

TENNESSEE CITIZENS for WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 178

September 12, 1990

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

12. ACTION SUMMARY

T/No	Issue	Contact	"Message" or Action
1A	Big S. Fork transfer	Sens. Sasser, Gore; Rep. Cooper	"Thanks for efforts: keep persevering!"
	Big S. Fork funding	Sen. Sasser	"Secure appropriation for land acquisition!"
2A	Obed General Mngt Plan	Sens. Sasser, Gore; Rep. Cooper; your Rep.; copies to Dir. Ridenour	"Urge NPS to proceed speedily with Obed GM Plan!"
5A	Tenn. public lands	Your State legislators	Inform them of any development threats.
5C	Landfill impact on trail	DHE Comm. Luna	"Do not permit impact on Cumberland Trail!"
7	Endangered Species Act	Pres. Bush US Rep. US Sen. and Rep.	"Do not undermine the ES Act!" "Co-sponsor HR 4492!" "Oppose weakening of ES Act; oppose restriction of right to sue; support curtailment of log exports!"
8A	Forest Service roads	U. S. Senators	"Support \$100M reduction in road budget!"
8B	1872 Mining Law land giveaway	Sen. Sasser	"Support Regula Rider!"
8C	Elections	League of Conservation Voters	"Support election of environmentalists!"
9A	Auto fuel efficiency	Sen. Sasser	"Support S 1224!"
4B, 10	TCWP jobs	TCWP	Volunteer to help with rivers assessment, walk-a-thon, filing, or whatever

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

1. BIG SOUTH FORK TRANSFER MOVING ALONG

A. Status of transfer from Corps to NPS

In order to complete the land acquisition that is essential to the integrity of the Big South Fork NRRRA, it is necessary that control of the Area be transferred from the Corps of Engineers (CoE) to the National Park Service (NPS) (see NL 177 ¶ 1A for details). Procedures for an administrative transfer (which is provided for by the 1974 authorizing legislation) are under way, but such a transfer would be insufficient by itself to permit land acquisition by NPS since the authorizing Act (which envisioned completion of the Area by the CoE) prohibits the use of Land & Water Conservation Fund money, the NPS' sole source of acquisition funds. Therefore a legislative transfer must also occur to take care of this problem.

Since it was too late in the legislative session for a free-standing bill, Senators Sasser and Gore, and Congressmen Cooper and Rogers (Kentucky) are attempting to add transfer language as an amendment to the Water Resources Development Act. This pending legislation is the latest in a series of biennial authorizations for CoE navigation and flood-control projects. The House Public Works Subcommittee marked up its version on July 26, and the bill (HR 5314) contains the BSFNRRRA transfer amendment (drafted by NPS, with some input from us, and slightly altered by Congressman Rogers). Full-committee mark-up is imminent (and may already have occurred as we write this). The Senate bill, S 2740, was supposed to be tagging behind, but to everyone's surprise it was passed by unanimous consent just before the summer recess -- without the BSFNRRRA transfer amendment. Sen. Gore's staff assures us that they have received commitments that the amendment will be retained by the conference committee; as a reminder, Sen. Gore is also writing to the chairman of the conference.

A number of hurdles remain. The bill may be vetoed for reasons totally unrelated to the BSF. And, if it passes, separate legislation will be required to secure a specific FY1991 appropriation for BSF land acquisition.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** (a) Write to Sens. Sasser and Gore and to Rep. Cooper (addresses on p.2) to thank them for their efforts to date, and to urge perseverance. (b) Write to Sen. Sasser and urge him to secure a meaningful appropriation for acquisition of the remaining 16-20,000 acres. Remind him that there is considerable urgency since some of the lands are imminently threatened by logging, mining, or other harmful developments.

B. March for Parks

TCWP has received a Certificate of Appreciation from the National Parks and Conservation Association for participating in the 1990 March for Parks. As you will recall (NL 177 ¶ 10B), we raised \$2,007, of which \$1,153 will go to the Big South Fork NRRRA for purchase of water-quality monitoring equipment, and the rest to national park-protection efforts. Throughout the country, close to 15,000 people participated in the event which raised nearly \$400,000 for parks nationwide. The second annual March for Parks will be held May 4 and 5, 1991.

2. OBED WILD & SCENIC RIVER

A. General Management Plan needed

Development of a General Management Plan (GMP) for the Obed National Wild & Scenic River is long overdue. Specific management prescriptions and actions (which usually follow, and are based on, a GMP) are needed in order to provide long-term protection of the resource. For the past two years, National Park Service funds have been authorized for an Obed GMP, but other priorities have, each year, been superimposed on the tasks of the Southeast Regional Office of NPS. Currently, the Obed Plan is still a top priority at national HQ, but is not on the FY1991 list for the Regional Office.

