

TENNESSEE CITIZENS for WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 184

September 9, 1991



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

11. ACTION SUMMARY

No.	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or Action
1A	Energy bill HIGH PRIORITY	Sen. Sasser	"Join filibuster to defeat S.1220!" "Support S.741!"
1C	Arctic Refuge	Sen. Sasser US Rep.	"Co-sponsor S.39!" "Co-sponsor HJR.239!"
2A	Big South Fork	Sens. Sasser, Gore; Rep. Cooper	"Thanks for acquisition funds! Please support adequate operating funds, too!"
2A	Obed	Sens. Sasser, Gore; Rep. Cooper	"Put pressure on NPS to proceed with acquisition!"
4A	Mining in public lands and private buffers	OSM	"Proposed regs are unacceptable!"
5C	Smokies	Fish & Wildlife Serv.	Support red wolf re-introduction. Comment on proposed designation
7A	Forest protection	US Senators and Rep.	"Oppose S.1156/HR.2463! Protect ancient forests!"
8A	Vehicular trails in back country	US Rep.	"Do not include HR.1115 (or similar bills) in Highway Act!"
8A	The "takings" issue	US Rep.	"Oppose HR.1572!"
8B	Population growth	US Rep. and Sens.	"Support reversal of Mexico City Policy!" Appropriate \$570M for international family planning.
8C	Attack on wetlands	US Rep. and Sens.	"Oppose HR.1330! Support HR.1306/S.484!"
8C	Wetland definitions	EPA	Examine and comment on proposed wetlands manual.
9A	Obed Overlook outing	TCWP	Join us on 9/22/91.
9B	Whites Creek Trail	TCWP	Join us on 10/20/91.
9F	TCWP action network	TCWP	Fill out and return the form.

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

ALERT!**1. ENERGY POLICY: JOHNSTON-WALLOP BILL
MUST BE STOPPED!****A. S.1220 is an environmental disaster**

Misleadingly named by its sponsors [Sens. Johnston (D, LA) and Wallop (R, WY)] the "National Energy Security Act," S.1220 (formerly S.341) is environmental enemy No.1. The contents of S.1220 can be summed up simply: (1) it falls totally as an energy policy, worsening, rather than securing our energy future; (2) it threatens, on all fronts, environmental victories of the past two decades.

As an energy policy, S.1220 has been described as a mere repackaging of the Bush national energy strategy, with its great emphasis on energy production (providing billions of \$\$ to subsidize the energy industry), and virtually total neglect of energy conservation and energy efficiency. For example, it leaves increases in automobile fuel-efficiency standards to the Dept. of Transportation, which has historically decreased these standards. It would make us *less*, rather than more, energy-independent, and would contribute to global warming.

And it would have a major disastrous impact on the natural environment and on hard-won environmental safeguards. It would:

- open the 1.5 million acre coastal plain of the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil & gas drilling (NL183 ¶6, NL181 ¶8B, NL179 ¶6A);
- exempt most hydropower projects (dams) from environmental regulations (including NEPA and the Endangered Species Act);
- weaken the Clean Air Act's requirements for SO₂ control on existing power plants;
- expand offshore oil exploration;
- unfetter the utility industry from tough state regulations;
- limit public review of energy projects, including the damming of free-flowing rivers;
- ease restrictions on pipeline construction.

This disastrous bill cleared the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on May 23, despite valiant attempts by a number of Committee members to improve it (Sens. Wellstone, Wirth, Bumpers, Fowler, Akaka, Bingaman, and Bradley). Committee chairman Johnston is now determined to bring the bill to the Senate floor in the near future.

The line-up in the Senate is currently estimated as follows: 40 pro, 40 con (including Sen. Gore), and 20 undecided. The undecideds include our Senator Sasser. This is why you can play an important role.



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Contact Sen. Sasser just as soon as possible (before the Senate debate begins). Tell him that S.1220:

- would have disastrous environmental consequences (list a few), while making our energy future worse;
- is not a balanced bill (as claimed by its proponents);
- cannot be improved by tinkering and must be defeated outright.

Specifically, urge him, (a) to join the filibuster against S.1220, (b) to commit to vote against ending the filibuster; and (c) to vote sound alternatives to S.1220 (see ¶1B, below).

B. Alternatives to S.1220

Proposed energy legislation that has the support of environmentalists is S.741, a comprehensive bill by Sen Tim Wirth (D-CO) that emphasizes energy conservation and efficiency, and the use of alternative fuels. (Although it also provides incentives for increasing production, it would not open up ANWR.) S.741 incorporates the auto fuel efficiency measures of the Bryan bill, S.279 (which provides for a 20% increase in the fuel efficiency of cars and trucks by 1996, and a 40% increase by 2001, see NL182 ¶7C). The main objectives of S.741 are to address the nation's energy problems in a comprehensive manner, and to reduce global warming.

