1. Frozen Head: the probable ruling ........................................ p. 3
2. Major changes ahead for Big S. Fork administration .................... p. 3
3. The state legislature and other state matters ................................ p. 4
   A. Land-acquisition bills  D. Scenic Rivers  F. Trail matters
   B. Wetland bills  E. Miscellaneous bills  G. Ocoee
   C. Golf courses
4. Cherokee National Forest ......................................................... p. 5
   A. Below-cost timber sales  C. Forest reform conference
   B. Greene Mountain roads  D. Cherokee Plan Settlement
5. Global warming is an energy issue; USA must take lead .................. p. 6

March 14 BSF March for Parks
March 31 North Ridge Trail hike
April 21 Whites Creek hike
See ¶19

   A. 1872 Mining Law  D. Grand Canyon pollution
   B. Coal mining in parks  E. Everglades enlarged
   C. Tongass reform
7. Other national issues .............................................................. p. 8
   A. Clean Air legislation  C. Exxon Valdez toll
   B. Bald eagles  D. American attitudes
8. The Congress and the President on environmental issues ............... p. 9
   A. Tennesseans may be proud of their Senators (Gore scores 100%)!
   B. Pres. Bush’s first year in office
9. TCWP news ............................................................. p. 9
   A. BSF March for Parks  B. North Ridge Trail  C. Whites Creek Trail
10. Activities; reading matter ...................................................... p.10
11. ACTION SUMMARY ................................................................. p. 2

*Editor: Liane B. 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!
## 11. ACTION SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TNo</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>&quot;Message!&quot; or Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Big S. Fork lands to acquire</td>
<td>Sens. Gore, Sasser; Rep Cooper</td>
<td>&quot;Thanks for efforts: keep them up!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>State land acquisition</td>
<td>State Rep. &amp; Sen.</td>
<td>&quot;Find revenues for natural-resource lands!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3C</td>
<td>Golf courses in parks</td>
<td>State Rep. &amp; Sen.</td>
<td>&quot;Defeat SB1856!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Global warming</td>
<td>Pres. Bush</td>
<td>&quot;Exert leadership on CO\textsubscript{2} reduction and related matters!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>1872 Mining Law</td>
<td>U.S. Rep.</td>
<td>&quot;Need stronger reform than HR3866!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6C</td>
<td>Tongass NF reform</td>
<td>Both US Sens.</td>
<td>&quot;Co-sponsor S346, but add wilderness!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A</td>
<td>Clean Air legislation</td>
<td>Natl. Clean Air Coalition</td>
<td>Find out what issues need stressing, then call senators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td>Environmental record</td>
<td>Sens. Gore, Sasser</td>
<td>&quot;Congratulations on great record!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reps. Cooper, Gordon, Ford, Tanner</td>
<td>&quot;We commend your record!&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8B</td>
<td>Environmental record</td>
<td>Pres. Bush</td>
<td>Tell him where he could do better.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9A</td>
<td>BSF March for Parks</td>
<td>TCWP</td>
<td>Be sure to participate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9B</td>
<td>North Ridge Trail</td>
<td>TCWP</td>
<td>Join us for trail maintenance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9C</td>
<td>Whites Creek Trail</td>
<td>TCWP</td>
<td>Join us for a fine hike.</td>
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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

"The last word in ignorance is the man who says of an animal or plant: 'What good is it?'... If the biota, in the course of aeons, has built something we like, but do not understand, then who but a fool would discard seemingly useless parts? To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering." - Aldo Leopold
1. FROZEN HEAD: THE PROBABLE RULING

Ever since 1983, concerned citizens have been petitioning to have the Flat Fork Valley, which leads into Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area, designated unsuitable for surface coal mining operations under Sec. 522 of the federal surface mining law. We won it once -- then lost it again when Tennessee gave up primacy in 1984 (a very complex story, briefly summarized in NL173 ¶1). Another petition was filed, this time with the federal Office of Surface Mining (OSM), and the process has been running its course -- with a scoping hearing in Sept.'88, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) produced by OSM, a hearing on the EIS in Nov.'89, and a subsequent comment period during which the State administration as well as federal legislators supported the large number of citizens who had expressed themselves in favor of having the entire 5,250-acre petition area designated unsuitable for strip mining (Alternative 1; see NL174 ¶3. In that article, incidentally, there was an erratum: it was Rep. Quillen, not Duncan, who called OSM).

We had been informed by OSM that the Federal Register of March 16 would announce Director Snyder's choice of Preferred Alternative for Flat Fork, and we held up press time for NL175 by a few days in order to be able bring you the news "hot off the wire." Late on March 15, however, we discovered that OSM's Federal Register notice would be delayed a week to coincide with Sec. Lujan's visit to Knoxville, March 22-23. Therefore, we bring you here what we have learned from "usually reliable sources."