Generating an Obed GMP may not be as big a task as at first it might appear. The 1978 Obed Development Plan, which was required by the authorizing legislation and has been approved by Congress, contains most of the items that need to be in a GMP. Probably, the GMP could be merely a revision of the Development Plan. Additionally, much of the work for the GMP could be done through charge, e.g., by utilizing TVA services or enlisting expert volunteers.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Write to Sen. Gore, Sen. Sasser, Rep. Jim Cooper, and your own Rep. (addresses on p.2) and ask them to urge NPS to proceed *expeditiously* with development of the Obed Plan. Point out that the Obed WSR having been established 14 years ago, it is high time NPS had a guide for future management, so that important management actions could be taken. Point out that the Plan has been a top NPS priority for the past two years, but appears to be a stepchild of the SE Regional Office. Send copies to James M. Ridenour, Director, NPS, US Dept. of the Interior, Interior Bldg, Washington, DC 20240.

B. River clean-up

The Wartburg office of the Obed National Wild & Scenic River on May 11-13 coordinated 13 groups and 4 government organizations in a highly successful large-scale clean-up. Over 31 miles of

riverbanks were cleaned, as well as 7 access sites and 16 miles of specific access roads. It is estimated that about 350 volunteers collected nearly 28 tons of litter. Especially significant was the participation of 6 groups of young people (scouts, brownies, 4-H clubs, etc) from within the Obed watershed. These youngsters will have developed an appreciation for the value of the resource which some of their elders almost succeeded in destroying when, in the 1960s, they were pushing to dam the river and inundate the gorge. We salute all the volunteers who participated, and congratulate NPS for organizing this very worthwhile project.

3. STATUS OF THE FROZEN HEAD DECISION

In March, the Office of Surface Mining (OSM), granting our "522" petition, declared the 5,250-acre Flat Fork watershed unsuitable for surface coal-mining operations. On June 20, the Emory River Land Co., which claims to own coal reserves in the watershed, appealed the decision to the US District Court. On August 31, our attorney, Carol Nickle, filed a Motion to Dismiss. For one thing, Emory River Land Co. filed in the wrong court. Several other germane arguments for dismissal are stated in the Memorandum of Law in support of our Motion. It is expected that OSM will also file a Motion to Dismiss on grounds similar to those cited by us.

4. TENNESSEE RIVERS

A. Tennessee Scenic Rivers Act Implementation

Last year, the State Attorney General issued an Advisory Opinion to the effect that the Commissioner of Conservation has a legal responsibility to establish boundary areas along State Scenic Rivers and to apply certain land-use restrictions within these boundaries (NL172 ¶2A). This spring, the General Assembly passed House Joint Resolution 561, which requests the Dept of Conservation (DoC) to draft regulations specifying procedures to establish boundaries along scenic rivers. The Department is directed to work with interested organizations in developing the regulations, and to submit a draft of the regulations to the appropriate legislative committees for review and comment.

Bob Allen, DoC's Scenic Rivers Administrator, earlier this summer organized a listening session attended by representatives of several groups, including the Farm Bureau and the Forestry Association, which are potentially antagonistic to the Scenic Rivers program. These groups are now waiting for a proposal from DoC on which to comment. DoC is organizing a late-fall meeting with

a consultant and with other interested parties for the purpose of drafting such a proposal.

B. Rivers assessment

A prerequisite to protecting additional worthy rivers in Tennessee is an assessment of all rivers in the state. It is estimated that to develop such an assessment would require well over a year for a person working full-time. There are, at present, no funds for such an effort: in the DoC, and it would require legislative action to create a position for this purpose. The alternative is to raise funds for this task through foundation grants, although the work would proceed under state auspices. TCWP's exec. director, Jenny Freeman, recently approached the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Assoc. to see whether they would be willing to collaborate with TCWP in an effort to secure funding -- by one means or another (or a combination of means) -- for a statewide rivers assessment. She encountered approval for this idea, and the initiative will probably go forth. Any TCWP members willing to help should get in touch with us (see bottom of p.1)

C. Efforts to end West Tennessee channelization

The Corps of Engineers' West Tennessee Tributaries (WTT) project was authorized in 1948. Since then, the needs and desires of Tennesseans have changed considerably, and a major effort is now underway to get the project modified. The major flooding problems have been mostly solved; if channelization were to continue in the remaining project area, it would cause lots more problems than it would solve. The greatest tragedy would be the large-scale loss of wetlands.

In August, 26 organizations (including TCWP) wrote to Gov. McWherter, urging him to request the US Congress to modify the WTT project so as to substitute Stream Obstruction Removal Guidelines for channelization. The organizations have drafted legislation that that would accomplish this need while maintaining desirable features of the project.