A couple of examples are instructive. If the USA had the same level of energy efficiency as Western Europe and Japan, we would save more than twice the estimated oil reserves in ANWR, and over \$200 billion a year. If today's best lighting systems were used throughout the U.S., this would free up as much power as can be produced by 120 giant (thousand-megawatt) power plants.

C. Protection of ANWR

ANWR is the only part of Alaska's 1,100-mile coastline that is still off-limits to oil development. Drilling in ANWR would impose a huge industrial complex on the fragile arctic refuge in order to produce a very small contribution to national energy security (see, e.g., NL179 ¶6A, NL181 ¶8B, NL183 ¶6).



WHAT YOU CAN DO: (1) Urge Sen. Sasser to co-sponsor S.39 (Roth, Baucus), the ANWR wilderness bill, which currently has 20 co-sponsors, including Sen. Gore (thank him!), as well as S.344 (Roth), which calls for the designation of an international wildlife refuge between the US and Canada. (2) Urge your Representative to co-sponsor Mrazek's H.R.239 the "Morris K. Udall Wilderness Act," which incorporates H.R.39, Udall's ANWR wilderness bill. Let your legislators know that there is an alternative to the

destruction of ANWR: controlling oil consumption.
 (3) For up-to-date information, call the Alaska Coalition, 202-675-7912 (Melinda Pierce).

2. BIG SOUTH FORK AND OBED PROTECTION ISSUES

A. Land acquisition prospects

Land & Water Conservation Fund appropriations voted by the full House of Representatives include \$2 million for land acquisition in the Big South Fork NRA. Late in July, the Senate appropriations committee included an equivalent amount in its bill, but the full Senate has yet to vote on the measure. If the \$2 M appropriation stays in, it will still have to survive any conference committee adjustments. Sens. Sasser and Gore, and Rep. Cooper, had asked their respective committee chairmen to appropriate \$6 million for the Big South Fork NRA (NL182 ¶1B), but with domestic funds as tight as they are this year, \$2 M will be quite an achievement.

Assuming all goes well, NPS would have altogether \$3 million available for BSNFRRRA land acquisition, since \$1 million appropriated last year has not been spent -- and cannot be spent until the Land Protection Plan is approved. The LPP is still moving through the bureaucracy, but getting closer to the stage when public input will be requested. The acquisition priorities that will be listed in the LPP are subject to change if conditions change; e.g., if a landowner has degraded the natural-resource value of a high-priority tract by cutting off the timber, this tract could be shifted to a very low acquisition priority. Hopefully, dissemination of this information will discourage timber cuts that are now being undertaken by certain owners who think they'll soon be selling their land to NPS.

Despite Sen. Sasser's and Gore's and Rep. Cooper's requests for \$610,000 (the amount recommended by us), neither the House nor Senate bill contains any appropriations for the Obad Wild & Scenic River (OWSR). Fortunately, about \$500,000 are still "in the bank" for Obad land acquisition, and that is probably sufficient for whatever NPS is able to obligate in FY 1992 for critical tracts. However, it is important for NPS to get active in the Obad acquisition process, not only to protect critical parcels, but to render requests for future appropriations creditable.

Operating funds for the BSNFRRRA/OWSR are still a loss-up, since the House and Senate bills contain rather different amounts in this regard. Some intermediate sum will be set by the conference committee.

done to secure land-acquisition funds for the purchase of threatened tracts in the BSNFRRRA. (2) Urge all three legislators to put pressure on NPS to proceed speedily with the Obad acquisition process. (3) Ask them to support adequate operating funds for the BSNFRRRA and OWSR. -- Addresses are on p.2.

B. Proposed Otter Creek Dam: Environmental Assessment badly flawed

The proposal for a dam on Otter Creek, a southern tributary of the Obad National Wild & Scenic River first came to our attention in March by way of a permit-application notice from the Division of Water Pollution Control (NL182 ¶1A). We subsequently discovered that this very large dam (90 ft high, 25 ft wide at the top, and 385 ft wide at the bottom) was not the project of a private individual who wanted to build a recreation lake for himself (as presented on the application), but was promoted by the Crab Orchard Utility District, which had applied to the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA, a branch of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture) for a "loan & grant" of \$7,700,000 for construction of this reservoir (NL183 ¶1B). After being contacted by us, the SE Regional Office of the Park Service wrote to FmHA, requesting preparation of a in-depth environmental assessment (EA), and possibly an environmental impact statement (EIS). At a June 4 hearing, an FmHA representative grudgingly agreed to do an EA, but balked at an EIS.

