements in EPA's oversight function.

11. THINGS TO DO AND THINGS TO READ

- Position available: Executive Director, American Rivers Conservation Council (ARCC). Qualifications include: (a) experience in managing a budget of over \$300,000 and managing a staff of 10+; experience and interest in fundraising; (c) public-speaking capability; (d) expertise

- in political strategizing; (e) deep commitment to environmental values. Starting salary: \$40,000-50,000 plus benefits. Contact Chuck Clusen, ARCC, 322-4th Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002
- Two hefty sets of comments on the Cherokee National Forest Draft Land and Resource Management Plan and Draft EIS (NL 141 ¶1) are now in the TCWP files. One was submitted by the Cherokee National Forest Wilderness Coalition, coordinated by Will Skelton, and contains details of the Coalition's Wilderness recommendations, comments on the Plan, etc. The other was submitted by the Tenn. Sierra Club, Smoky Mtn Hiking Club, and TCWP, coordinated by Lance McCold, and addresses timber plans, unique and special resources, wilderness recreation demand, wildlife, off-road vehicle management, soil and water, etc. A great deal of good thinking, careful research, and hard work by dedicated volunteers went into these comments. We hope the Forest Service pays a great deal of attention to them.
- Rocky Mountain Expedition, August 11-24, a UT non-credit course, will introduce the novice to hiking and camping in the back country of the western Rockies (White River Range). Leader, Joel Zachry, Roane State Comm. College, who has taught backpacking and wilderness survival courses for several years. Fee, including transportation, \$530, plus \$70 for food and materials. Orientation session for potential participants, 6/24/85, 7 p.m., Rm 111, UT Humanities Bldg. (Phone 615, 974-6688 for further info)
- Teacher Training Week, August 4-9, at the Tremont Environmental Education Center. Up to 3h of college credit available from UTC. Various types of study will be offered, as well as field trips, hiking, square dancing etc. All-inclusive fee (program materials, meals, lodging), \$125. Request registration info from Tremont Envntl. Educ. Center, Rt. 1, Box 81, Townsend, TN 37882
- "Water Problems and Coal Mining: A Citizens Handbook" has just been published by Vanderbilt University's Student Environmental Health Project. The book describes 6 currently practiced coal mining methods and their effects on water and land, analyzes laws designed to address mining problems, and shows how citizens can use these laws to protect water resources. (\$5 from Center for Health Services, [to whom check should be written], Station 17, Vanderbilt Univ., Nashville, TN 37232.
- Conference on landscaping with native plants and wildflowers, July 25-27, Cullowhee, NC. Info from Dr. James Horton, Dept. of Biology, Western Carolina Univ., Cullowha, NC 28723. (704) 227-7244.
- The Everglades Coalition is being revived to assist Florida Governor Bob Graham in his SAVE OUR EVERGLADES program (to restore waterflow and protect the Florida panther). For info call Steve Whitney, NPCA, 1-800-362-3682.

12. ACTION SUMMARY

¶ No.	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or action
1	Columbia Dam	TCWP	Volunteer help in evaluating study
3B	Natl. Guard Center	US Sens & Rep; Gov. Alexander	"Oppose this harmful project!"
5A	Watts Bar Plan	TVA Proj. leader	"Preserve natural areas!"
5B	TVA budget	US Rep	"Oppose ruinous, drastic cuts!"
6	White Creek Trail	TCWP	Volunteer maintenance help
9	TCWP pot luck	TCWP	Plan to come
10B	Endangered species	US Senators	"Strengthen ESA; increase funding!"
10D	Air pollution	US Rep and Sens	"Clean up air over parks!"