5. OTHER STATE ITEMS

A. Protection of public lands

Many of our state parks, natural areas, and other public lands are threatened by encroaching developments, and there is an increasing feeling that some sort of buffer-zone protection is badly needed. As of now, it is important that if you are aware of any specific threats, you let your state legislators know, so as to make them receptive to protective measures that might later be proposed (for addresses, see TCWP Political Guide). Also, inform Bob Barnett, chmn, TEC Public Lands Committee, 5278 Edmondson Pike #1001, Nashville, TN 37211, (615) 831-1136.

B. State trails needs

The State Trails Council of Tennessee is in the process of making recommendations to the DoC concerning the 1991/92 budget, which is currently being formulated. If you are aware of broad trails-policy needs, or of needs for specific trails, you are familiar with, contact Robert D. Brown (chairman of the Council), 123 Blackburn Ave., Nashville, TN 37205. The Council will soon meet in Knoxville to explore East Tennessee trails issues, including (a) Cumberland Trail developments, needs and plans, (b) possible rails-to-trail conversion at Cumberland Gap, and (c) completion of the Benton MacKaye Trail. If you wish to attend the Knoxville meeting, let us know (address on p.1).

C. Proposed Oliver Springs landfill may affect Cumberland Trail

The 250-acre landfill, proposed for an abandoned stripmine site just outside Oliver Springs, would accept trash from all counties in Tennessee and from surrounding states. It could have various types of impact on the Cumberland Trail (CT). Despite the fact that the Division of Waste Management is required by law to notify DoC if any of its actions might impact a state park, trail, etc., DoC did not learn of the proposed landfill until contacted by a private citizen. Until 1987, the CT route went right through the proposed landfill site along a former mine road. When a trail crew discovered a NO TRESPASSING sign there, it temporarily rerouted the trail to the short section of Walden's Ridge between Poplar Gap and Winters Gap, just southeast of the site. The Coal Creek Mining and Manufacturing Co., which owns not only the proposed landfill site but also 40 miles of the right-of-way in another section of the CT, has threatened that if DoC opposes the landfill, the 40 miles of right-of-way will be subject to cancellation. You may wish to express your feelings to Commissioner J.W. Luna, Tenn. Dept of Health and Environment (344 Cordell Hull Bldg, Nashville, TN 37219).

D. Stream pollution from farms

EPA has called agriculture the largest source of non-point-source pollution, affecting, on average, 2,000 river miles per state. A recent report by the State's Division of Water Pollution Control lists about 3,000 miles of Tennessee streams that suffer agricultural pollution; in about half of these (1,573 miles), the pollution is classified as "major." Among East Tennessee rivers impacted are segments and/or tributaries of the Tennessee, Little Tennessee, Little River, French Broad, Little Pigeon, Nolichucky, Holston, and Clinch. Major causes in East Tennessee are animal management areas and pasturelands. Farmers are exempt from the 1977 State Water Quality Control Act and may allow animals access right into streams. Some work is currently underway to educate farmers, and to

develop more efficient ways of disposing of, or recycling, animal wastes.

6. TVA APPROPRIATION

Appropriations from Congress represent only about 1% of TVA's budget; the rest (more than \$6 billion) is the power budget, financed by the sale of TVA electricity. The appropriated amount is however vital for TVA's natural resources, agriculture, and economic development programs. During the Reagan era, the administration request was always incredibly low, though Congress each year upped the sum to about \$100 million. The FY1991 Bush request of \$91 M, though higher than the Reagan requests, is still \$28 M below the FY1990 level. The House has appropriated \$135 M; and the Senate Appropriations Committee bill has \$125 M for TVA (a 5% increase over FY1990). So TVA can probably expect around \$130 M, minus whatever amount gets cut during the budget reconciliation proceedings.

7. ADMINISTRATION PLANS ALL-OUT ATTACK ON ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

In the Pacific Northwest, the spotted owl is imperiled solely because the entire ancient forest system on which it depends is being liquidated. For over a decade now there has been awareness of the danger to the species, but it took overwhelming scientific evidence and a court order to force the Fish & Wildlife Service to list the owl as "threatened" in June. An inter-agency blue-ribbon panel of distinguished scientists, convened to develop a plan for owl recovery, recommended taking 3 million acres of ancient forest land out of timber production. This has unleashed an all-out attack on the Endangered Species Act (ESA) itself.

The first thing the Administration did was to ignore the recommendation of the blue-ribbon panel of government biologists and to convene in its stead a stacked committee, chaired by the Sec. of Agriculture and made up of Northwest governors and other politicians and by political appointees; not a single environmental representative is included. The committee has been asked to come up with a "recovery" plan that would "balance" the needs of the owland the timber industry.