This is the rumor: Of the 7 alternatives discussed in the EIS, OSM has chosen No. 3b, namely, "Designate all parts of the petition area as unsuitable for surface coal mining operations while allowing the use of the existing haulage road through the petition area." This is the next best possibility after Alternative 1 (which bars all operations, including the haul road). Under 3b, "coal could be hauled through Ross Gap and the petition area from areas located on the northern slopes of Bird Mountain, i.e., outside the park, and invisible from it, but no actual mining or additional road construction in the petition area would be allowed." Mines on the north side of Bird Mtn. are not accessible by road from that side. If coal were to be mined there, the EIS predicts that 11 truckloads per day would pass through the petition area on the existing haul road which winds up the slope to your left as you drive up Flat Fork Valley toward the park; it appears to be all but invisible. Alternative 3b thus preserves the esthetic and recreational uses of the park and keeps the entire 5,200-acre petition area (Flat Fork Valley west of the park) free of strip mining.

If the rumor turns out to be wrong, we'll have to eat crow next time. If it was right, REJOICE IN THE VICTORY; and if you want to thank someone, be sure to start with Don Todd and Carol Nickle. Many others helped, too!

2. MAJOR CHANGES AHEAD FOR BIG SOUTH FORK ADMINISTRATION

Efforts to get the Corps of Engineers to acquire the roughly 16,000 acres they had designated as "Deferred Areas" within the boundary of the Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area (BSFNRA) have, for several years, been getting exactly nowhere. Some of the complicated reasons for this, which include the Corps' interpretation that land acquisition in the BSNRRA is subject to local cost-sharing, were summarized earlier (NL172 ¶1). We had been working with members of our Congressional delegation (Sens. Sasser and Gore, Rep. Cooper) to try to find a way whereby the Deferred Areas could be acquired. A couple of meetings were held last fall; and on January 31, three members of the TCWP Board and representatives of three other environmental groups met with staff of both of our senators. Subsequently, Lee Russell visited Sen Sasser's office in Washington for further discussions.

The authorizing Act establishing the BSFNRRRA provides that when "the United States has acquired an acreage... that is efficiently administrable," administration will be transferred from the Corps of Engineers (COE) to the National Park Service (NPS). This transfer is now viewed as the mechanism that can bring about resumption of land acquisition. The transfer will be initiated by the COE's publication of a Federal Register notice announcing intent. Public comment will be solicited, and it will then be important for us to make sure that the notice acknowledges that the Area is not complete -- at least as regards acreage.

In addition to the administrative transfer, transfer legislation will be introduced to make it quite clear that further land acquisition (and some further development) is needed to complete the project; that 100% of subsequent expenditures will come from federal funds (making sure the cost-sharing issues are indeed completely laid to rest); and that NPS may use the Land & Water Conservation Fund for land acquisition (under the current authorizing Act, this source of money is barred). Currently, an authorization exists for about $48 million for the BSFNRA; i.e., appropriations can be requested up to that amount. An attempt will be made to transfer this $48 million authorization along with the transfer in administration.

The next step is to secure an actual appropriation, hopefully for the 1991 fiscal year. Because of his position on the Appropriations Committee, Sen. Sasser is expected to take a lead in this effort!

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Thank Senators Sasser and Gore, and Rep. Jim Cooper for their efforts on behalf of acquiring the BSFNRA Deferred Areas; urge them to continue with all the steps needed to bring this about (addresses on p.2).
3. THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND OTHER STATE MATTERS

A. Natural-resource-land acquisition

As explained in some detail in NL174 §5A, one of the sources of money for acquiring natural areas, the Sale Growth Fund (established by former Gov. Alexander), has just about dried up. And the other, the Natural Resources Trust Fund (which may, to start with, not be receiving all the revenues due to it), has several competing demands upon it, in addition to natural-area acquisition. Consequently, there have been efforts to find new sources of revenue, but the current legislative situation appears a little confused, with at least eight bills in the hopper.

The Environmental Action Fund is supporting the Natural Resources Land and Outdoor Recreation Area Fund, SB 2360 (Cohen) / HB 2433 (Kernell), to provide money to acquire lands that would improve the boundaries of existing state-owned areas, and protect significant natural areas, archaeological sites, and historical sites. The funding source would be severance tax on sand, gravel, and crushed stone. There are also a couple of bills (both sponsored by Rep. McAfee and others, and by Sen. Crutchfield) that would provide funds for purchasing buffer zones adjacent to state parks, forests, etc. This would be accomplished by extending the life of the existing Wetlands Acquisition Fund (which is fed by a transfer tax on realty), and using 20% of this to fund a $7-million bond issue.

Any and all bills dealing with land acquisition are being opposed by powerful lobbyists working for the Farm Bureau, which has philosophical objections to public ownership of lands. It is also rumored that Gov. McWherter will not buck the Farm Bureau because of his imminent re-election effort, and that the Administration will oppose any acquisition bill.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to your State Rep. and Sen. (see Political Guide for addresses), and, without citing any specific bill, strongly support efforts to find revenues for natural-resource-land acquisition now. Cite projects that you feel need funding (e.g., buffer zones around Savage Gulf, Carter Mountain lands, scenic river easements, Flat Fork at Frozen Head, etc).