On July 15, the Crab Orchard Utility District mailed to us (without accompanying note) a cutting from a newspaper (name and date of the paper were missing from the cutting) which consisted of a notice by FmHA to the effect that an EA had been prepared, a FONSI (finding of no significant impact) had been made, and comments were due within 15 days of the notice. A phone call elicited the information that the deadline was July 27, and that FmHA would send us the EA conclusions, but not the supporting documents (due to "limited photo-copying capability"). By the time we received these conclusions, not only (long) night was left to our comments written. [if you want a copy of our comments, send a self-addressed, stamped (29¢) envelope.]

The EA turned out to be an advocacy statement for the project, rather than a concerted effort to assess the project's potential environmental impacts. Most assertions to the effect that there would be few if any adverse impacts appeared to be based on faith rather than being factually supported. Among the possible (if not probable) impacts that the EA addressed in a woefully inadequate manner were water quality (the likelihood that toxic strata would be encountered in the massive excavation), released water volume (about 75% of the water normally flowing through Otter Creek would be taken away), and endangered or threatened species (some of

WHAT YOU CAN DO: (1) Thank Sens. Sasser and Gore and Rep. Cooper for all they have already

which very probably reside in the Otter Creek drainage).

Beyond that, there were two basic failings of the EA. (1) Cumulative impacts of the project were not discussed; the proposed reservoir is not the first in the Obed watershed, nor even the first in the Otter Creek drainage. (2) The EA addressed only the water-treatment plant and associated transmission lines, but failed to take into consideration the possible environmental impacts from constructing the dam and impounding the creek.

After doing a little extra research, we found this second point to be particularly damning, inasmuch as it appears to involve yet another attempt at concealment. It turns out that the total project cost of \$7,700,000 includes an item of \$1,010,000, described as "Legal & Water Rights." On reading the fine print, it turns out that these rights *include* the cost of dam construction; i.e., FmHA would be paying for water rights donated by the private land owner in exchange for getting the dam built. Thus, all dam-construction activities become federal actions whose environmental impacts must be assessed under NEPA.

When EPA's attention was drawn to this particular EA, they informed FmHA that the project could not go forth without EPA's approval, and requested all pertinent documents. TCWP has written to EPA to present our concerns. TCWP also sent comments for an August 13 meeting of the Division of Water Pollution Control (DWPC), during which an internal DWPC document on the subject was under discussion. In addition to commenting on specific points, we again asked DWPC to defer consideration of the permit application until after the NEPA process has run its course.

On August 9, FmHA wrote to us, stating "We will not approve the pending application for funding until all comments have been considered ... [and] ... appropriate experts ... contacted as necessary. FmHA will modify the assessment to reflect any changes and the associated environmental impact." People knowledgeable in government funding inform us that by having failed to obligate the Otter Creek funds by early August, FmHA probably lost the FY1991 appropriation for this project, and may have to start again securing funds for FY1992.

C. A ceremony to celebrate multiple events

On August 25, the BSNRRA hosted a large ceremony to celebrate (a) transfer of full management from the Corps of Engineers to NPS (as per legislation passed last fall, see NL179 ¶1A), (b) dedication of a new headquarters building, and (c) the 75th anniversary of the National Park Service. TCWP was represented at the ceremony by Pres. Martha Kettle and by Bill Russell (Lee was at a conference in Germany). Among the numerous speakers were Sen. Sasser and Rep. Jim Cooper,

both of whom stressed the need for completing land acquisition and pledged their support for securing the required funding. Following the dedication ceremony, Superintendent Bill Dickinson gave Martha and Bill a personally guided tour of the new HQ building which is located on the plateau east of Leatherwood Ford. (Bandy Creek has reverted to campground functions and will no longer house administrative offices.)

D. Update on Clear Creek incinerator

The proposal for building a tire- and waste-burning incinerator on Clear Creek (a major tributary of the Obed), about a mile upstream from the Wild & Scenic River boundary (NL183 ¶1C), appears currently on hold, thanks to a massive mobilization of Fentress County opponents, both at a special rally on July 23, and at a County Commission meeting three days later. However, a new scheme has now surfaced which also involves tires. The Fentress County executive proposes to build a facility for processing about 5000 discarded tires daily by pyrolysis, a process apparently not yet tested in the field. It is not yet clear to us whether this procedure would require a continuous water supply or produce an aqueous effluent, thus again potentially threatening the Clear Creek. As before, TCWP will attempt to stay informed on this issue. We are encouraged by the effective opposition shown by the local population to harmful developments in Fentress County.