Most significantly, the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior have said that they will seek legislation to exempt the federal timber sale program from compliance with the ESA whenever owl protection would conflict with timber sales. They also propose to expand the mandate of the so-called "God committee," which, under the terms of the ESA, can overrule protective measures if these are not deemed in the public interest. Undoubtedly, the timber industry will find allies among other commercial interests for the all-out attack on the ESA. Not only the

spottedowl, but all threatened and endangered species are at risk from this attack.

There is danger from an additional quarter: Sen. Hatfield (R-OR) and some other members of the Northwest congressional delegation have introduced legislation that would override several existing laws by requiring excessive levels of timber cutting and by weakening the legal rights of citizens to challenge federal actions that threaten ancient forests. Specifically, it would not allow logging to be halted while appeals of forest plans were pending. Note that this restriction would apply to national forests nationwide -- not just in the NW! Thus, timber interests are threatening our legislative process itself.

Here are some facts to consider. About 90% of our ancient forests have already been cut -- over 25 million acres of 200-year (and older) trees; at the current rate of cutting, 100% will be gone in another decade. This means that, 10 years from now, the timber industry will have to adjust to cutting exclusively second-growth trees anyway. If then, why not now -- and preserve a national treasure? George Frampton, President of the Wilderness Society, recently wrote: "The owl has now become a scapegoat for the enormous environmental and economic damage that the timber industry itself has done to this region [the Northwest] over the past half century ... overcut first their own lands and then the public forests; exported huge quantities of unmilled logs ... ; and now have left almost nothing for the recreation, watershed protection, and habitat need of future generations -- or even for a sustainable timber industry!" The article also points out that the industry itself has eliminated 26,000 jobs in the past ten years through increased automation. Preserving what's left of the ancient forests may cost another 1,600 jobs per year for the next 10 years; but more than 160,000 new jobs are being created in the region annually. "The real issue is not whether to weaken the Endangered Species Act, but how to manage an inevitable economic transition."

WHAT YOU CAN DO: (1) Write to Pres. Bush (The White House, Wash., DC 20500) and protest the Administration's attempts to undermine the ESA. [Note: the ESA represents our nation's judgement that we are prepared to incur some economic costs in achieving the greater value to society of preventing species extinction by preserving habitat.] (2) Ask your US Rep (address on p.2) to co-sponsor HR 4492, Rep. Jontz's Ancient Forest Protection Act (which would create an interim "reserve system" of ancient forests while determinations were made of which areas should be given permanent protection). (3) Urge your US Senators and Rep (addresses on p.2) to oppose any bills (or hidden riders) that would weaken the ESA or would restrict the rights of citizens to sue federal agencies; and urge them to support laws that would curtail the export of raw logs (processing timber at home would offset job losses from restricted cutting).

8. OTHER NATIONAL NEWS

A. Forest Service road budget needs to be cut

The US Forest Service has carved up the national forests with more than 360,000 miles of roads (enough to go to the Moon and halfway back again), roads built with tax dollars for the benefit of the logging industry. Roads destroy wildlife habitat, degrade water quality and scenic beauty, and obliterate trails. The taxpayer-supported road program in turn fuels a massive below-cost timber-sale program that has lost the taxpayer another \$3 billion over the past decade. Reducing funding for roads should free up some dollars for wildlife programs, trails, and recreation.

Recently a House subcommittee reduced the USFS road budget by \$30 million. This is a step in the right direction, but not enough. It is hoped that the Senate will be willing to make a \$100 million cut. Time is very short for consideration of the FY 1991 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, and the timber industry is making an all-out effort to hang on to every road dollar. Phone calls to your Senators are in order (see p. 2 for number). The message is simple: "please support a \$100 million reduction in the USFS road-construction budget!"

B. Mining-reform legislation needs support

One-hundred-and-eight years later, our archaic Mining Law is still on the books. The 1872 Act, which controls all hardrock mining on public lands, established the policy that valuable metallic ores are to be given to anyone who finds them, and that any lands on which such ores are found must be sold for \$2.50 or \$5 per acre. The "REGULAR RIDER" in the Interior Department's 1991 Appropriations bill (named after Rep. Ralph Regula, R-OH) would stop this giveaway of public lands and resources. The rider has already been approved in the House bill, but in the Senate (where it is supported by Sen. Bumpers), there will be mining-jobby pressures to delete it. A key vote is that of Sen. Sasser, a member of the Appropriations Committee. With time being of the essence, you may wish to call Sen. Sasser (202-224-3344) and urge him to support the FY91 interior Dept. Appropriations ban on land sales under the 1872 Mining Law.