B. Wetlands: good and bad bills

Channelization transforms natural, productive streams into swifly flowing, sterile ditches with treeless, rip-rapped (or concreted) banks. The process actually increases flooding (downstream), causes erosion, contributes to bridge failures, destroys aquatic life, and, above all, results in loss of highly valuable wetlands. In West Tennessee alone, there already are 1640 miles of channelized streams, and another 132 miles are under immediate threat from the Corps of Engineers' Obion and Forked Deer project.

The Stream Flow Restoration Bill (SB 1937 / HB 1732) would replace destructive channelization with use of environmentally sensitive Stream Obstruction Removal Guidelines (SORG). SORG requires site-specific analysis of stream-flow problems. All projects covered would still have to obtain Section-401 Water Quality Permits from the state. The bill is sponsored by Reps. Ker nell (D-Memphis), Crain (D-Ripley), and U.A. Moore (R-Millington), and by Sens. Greer (R-Greenview), Kyle (D-Memphis), and Cohen (D-Memphis), who deserve our thanks. TCWP members have been contacting Sen. McNally, a key swing vote. Watch for a report on how he acts on this issue.

Unfortunately, there is also a dangerous wetlands destruction bill before the legislature, this one backed by the powerful Farm Bureau. This bill, S 2187, sponsored by Sen. McKnight (D-Jackson) and Rep. Holt (D-Dyersburg), would automatically provide state permits - without the presently required review -- for several types of wetland-draining and/or channelization projects. Wetlands are vital to the environment. They function as natural filters to cleanse polluted waters, resupply underground water sources, store flood waters, grow valuable timber, and provide essential habitat for waterfowl and aquatic organisms. On wetlands (as on several other environmental indices), our state has an abysmal record: about 80% of the West Tennessee wetland forest has been lost, and only 790,000 acres of wetlands remain in our entire state.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Contact your State Sen. and Rep., by phone, if possible (see Political Guide), supporting SB 1937 / HB 1732, and opposing S 2187; give one or two reasons for your position. Don't let them tell you they'll support both bills; both is worse than neither.

C. Golf courses loom worse than ever

Last year, opposition by environmental groups and the McWherter administration stopped a bill (sponsored by Rep. Hillis and Sen. Cooper) that would have authorized a bond issue to build golf courses in four state parks. This year, in addition to another bond-issue bill, Sen. Cooper is sponsoring legislation vastly more dangerous for the state-park system. SB 1856 would create the Tennessee Recreation Authority, which would have decision-making power over golf courses on state lands (including where and when to build them) without any input from the Dept. of Conservation. Any money generated in this operation, instead of going into the parks system, would be used for more golf-course development. This may be the first step in
WHAT YOU CAN DO: It is urgent that you contact your State Rep. and Sen. as soon as possible, expressing your outrage over this proposal. (See Political Guide).

D. Scenic Rivers Act

The Attorney General's opinion of 8-22-89 held that the Commissioner of Conservation must establish boundaries around legislatively designated state scenic rivers. Within such boundaries, land-use restrictions are set by the Tenn. Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (NL172 ¶2A). A House Committee recently approved House Joint Resolution #561, which requests the Commissioner of Conservation "to promulgate rules and regulations that specify procedures for establishing boundaries" and to "outline processes for alternative implementation methodologies including acquisition, zoning and other techniques for achieving preservation ... within Scenic River corridors." The Resolution, further, requests DoC to work with representatives of selected organizations in the drafting of the rules and regs, and to submit a draft to specified legislative committees for review and comment. HJR 561 is expected to pass both Houses.

E. Miscellaneous bills

- EAF is supporting HB 1629 (Kernel) / SB 1960 (Greer) which would impose a surcharge on environmental permit fees to increase the support for environmental programs of the Depf. of Health & Environment.
- A bill that would place a tax on the sale of shells of mussels extracted from Tennessee rivers is intended to slow the alarming rate of mussel depletion. These shells are used by the cultured-pearl industry.
- A bill (sponsored by Sen. McNally), which has passed the Senate, allows the Dept. of Transportation to collect from people who have erected illegal billboards three times DoT's cost to remove the billboards.

F. Trail matters

The State Trails Council of Tennessee is still trying to get the Dept. of Conservation to reinstate the position of Trail Coordinator. After a recent high-level meeting, which included Gov. McWherter, things looked a little more encouraging.

The Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail, a congressionally authorized hiking/horseback trail along the Parkway right-of-way, will have to be built by volunteers (with guidance by National Park Service staff), the Congress having provided no funds for this purpose.

G. Pollution closes Ocoee River

Water contamination resulting from an inoperable sewage treatment plant at Copperhill, TN, as well as recent flood damage to access ramps and parking lots along the river, have resulted in closing the Ocoee indefinitely to whitewater rafting and other water-based recreation.