The land giveaway represents only a small part of the abuses that the 1872 Act permits. Incredible harm to our public lands has resulted from this antiquated law, particularly in the West, where current and abandoned mines blight the landscape and bleed into the waters. Two bills have been introduced to address various elements of mining reform: Sen. Dale Bumpers' S 1126, and Congressman Nick Rahall's HR 3866. The Mineral Policy Center (MPC) has examined various elements that must be addressed in national mining legislation and has compared the 1872 Law, S

1126, and HR 3866 with regard to these elements. MPC concludes that neither of the bills addresses all of the elements, but that S 1126 is a sound beginning; MPC does not support HR 3866. MPC also believes that, except for the Regata rider (see above), a partial revision of the 1872 Law would be unwise. For more detailed info, contact MPC, Room 550, 1325 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Wash., DC 20005.

C. **Abuses of the National Parks concession system**

Not only a report by the Interior Dept.'s Inspector General (NL177 ¶6B) but also the findings of a special task force convened by Sec. Manuel Lujan have revealed shocking abuses of the NPS concession system. Concessioners make enormous profits from food, lodging, and other services, but pay an average of only 2.5% of their gross receipts in licensing fees (and this money goes to the General Treasury, rather than to the parks). Concession contracts only rarely come up for renewal, and when they do, current concessioners are given preference, so there is little competition. NPS rents buildings to concessioners at well below fair-market value.

On July 25, Sec. Lujan appeared before the Parks and Public Lands subcommittee of the Senate Energy Committee to present his plans for rectifying some of these abuses. Sen. McClure (R-ID), the ranking Republican on the full committee) expressed the concessioners' alarm at the proposed reforms and sharply attacked Lujan for announcing a new policy without having consulted Congress. Lujan's policy, among other things, calls for higher franchise fees (about 22% of gross receipts in some cases), requires concessioners to make a fair payment for the use of park facilities, attempts to increase competition, and denies a concessioner's possessory interest when improvements paid for by him are exchanged for franchise-fee reductions. The National Parks and Conservation Association and the Wilderness Society supported Lujan's position. Additionally, they recommended that more concessions facilities be placed at the edge of parks or in adjacent towns, rather than in ecologically sensitive areas of the park. Because of the lateness of the session, no legislation addressing concessioner issues is likely to be addressed by this Congress.

D. **Tongass Timber Reform close to completion**

The Tongass National Forest covers a major part of southeastern Alaska, a magnificent area indeed. For over a decade, the Forest has been subjected to highly excessive cutting, mandated by law (NL174 ¶8D; NL175 ¶6C).

By a vote of 99-0, the Senate passed the Tongass Timber Reform Act on June 13, exactly 11

months after the House had overwhelmingly passed its version (HR 987). Both bills end the mandated annual cut of 450 million board feet of timber, and both halt the annual automatic \$40 million timber-operations subsidy to the Forest Service. The House bill cancels two long-term contracts with timber mills, while the Senate bill merely seeks to improve these contracts. The major difference between the two bills is with regard to wilderness; the House bill designates an additional 1.8 million acres of wilderness in the Tongass, but the Senate bill contains no new wilderness areas. The Senate bill, would protect only 637,000 acres from logging, while still allowing mining and other developments. The conference committee had not met by the time Congress adjourned for its summer recess.

E. **Threats to Wildlife Refuges**

Our country has 455 National Wildlife Refuges. Confirming a 1988 Wilderness Society study, separate General Accounting Office and Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) reports in 1989 and 1990 found that more than 60% of these refuges now permit activities harmful to wildlife. HR 4948, recently introduced by Gerry Studds (D-MA), would give the FWS power to prohibit misuse of lands and waters within the Refuge System. Currently, the burden falls on the refuge manager to prove that an activity would *not* be compatible. By contrast, HR 4948 would automatically *disallow* new activities unless these can be shown to be compatible with the purposes of the refuge.

F. **Endangered Species funding**

Before the Congress recessed, the House Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations marked up the funding bill for endangered-species-related programs. For the Fish & Wildlife Service endangered-species programs, the committee voted substantial increases over the Administration request, and included a sum earmarked for plant recovery. BLM and the US Forest Service also received encouraging sums. Other programs did not fare as well. Thus, for operation of new National Wildlife Refuges, the House bill provided only a \$2 M increase (conservation groups had asked for \$20 M); and National Park Service resource management programs received an increase of only \$1 M (conservation groups had asked for \$40 M).

G. **Elections will shape the environmental policies of the 1990s**

Environmentalists are being outspent by a margin of more than 50 to 1 by the coal, utility, auto, timber and other industries that are attempting to protect their right to do as they wish. One way to counteract this pressure is to support: the non-partisan League of Conservation Voters. LCV was organized by the leaders of almost every environmental organization in the country; most of

these groups cannot themselves be involved in political campaigns.