4. Cherokee National Forest

A. Test to eliminate below-cost timber sales

The U.S. Forest Service's fiscal 1991 budget contains a proposal to phase out below-cost timber sales in twelve of the Nation's 154 national forests. One of these twelve is the Cherokee. Those who oppose elimination of below-cost sales argue that even a sale that loses money for the federal government generates local economic activity (e.g., loggers' wages). Therefore, the phase-out proposal is accompanied by a one-year test designed to determine whether an increase in forest recreation can offset losses to the local economy (some have questioned whether one year is long enough for such a test). The budget requests $10 million to expand recreational opportunities in the 12 forests. Congress is also asked to grant the USFS authority to collect certain recreation user fees. - In 1989, the Cherokee sold 36 million board feet (mbf) for $1.5 million, but the cost of cutting was $2 million! Under the Pilot Test, timber harvest would be reduced to 17 mbf, and the Cherokee would receive $1.4 million to expand recreational opportunities (camping, swimming, picnic areas).

As might have been expected, timber interests have brought pressure to thwart implementation of the Pilot Test in the Cherokee. The Tennessee legislature is expected to approve House Joint Resolution No. 653, which "urges Congress not to approve that portion of the federal budget as it relates to the Below Cost Commercial Timber Sale Pilot Test on the Cherokee National Forest."

WHAT YOU CAN DO: It is thought unlikely that HJR 653 will have a major effect on the U.S. Congress. Nevertheless, you should contact your US Representative and tell him/her that the budget proposal to eliminate below-cost timber sales in the Cherokee N.F. sounds like a great idea (address on p.2).

B. ORV trails in the Greene Mountain Area

TCWP recently commented on an Environmental Assessment prepared by the Forest Service (USFS) for administering the use of ORVs (off-road vehicles, i.e., motor cycles and ATVs) in the Greene Mtn area, generally south of Greeneville, TN. This is the best bear country north of the Smokies. For bear-sensitive areas, the
C. National Forest Reform conference

The 1990s are generally considered to provide our last chance for changing national-forest management policies before major resource losses become irreversible. Several proposals have been introduced and developed in the past year for reforming the U.S. Forest Service's management of our national forests. These will be examined at the National Forest Reform Working Conference May 25-27 (in Western N.C.), to which activists from across the nation, researchers, foresters, and elected representatives have been invited. It is hoped that a unified national reform movement may emerge from the Conference.

TCWP is one of the co-sponsors of the conference and will have at least one official representative attending. Any other interested members are also welcome. For details, contact David Adler (Oak Ridge 482-1274) or call the WNC Alliance at Asheville (704-258-8737).

D. Settlement of Cherokee Plan Appeal is formalized

The Cherokee National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan was adopted in April 1986 but was subsequently appealed on several issues (TCWP being one of the interveners). In August 1988, an agreement was reached committing the USFS to propose the necessary amendments to the Plan. A month ago, the USFS issued the Final Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FSFEIS), describing the modified Alternative A. The USFS is committed to proposing these changes to the Plan.

The annual allowable sale quantity for 1986-1995 was lowered from 40.5 to 34.5 million board feet, a 15% reduction (but note that the USFS projects more than a doubling of this amount for the 2016-2125 decade, and almost a tripling for 2026-2035!). Instead of 100% even-age management, 10% of the acreage will be harvested by "uneven age management" (read, "selective cutting"). The remaining 90% of the acreage will be distributed as follows: 70% clearcutting, 15% shelterwood, and 5% seedtree. A copy of the FSFEIS may be requested from the Forest Supervisor, Cherokee NF, P.O.Box 2010, Cleveland, TN 37320

5. GLOBAL WARMING IS AN ENERGY ISSUE: USA MUST TAKE LEAD

According to an EPA estimate, 57% of all greenhouse-gas emissions derive from energy production and use. If, as is hoped, the 17% that are due to CFC (chlorofluorocarbon) emissions get phased out in the near future, the energy component of the greenhouse effect will be close to 70%. Mankind has increased atmospheric CO2 by 25% since 1850. Annual emissions of CO2 would now have to be reduced 50-80% just to stabilize atmospheric CO2 (leave alone reduce it). The USA, which has 5% of the world's population, produces over a tenth of the world's CO2.

All this clearly points to the need for sweeping reforms in US energy policy. Unfortunately, Pres. Bush has shown no inclination for even mild reforms. At a November meeting of 68 nations in the Netherlands, participants were ready to take action to reduce CO2 emissions, but the USA blocked even the milder proposal to stabilize these emissions. Everyone then hoped for better things for a follow-up international meeting, held in Washington on February 5: but the President said only that "policies must be consistent with economic growth." By that time, the media had revealed that, in a behind-the-scenes conflict between EPA Administrator Reilly and White House Chief of Staff Sununu, the latter had gained the President's ear. In a recent letter to Bush, over 700 scientists, including 49 Nobel laureates and almost 40% of the membership of the National Academy of Sciences, have stated that action "must be initiated immediately. Only by taking action now can we insure that future generations will not be put at risk." Sen. Gore has accused the Administration of "moving as stow as molasses" on these concerns.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Pres. Bush (The White House, Washington, DC 20500) to urge his leadership in addressing the global-warming crisis. Experts believe that we need at least a 20% reduction in CO2 by the year 2000. This means making a major shift to renewable, non-polluting energy sources and placing much greater emphasis on energy conservation. Though the major component of the greenhouse problem is energy production and use, our country should also take an active international role in attempts to stop the destruction of ecosystems that capture CO2 (primarily, tropical forests). A big factor in this destruction is rampant population growth. During the past decade, the USA abandoned its international family-planning assistance programs; we should reassert leadership in this regard, and should also fund research for effective but inexpensive contraceptives.
6. NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS ISSUES