In serving as the political arm of the environmental movement, LCV's sole objective is to get environmentalists elected to Congress. It accomplishes this only partially by contributing money; the League is famous for its grassroots canvassing program that identifies and mobilizes environmental activists in the support of candidates. LCV also provides the news media and other interested parties with information about the environmental records of every candidate for the Congress. Regardless of what other environmental organization(s) we belong to, we should still consider supporting LCV, because our lobbying efforts won't work unless the Congress contains individuals sensitive to environmental concerns. The address to write to is LCV, 1150 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 201, Wash., DC 20036.

Environmental Action has identified its 1990 Dirty Dozen. Of these, closest to home are Senators Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Howell Heflin (D-AL).

9. OIL, ENERGY POLICY, AND GLOBAL WARMING

A. Energy policy

A bill that would greatly reduce our dependence on foreign oil needs your immediate support. It is S 1224 [sponsored by Bryan (D-NE), Gorton (R-WA), and Hollings (D-SC)] which would increase the efficiency of new cars from today's 28 mpg to 40 mpg by the year 2000. The technologies for such an increase are already available, and -- contrary to auto-industry propaganda -- would not require everyone to drive a small car. The country would save 2.8 million barrels of oil daily, and consumer would save \$2,000 in gasoline expenses over the life of a typical car -- more than offsetting the additional cost per car of \$500. It is very important that our Senators hear from us: In particular, Sen. Sasser's is a swing vote. Call him at 202-224-3344.

The recent Mid-East crisis has somewhat heightened the general public's realization that, during the past 10 years, our Administrations have been tragically negligent in facing energy policy. Attention to matters such as energy conservation, energy efficiency, and the development of alternate energy sources was more than neglected -- it was discouraged.

Among much that we have read on the subject recently, we liked a column by ORNL Corporate Fellow Eric Hirst on the need for federal energy efficiency programs which, he says, would "save

billions of dollars, reduce pollution, cut dependence on foreign oil, improve economic productivity, and enhance international competitiveness." It is quite feasible to cut energy use by the year 2000 by almost one-fifth; this would save \$75 billion and cut global-warming CO₂ emissions by 20%.

And here is an interesting estimate by Edward Renshaw (State Univ. of NY): global oil reserves will last 47-89 years at current rates of consumption; but if all people used as much oil as Americans do, known reserves would be exhausted in 8-15 years!

B. Oil Pollution Act approved by Congress

Just before the Congressional recess, House and Senate conferees reached accord on a comprehensive bill that grew out of the 11-million-gallon Exxon Valdez spill of March 1989. The bill dramatically increases penalties for spillers, as well as their liability for oil-spill cleanup costs and damages. In addition, it authorizes expenditures from the federal oil-spill fund (supported by a 5-cent-per-barrel tax on oil), which became effective January 1, of up to \$1 billion per spill for cleanup costs and damages. Cleanup of major spills is to be directed by the federal government. Double hulls are required on new oil tankers and barges. Research on environmental impacts and on cleanup methods is to be expanded.

C. Global warming

While European countries are increasingly pressing for prompt multilateral commitments to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, the Bush administration, at the July Economic Summit in Houston, vetoed such a step. Late in August, at a U.N.-sponsored conference in Sweden, the United States at last joined with other nations in acknowledging that human activity is producing gases that can cause global warming.

In February, President Bush was presented with an appeal to prevent global warming, signed by 52 Nobel laureates and 725 members of the National Academy of Sciences. The appeal includes these statements: "More research on global warming is necessary to provide a steadily improving data base and better predictive capabilities. But uncertainty is no excuse for complacency. In view of the potential consequences, actions to curb the introduction of greenhouse gases ... must be initiated immediately. Only by taking action now can we insure that future generations will not be put at risk. -- The United States bears a special responsibility to provide leadership in the prevention of global warming. It is the world's largest producer of greenhouse gases, and it has the resources to make a great contribution. ... The United States should develop and implement a new National Energy Policy, based on the need to

substantially reduce the emission of carbon dioxide, while sustaining economic growth. The cornerstone of this policy should be energy efficiency and the expansion of clean energy sources ..."

10. TCWP NEWS

- Arrangements for the Nov. 9-11 TCWP annual meeting at Monteagle are progressing rapidly. You will soon receive a special mailing with the first announcement. Please be sure to return the preliminary registration with your yes, no, or maybe; it really helps us plan.
- * Enclosed with this Newsletter, you will find the list of TCWP nominees for 1991 officers, directors, and nominating committee. The election will take place at the annual meeting.
- The Cedar Barrens fence was finally completed on July 24; earlier work sessions had been held May 26 and June 16. TCWP had contributed about \$500 to buy the materials, had made arrangements with the supplier, had coordinated efforts with the City and EOAB, and had provided some of the volunteer labor for erecting the fence. Bechtel contributed \$250 (as their Earth Day effort) and the Oak Ridge High School Bios Club about \$100. The bulk of the post-hole digging was done by the Oak Ridge Parks & Recreation Dept.; and quite a few Oak Ridgers at large joined the fence-building effort, carrying and joining the cedar posts and rails, and even digging holes (when, on one occasion, the city equipment was called to another job).

- On behalf of TCWP, Maureen Cunningham and Larry Pounds supplied comments requested by the US Fish & Wildlife Service for a status review of the Cumberland Rosemary. This plant, which grows on sand and gravel bars in the Obed and Big South Fork systems, has a very restricted habitat and is subject to many deleterious impacts. The USFWS is considering whether to propose listing the plant as a federally endangered species. The TCWP letter encourages them to do so.

- Several TCWP members (Don Todd, David Adler and Karen Finkel, Annetta Watson, Bill and Lee Russell) attended Senator Gore's visit to Frozen Head State Park on August 10 and got a chance for a few words with the Senator before or after his public address. In his impressive talk, Gore hailed the recent "unsuitable for surface mining" designation for the Flat Fork Valley as a true grassroots victory, then proceeded to address the subjects of global warming and other environmental problems. The environment has clearly become one of Gore's major issues.

- The latest Nature Conservancy Newsletter acknowledges TCWP's gift earmarked for protection of the Tobacco Port Cave, an important hibernaculum for various bat species. TCWP donated \$1000 from its Francis McKinney Memorial Fund for the erection of a protective gate. Francis, who was dedicated to cave preservation, and who died in a caving accident, will be memorialized by a plaque.

- We are grateful to the following who assembled NL 176: Dick Ambrose, Jean Bangham, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hensley, Charles Klabunde, Neil McBride, Marion Roesel, Fred and Phyllis Sweeton. And to the following who assembled NL 177: Dick Ambrose, Waldo Cohn, Don DeAngelis, Anna Dobbins, Karen Finkel, Charles Klabunde, Dick Raridon, Ed Sonder, and Peggy Turner.

- We were very pleased when the Oak Ridger's Sportsman's column recently quoted from a TCWP Newsletter sections on ancient-forest destruction and on the lack of federal energy conservation. It's a great way to expand our reading public.

- * This year's SOCM walk-a-thon is scheduled for October 20. Will any TCWP member volunteer to walk and solicit pledges? If so, call us (seep 1). As a share group, TCWP would retain 50% of the contributions.

11. JOBS, ACTIVITIES, READING MATTER

- The Mineral Policy Center has an opening for a Circuit Rider (combination technical expert and community organizer) for the Rockies/Intermountain Region. Salary in the \$25-32,000 range. Contact MPC, 1325 Massachusetts Ave, NW, #550, Wash., DC 20005; 202-737-1872.

- On Sept. 22, the Cherokee Hiking Club will hold an 11.7-mile Benton MacKaye evaluation hike (see NL177 ¶5D) in the Big Frog Wilderness. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Ocoee No. 3 Powerhouse just off US Highway 64 between Ocoee and Copperhill. For info, call Kirk Johnson (615-892-6609) or Bill Rislom (615-476-2945).

- The Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy has secured a challenge grant of \$25,000 (match on a 1:1 basis) which will go toward purchase of the Stanley A. Murray Memorial Tract on Hump Mountain in the Roan Highlands. This may be of interest to those of you who had planned to contribute to Stan's memorial. Write SAHC, PO Box 4092, CR S, Johnson City, TN 37602. Incidentally,

SAHC is again this year selling Christmas cards and notecards with photographs of the scenic Roan Highlands. Same address.