A. Reform of the 1872 Mining Law

Hardrock minerals (gold, copper, uranium, etc) are currently given away for free on public lands under a Homestead Act era statute, the 1872 Mining Law. Even worse, the mining of these ores is exempt from normal environmental safeguards. HR 3666, recently introduced by Rep. Rahall, would amend the 1872 law -- for which many of us are grateful. However, those who have analyzed the Rahall bill conclude that it is far from adequate and should not be co-sponsored. Congressman should, instead, be notified that HR 3666 must be replaced with a much stronger Mining Law Reform bill. For further info, call the Mineral Policy Center, 202-737-1872.

B. Coal mining on public-resource lands

Lastyearthebig excitement wasoveran Office of Surface Mining (OSM) proposal to define Valid Existing Rights (VER) in such a manner as to allow coal mining in national parks, wildlife refuges, national wild & scenic rivers, etc., etc. Due to a tremendous public outcry (to which TCWP contributed -- see NL168 §2A), the proposal for rules change was dropped (NL171 §2A). Now, there is a new Head of OSM (Harry Snyder), and some of the trouble makers (Gentile, Cason) are gone. The question of how to rule on VER, however, remains. Snyder, trying to avoid renewed controversy, is evidently hoping that legal analysis will show the way. To this end, OSM is sponsoring a VER symposium on April 3-4 in Washington. Co-sponsors are the Univ. of Kentucky Mineral Law Center and the American Bar Assoc. Representatives of the coal industry and of environmental groups, and members of Congress have been invited. If you are interested in the symposium, or in the subsequently published proceedings, contact Jerry Childress (OSM), 202-343-4719.

C. Tongass reform needs support in Senate

The magnificent Tongass National Forest in southeastern Alaska has been the victim of excessive and unneeded timber harvests decreed by a 1980 law (namely, a permanent $40 million/year appropriation for road construction, a mandated cut of 4.5 billion board feet per decade, and two 50-year logging contracts -- see NL174 §8D). In July 1989, the House passed HR 987, which repeals these provisions and designates a total of 1.8 million acres of new wilderness in 23 areas of the Tongass. The Senate must now pass its own bill.

Currently, 52 senators are cosponsors of S 346 (Wirth), which resembles the House-passed bill except that the 23 areas are not designated wilderness; instead, they are only partially protected by a logging moratorium (other developments would still be allowed). Senate Energy Comm. chairman, Johnston, has recently revealed his own bill, which he proposes to use as a vehicle for committee mark-up. Johnston's bill would repeal the permanent appropriation, and delete the mandated harvest requirement. While not outright cancelling the two 50-year contracts, the bill provides mechanisms whereby such action can come about. The bill contains no wilderness designation, and would impose only a logging moratorium on 12 areas (instead of Wirth's 23), totalling 673,000 acres; mining, motorized recreation, power developments and other activities could, however occur in these areas. This is a very bad feature of the Johnston bill.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Urge both of your senators, (a) to co-sponsor S 346 (Wirth), and (b) to support the inclusion in the bill of wilderness designation for 23 important fish and wildlife areas in the Tongass NF (address on p. 2)

D. Pollution mars Grand Canyon experience

The air over the Grand Canyon used to be crystal clear almost every day of the year. Now it is crystal clear only 9 days during the summer, and miserable most of the winter. National Park Service (NPS) specialists have conclusively traced between 50 and 90% of the visibility-obscuring pollution to SO2 emitted by the Navaho power plant at Page, Arizona, just 15 miles from the park boundary. The Grand Canyon is one of 158 Class-I (pristine) areas nationwide (parks and wildernesses) that are subject to the prevention-of-significant-deterioration (PSD) provisions of the 1977 Clean Air Act. Under the terms of this law, various agencies (EPA, USDI, USFS) have the authority to halt projects that they can prove will damage Class-I areas. (A recent GAO report is, however, very critical of the past record of these agencies in enforcing PSD provisions.)

EPA is now in the position to propose best available retrofit technology to control emissions at the Navaho plant, which is owned by several public agencies, including the USDI's Bureau of Reclamation. Will Manuel Lujan, who, as Sec of the Interior is the nation's chief park-protection officer, strongly uphold emission controls for a power plant that is partly owned by another USDI agency? Sadly, Mr. Lujan has refused to support the technical conclusions both of the EPA and of his own NPS specialists; instead, he has called for a third review of the Navaho data. This means "haze as usual" at the Grand Canyon.

E. Everglades National Park enlarged

The nation's most significant wetland, the Everglades, has suffered severely from water deprivation caused by "upstream" agricultural developments and human settlements. Efforts of environmental groups to preserve Everglades...
ecosystems in the face of these threats resulted in the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act, signed by Pres. Bush in December. The Act enlarges the Park's boundaries by 110,000 acres of prime ecosystems, including the headwaters of a river that is the source of water for a major portion of the park. The law also authorizes the Corps of Engineers to restore adequate water flows to the park.

7. OTHER NATIONAL ISSUES

A. Clean Air legislation

The Senate is right in the midst of working on the Clean Air Act amendments, so only little will be reported here because it may be out of date by the time you read this. On March 2, Senators of both parties and the Bush Administration reached an agreement to support on the Senate floor a series of provisions encompassing virtually all the major areas of the Act.

The Acid Rain provisions will be much as hoped for by environmentalists. By the year 2000, SO\textsubscript{2} emissions will be reduced by 10 million tons below 1980 levels, and -- most important -- emissions will be capped in that year. -- NO\textsubscript{X} emissions will be reduced by 2.7 million tons. With regard to auto emissions, environmentalists had strongly supported two rounds of tail-pipe-emission reductions, since anticipated growth in traffic will overwhelm the effects of the first round. The compromise postpones completion of the first round from 1993 to 1995; as regards the second round, it will occur only if 11 of the 27 cities that are currently seriously polluted fail to attain health standards by 2001. -- To address the problem of global warming (see §5, this NL) environmentalists have strongly supported inclusion of CO\textsubscript{2} standards in the bill, namely to require automobile fuel efficiencies of 33 mpg in 1996, and 45 mpg in 2000. We see no provisions to that effect in the compromise.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Call the National Clean Air Coalition (202-797-5436) to find out the status of the bill, and what issues you should stress in calling your Senators. We suggest you ask about the CO\textsubscript{2} standards, specifically.

B. Should the bald eagle's protective status be downgraded?

The US Fish & Wildlife Service will undertake a comprehensive review of American bald eagle populations to determine whether reclassification of the species from "endangered" to "threatened" might be warranted. The Service has 5 bald eagle recovery regions in the USA, each with a team of experts charged with preparing a recovery plan. Each of the regions -- except the Southeast -- has reached the goals of the respective plan.

A Federal Register notice of February 7 solicits information about the biological status of the eagle. The National Audubon Society is questioning the downlisting proposal, pointing out that the species is still beset by serious and complex threats, such as habitat loss and acid rain. There is also some worry about the role of political pressure in rushing a change in status. If you, too, are concerned (especially in view of the fact that recovery goals in our own region -- the Southeast -- have not yet been met), write to Dan James, USF&WS, Federal Bldg., Fort Snelling, Twin Cities, Minn. 55111.

C. Death toll from Exxon Valdez spill

US Fish & Wildlife biologists estimate the seabird death from this oil spill at 90,000 to 270,000, involving 74 species, all protected by federal law (thus, the killing of even a single bird can result in a fine or jail sentence). At least 1,016 sea otters and 151 bald eagles were also killed. After the spill, Pres. Bush said it would be "irresponsible" to allow Arctic oil drilling or exploration. Where do you think the irresponsibility lies?

D. How America feels about environmental protection

Americans for the Environment, the Sierra Club, and the National Wildlife Federation last year issued "The Rising Tide," an analysis of polling trends over the past 20 years.

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<th>Question</th>
<th>Earlier (%)</th>
<th>Now (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Concerned about pollution of freshwater</td>
<td>48% (1970)</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concerned about air pollution</td>
<td>46% (1970)</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thought government is spending too little on the environment</td>
<td>48% (1977)</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would opt for wilderness preservation over energy development</td>
<td>19% (1978)</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Think environmental damage poses threat to national security</td>
<td></td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would sacrifice economic growth to preserve the environment</td>
<td></td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would sacrifice the environment to aid economic growth</td>
<td></td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would pay higher taxes to control acid rain and toxic waste</td>
<td></td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believe gov't should give higher priority to cleaning up the nation's air and water</td>
<td></td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In "The Rising Tide" Louis Harris writes: "It is possible that in 1992 or 1996 a president will be chosen and elected with a pro-environment stance.
as his primary identification. Such a prospect seemed impossible only a decade ago.*

8. THE CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT:
THEIR PERFORMANCE ON
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

A. TENNESSEANS MAY BE PROUD OF THEIR SENATORS!

The League of Conservation Voters, is a 20-year-old non-partisan organization whose goal is to elect pro-environmental candidates to public office, and, after they are elected, to keep a watchful eye on their performance in office. In January, the LCV issued its 1989 National Environmental Scorecard. In the Senate, Tennessee tied for second place from the top, with a combined score of 90% (Sasser, 80%, Gore 100%). Only Connecticut and Massachusetts, each with a score of 95%, out-ranked Tennessee. We hope you will express your appreciation to both of our senators (address on p.2).

In the House, Tennessee did not do quite as well, with an average score of only 49%, putting us No.34 from the top. Some of our Representatives, however, did a good deal better than average and deserve to be commended by their constituents. Scores are summarized below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1989</th>
<th>87/88</th>
<th>85/86</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quillen (R)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duncan (R)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31*</td>
<td>11*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lloyd (D)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper (D)</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clement (D)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gordon (D)</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundquist (R)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanner (D)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford (D)</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. PRESIDENT BUSH'S FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE

The LCV's overall assessment: "Needs Improvement." While way ahead of his predecessor in paying attention to environmental policies, Bush has, however, failed to provide strong national leadership on environmental issues, and is not doing nearly enough to protect our environment for future generations. The LCV, as well as Friends of the Earth, give the President A's on a number of items, including the appointment of William Reilly to head EPA, the breaking of the stalemate on Clean Air Act reauthorization, and Reilly's blocking of the Two Forks Dam in Colorado (with Bush's support).