- "20/20 Vision" is a new grassroots lobbying network with chapters in about 40 Congressional Districts nationwide; a statewide chapter has recently been formed in Tennessee (POBox 80255, Nashville, TN 37208). Each month, a core group identifies just one subject and supplies a short (postcard) summary on background and needed action. The subject is generally in an environmental area or is related to the arms race. It is estimated that each subscriber will need to spend only 20 minutes a month to follow up on the suggested action.
- Geodyssey, a nonprofit educational film-production company, has made its debut in Nashville. In its first series, Geodyssey is concentrating on the National Trails System, and the first film is about the Appalachian Trail. For info, contact Lynn Cimino-Hurt, 615-356-8222.
- The Cherokee National Forest General Report to the Public for 1989 may be requested from John F. Ramey, Forest Supervisor, Cherokee NF, POBox 2010, Cleveland, TN 37320.
- The Sierra Club Earth Day Activist Sourcebook provides information on a large number of topics, e.g., wildlife, population, Alaska, etc. Under each topic, there is a short introduction, followed by references and/or suggested activities. Write Sierra Club, Dept. SA, POBox 7959, San Francisco, CA 94120.
- "World Resources 1990-1991" offers a comprehensive guide to the global environment, compiled by the World Resources Institute. Especially featured in this year's volume are climate change and Latin American resource issues. \$17.95 (plus \$3 shipping) from WRI, 1709 New York Ave, NW, Wash., DC 20006.
- The Island Press' 1990 Environmental Sourcebook provides a concentrated view of the range and depth of new thinking on environmental matters, with emphasis on solutions to problems. Charles C. Savitt, Publisher, 1718 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 300, Wash., DC 20009.
- Two recent reports by the Environmental and Energy Study Institute concern major pending legislation. One is a 6-page side-by-side comparison of the House- and Senate-passed clean air bills (\$25 for all parts); the other is entitled "The 1990 Farm Bill: Opportunities for Groundwater Protection" [TCWP has a copy]. For information on these reports, call EESI at 202-628-1400.

NOMINEES FOR THE 1991 TCWP BOARD

Submitted by the 1990 Nominating Committee: Miriam Kertesz (chair), Sylvia Hubbell, Lynn Wright.

PRESIDENT: Martha Ketelle, Knoxville. Member, TVA's Environmental Quality Staff. TCWP Pres., 1988-1990. Vice pres., TN Envtl Council; board member, Harvey Broome Group, Sierra Club. Professional career has provided 11 years' experience in environmental policy and legislation on national, state, and local levels. Concerned about rivers and water-quality issues.

VICE PRESIDENT: Maureen Cunningham, Oak Ridge. Botanist, Env. Sci. Div., ORNL. TCWP Vice Pres., 1990; board member, 1989; leader in battle for Cedar Barrens. Interested in significant-habitat preservation.

SECRETARY: Louise Markel, Oak Ridge. Retired librarian. TCWP Sec., 1990; long-time member. Interested in saving wilderness areas.

TREASURER: Charles Klabunde, Oak Ridge. Physicist, ORNL. TCWP Treasurer for 17 years, in charge of membership records. Past pres., SMHC; member, TTA. Active folk dancer.

DIRECTORS:

David Adler, Oak Ridge. Environmental specialist, currently with DOE, formerly with Bechtel Nat'l. Corp. and EPA. TCWP Board 1989-90. Primary interests: water quality and land conservation.

Richard Ambrose, Oak Ridge. Senior Envtl Scientist, SAIC. TCWP member 21 years; Vice Pres., 1988-89. Concerned about destruction of natural habitats. Believes in public information and political action to accomplish goals.

Judith Bartlow, Norris. Natural Areas Land Use Specialist, TVA. TCWP Board, 1990. Past member Norris Watershed Board; member, Natural Areas Assoc. Particular interests: trails, natural areas.

Charles Coutant, Oak Ridge. Senior Research Ecologist, ORNL; currently ORNL Exploratory Studies Program Manager. TCWP Board, 1982-90. Past pres., Citizens Council for Clinch River Planning; past chairman, EQAB. Interested in preserving undamaged ecosystems.

Robert Luxmoore, Coalfield (Morgan Cy.). Soil & Plant Scientist, Env. Sci. Div., ORNL. TCWP Board, 1988-90. Expert witness for SOCM on water degradation and soil erosion from surface-mine areas. Believes that "Think globally, act locally" is an appropriate slogan for our time.

Neil McBride, Oak Ridge. Dir., Rural Legal Services of TN, 1978-present; staff attorney, E. TN Research Corp (for coal-field groups); pres., Legal Envtl. Assistance Foundation, 1985-87; formerly worked for Ralph Nader. Interested in cleanwater and natural areas.

Liane (Lee) Russell, Oak Ridge. Geneticist, Biology Div., ORNL. A TCWP founder; Vice Pres., 1966; Pres., 1967-70, 1986-87; Newsletter editor, 1966-pres.. Instrumental in authorization and implementation of Big South Fork NRRRA and Obed WSR; also active in stripmine, wilderness, and public-lands issues.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sylvia Hubbell, Oak Ridge. Retired teacher. Long-term TCWP member; helped develop and maintain the North Ridge Trail. Interested in "all kinds of conservation."

Karin Finkel, Oak Ridge. General manager of local business; background and interest in botany. Concerned about forest preservation and environmental education.

Webb Van Winkle, Oak Ridge. Aquatic ecologist, Env. Sci. Div., ORNL. New to TCWP but not to conservation issues and environmental impact assessments.