On many other issues, however, his actions have not fulfilled his campaign promises, or have actually been contrary to those promises. On global warming, no U.S. actions have been taken, and our international role has been timid at best (see §5, this NL).

On Antarctica, his administration has opted to support an international treaty that would open the door to minerals exploitation. On Clean Air, while Bush has been rather strong on acid rain, he has been quite weak on air toxics and urban smog (see §7A, this NL). He appointed Manuel Lujan (who had a LCV average rating of only 23%, and who supports drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, ANWR) as Sec. of the Interior; and he nominated James Cason (who had worked to allow stripmining in national parks) to oversee the Forest Service and SCS (the latter nomination was withdrawn in the face of opposition -- see NL 174 §98). He hailed to exert leadership following the Exxon Valdez oilspill, and said it would be "irresponsible" to halt Arctic oil exploration, including drilling in ANWR. During Congressional efforts to pass strong oil-spill liability legislation, he sided with the oil industry on a number of crucial provisions. Though he had promised "nonet toss wetlands," he yielded to oil-industry pressure in moving to delay a key part of the wetlands policy. And, after calling Boston Harbor "the dirtiest harbor in America" (during the campaign), his budget cut $400 million from water-pollution-abatement and sewage programs.

Keep an eye on the President's environmental performance in 1990, and do not hesitate to let the White House know what you think of it.

9. TCWP NEWS

A. BSF MARCH FOR PARKS, MARCH 24 -- TCWP'S EARTH DAY EVENT

You should all have received a special mailing announcing our March for Parks in the BSFNRA that will take place on March 24. We hope many of you will participate in the rally at the Bandy Creek amphitheater and in the subsequent hikes, and that all of you will participate in at least the fund-raising component of the event. The money will be used for resource protection and environmental education in the BSFNRA, specifically for water-quality-testing equipment, for the printing of site bulletin and ecological and geological features, and for BSFNRA clean-up. If you did not receive the original announcement, or if you have lost it, be sure to call one of us immediately for directions: Jenny Freeman (584-6016), Martha Ketelé (522-2443), Maureen Cunningham (483-8312), Lee Russell (482-2153), or Judith Bartlow (494-3421).

B. NORTH RIDGE TRAIL HIKE AND CLEAN-UP, MARCH 31

TCWP not only developed the North Ridge Trail, it also underook to maintain it. This will be one of our trail-maintenance hikes, and we will concentrate on the westernmost section, between Mississippi and Illinois Avenues (if time allows, we may proceed a short distance east of Illinois). Meet
at 9 a.m. at the corner of Mississippi Ave and W. Outer Drive. (You can park on Mississippi.) A shuttle will be arranged. Bring a large plastic bag for trash pick-up, and one or two trail-maintenance tools, if you can (clippers, hoe, etc). For info, call Chuck Coulant (483-5976 or 574-4174).

c. Whites Creek Alley, April 21

When we convinced TVA to designate the Whites Creek Small Wild Area, we also undertook to maintain the 4-mile trail within it. Usually, there is little to do except minor trash pick-up. If you haven’t been on this trail, try it: it winds its way through varied hardwood forests — into coves, along ridge tops, and around bays. A short segment goes through a pine-regeneration area (Bowaters), which gives you great views of Watts Bar Lake but makes you doubly appreciate re-entering the mature hardwood forest.

For car-pooling, meet at 9 a.m. at Big Turtle Park, about 2 miles west of traffic light #13 on the Oak Ridge Turnpike. Be sure to bring a lunch, and wear sturdy shoes. If you want to go to the trailhead on your own (be there at 10 a.m.) follow these directions. Take US 27 south from Rockwood. About 4 miles after US 70 turns off (while you continue south on US 27), you will cross two bridges in tandem; 2.0 miles beyond the center of the second bridge, a road turns left at Roddy and goes 1 mile to the lake-side parking lot. For more info, call Chuck Coulant (482-5976 or 574-4174) or Lee Russell (482-2153 or 574-0860).

10. ACTIVITIES; READING MATTER

- March 24, TCWP March for Parks Fund-Raiser, and hike in the Big S. Fork NRRA. This is our Earth Day activity (see 9A).
- March 31, TCWP North Ridge Trail hike and clean-up (see 9B).
- April 21, TCWP White’s Creek hike and clean-up (see 9C).
- April 22, EARTH DAY. We certainly hope you will have participated in TCWP’s Earth Day activity on March 24. Even if you did, consider additional suitable activities for April 22. To find out about events in your area, call the Tennessee Environmental Council, Nashville 321-5075. Or, plant a tree or two. In any case, wear GREEN on April 22!
- The Household Toxics Roundup, an Earth Day activity, will be held on a yet-to-be-scheduled Saturday following Earth Day, when Knox County residents will be able to bring hazardous household chemicals to a central collection point. Speakers on the subject are available through mid-May; call 966-8888 or 974-0643.
- A free ten-page packet full of practical mini-lesson plans, listed by grade level, is available from Pat Suiter, P.O.Box 557953, Miami, FL 33255. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope (65¢ in stamps).
- May 6-8, Conference on construction methods and materials that pose no hazard to health or the environment: Washington, DC. The organizer is Charles A. Howell, III, former TN Commissioner of Conservation, who is the originator of TIES — the Tennessee Initiative for Environmental Sensitivity in Construction. For further info, contact Mr. Howell at the Cumberland Science Museum, 800 Ridley Blvd., Nashville, TN 37203; 615-259-8099.

11. LATE-BREAKING NEWS ON STATE WETLANDS ISSUE

On March 14, the Senate Energy Committee decided to shelve both the conservationist supported bill on gentler channel clearing (SB 1937 / HB 1732) and the Farm Bureau bill on wetland draining (SB 2187). Chairman Greer, who had sponsored SB 1937, appointed Sens. Tommy Burks (D-Monterey), Joe Haynes (D-Nashville), and Lou Patien (R-Cleveland) to a subcommittee which will study the issue and report to next year’s General Assembly.

In view of the fact that compromise could not be achieved, conservationists feel that this is the second-best outcome (the best, of course, would have been to have only SB 1937 enacted). At this time, there is no need for you to do anything. We’ll keep you posted, should the need for action arise later.
TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR WILDERNESS PLANNING
1991 -- our 25th anniversary year

To celebrate TCWP's SILVER ANNIVERSARY,
we have planned a number of celebration events for the year.
We hope you will put these on your calendar now, and join us for as many as you can.
Information about the first event is below. Subsequent events will be described in the Newsletter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>Frozen Head Hike and Pot-luck Supper (see below for information)</td>
<td>Bob Luxmoore</td>
<td>435-0797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Bob Miller: &quot;Red Wolf Reintroduction in GSMNP&quot;</td>
<td>Maureen Cunningham</td>
<td>483-312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O.R. Library Auditorium, 6:30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>Big South Fork Trails Day -- Honey Creek Hike</td>
<td>Martha Ketelle</td>
<td>522-2443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dave Adler</td>
<td>482-1274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>Canoe Trip on Melton Hill Canoe Trail</td>
<td>Chuck Coolant</td>
<td>483-5976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>Obed Overlook Hike and Picnic</td>
<td>Lee Russell</td>
<td>482-2153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>Whites Creek Hike</td>
<td>Judith Banlow</td>
<td>494-9421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 15-17</td>
<td>TCWP Annual Meeting, Wesley Woods</td>
<td>Maureen Cunningham</td>
<td>483-8312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jenny Freeman</td>
<td>482-5980</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FROZEN HEAD HIKE AND POT-LUCK SUPPER

TCWP has for many years worked for the protection of this very beautiful part of the Cumberland Mountains, which is now a State Park and Natural Area. Thanks partly to our efforts, the Flat Fork Valley on the approach to the Park is now protected against strip mining.

On April 27, there should still be some wild-flowers left, especially in the higher elevations. Join us for a moderate hike or a short hike, and a pot-luck supper afterwards. Or come for the supper only, if you prefer. Hikers assemble at Shelter C (very soon after passing Park HQ, look for a turn-off, on the right, leading to a parking area; Shelter C is at the back of the parking area). The moderate hike leaves at 1 p.m., the easy one at 3 p.m.

Supper will be at 6 p.m. in Shelter C. The shelter has electric outlets in case your supper plans involve a crock-pot or other small appliance.

Bring family and friends. Call Bob Luxmoore if you need directions to Frozen Head, or if you want to coordinate the dish you are planning with what others might bring.
Representative Districts of the State of Tennessee

For telephone numbers dial (615) 741 - then the four digits listed in parenthesis below. WMB = War Memorial Bldg. LP = Legislative Plaza. Mail for all legislators can be sent to Legislative Plaza, Nashville, TN 37219.

2. Rep. Alan R. Hubbard 214 WMB (2039) (R)
5. Rep. Zane C. Whittington, Jr. 204 WMB (6800) (R)
11. Rep. Ronald Earl Davis 117 WMB (6834) (R)
12. Rep. Larry C. Hoskey 219 WMB (631) (R)
15. Rep. Joe W. Armstrong 147 LP (9768) (R)
17. Rep. Ray Hill 305 WMB (1900) (R)
18. Rep. Maxene Anderson 205 WMB (6567) (R)
COMMUNICATION HOW-TO

The countryside

26501

452-545-4253

Address: 47500 Wisconsin Avenue, Potomac, MD 20854

STAFFED BY THE FEDERAL-STATE INTERSTATE AGREEMENT

111 E. 14th Street

202-444-4253

FEDERAL OFFICIALS

1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

202-456-4253

Phone: 1-800-123-4567

Fax: 1-800-123-4567