E. Obed clean-up

For the second year now, Ranger Frank Doughman of the Obed Wild & Scenic River organized a major weekend clean-up effort for the Obed and tributaries. Participating groups included Boy Scouts (from Wartburg, Kingston, Harriman, Rockwood, Allardt, Jamestown, etc., etc), 4-H clubs, high-school, elementary-school, and vocational-school groups, the Wartburg Volunteer Fire Dept., and 7 canoe clubs from Tennessee and Kentucky. It is estimated that 350 people collected over 28,000 pounds of trash. Numerous individuals and groups arranged for a program at Frozen Head following the day's clean-up activities, and area businesses made donations.

These clean-ups accomplish much more than removing a year's trash; they get the local communities involved and make them realize that they are among the important guardians of an invaluable national resource.

F. Big South Fork trail maps

We have had several inquiries about hiking in the Big South Fork Area. An excellent trail map is available for \$2.50 + \$0.56 postage from BSNRRA, P. O. Drawer 630, Oneida, TN 37841.

3. FROZEN HEAD: A VICTORY, BUT THE LAWSUITS GO ON

Early in 1990, OSM granted our "522" petition and declared the 5,250-acre Flat Fork Watershed unsuitable for surface coal-mining operations. In June of 1990, the Emory River and Land Co. (ERLC), which claims to own coal reserves in the watershed, appealed OSM's decision to the U.S. District Court. Since then, there have been several legal skirmishes and some out-of-court maneuvers in which ERLC offered to drop the appeal if OSM paid them nearly \$4 million (NL179 ¶2; NL181 ¶6A).

On August 16, ERLC filed a Motion dismissing its case in the District Court. This allows OSM's "lands-unsuitable" designation to stand, and is therefore a victory for us! However, the Motion also states that the company will file a complaint in the Claims Court. ERLC's argument there will be that the government should compensate them for the "taking." Although this case does not involve much land, it has the potential to be precedent-setting on the "takings" issue, and thus might affect "522" decisions else where in the country. For this reason, TCWP will probably intervene in the Knoxville Claims Court case.

4. SURFACE MINING: "VALID EXISTING RIGHTS" ONCE MORE A BIG THREAT

A. OSM's proposed VER regs threaten parks, etc and must be actively opposed

The 1977 Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) prohibited surface mining on several types of lands (e.g., national parks, and other federally designated natural-resource lands; and buffer zones around dwellings, schools, etc.), except in the case of "valid existing rights." The definition of VER was not spelled out in the Act, but left for the regulations, and, to date, such regulations have only been proposed but not yet promulgated by OSM.

In the meantime, most states have used the "good faith all permits" standard to establish VER, i.e., an applicant has to show that he/she had made a good-faith effort to obtain all necessary mining permits by the time SMCRA was signed (8/3/77). This is a fair test that has withstood a number of legal challenges. A VER definition based on "takings" (which requires the government to pay when property is "taken" for public use) was proposed by former Interior Secretary James Watt, but was struck down in federal court on several grounds. In 1989, public outcry (including that of many TCWP members) killed an OSM proposal under which mere ownership of the coal would have sufficed to establish VER, regardless of when the coal was acquired or whether any attempt had been made to obtain mining permits.

Now, OSM is back with yet another proposed definition of VER (published in the Federal Register of July 18), which would result in the immediate application of the "takings" standard to federal lands, and to all lands in non-primacy (i.e., federal-program) states, such as Tennessee. The effect on national parks, recreation areas, wild & scenic rivers, wildlife refuges, and wilderness areas would be as follows: when a coal owner attempts to exercise VER, the Interior Dept will buy him/her out, using money from the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) (or, alternatively, exchanging the coal rights for coal rights elsewhere, e.g., in BLM lands). All of us know how sorely needed LWCF moneys are for acquiring valuable, and often threatened, parklands, and what a job it is to get such moneys appropriated (for a prime example, see ¶2A in this NL). The proposed VER definition means that our very considerable efforts to secure LWCF appropriations for land acquisition would simply result in fattening the coffers of some coal company!

In primacy states, the "takings" standard would mean that the state would either have to buyout the coal rights, or let the stripmining proceed (probably the latter, since states are so strapped for funds). Among lands at risk are state parks and other state public lands, as well as buffer zones around roads, dwellings, schools, hospitals, etc., etc. (which comprise 87% of all potential VER properties).

TCWP and others were successful in getting OSM to schedule a local public hearing. This will be held in Knoxville on September 12. Annetta Watson (SOCM) and Jenny Freeman (TCWP) prepared an informative Aler and mailed it to most of our members and to key contact persons on August 10. Subsequently, a postcard with the hearing notice was mailed to all those who got the Aler.

The eight largest national environmental groups have asked Sec. Lujan to withdraw the disastrous VER proposal. USDI's response was merely that the comment period allowed adequately for public input. The groups' strong opposition signals that, unless the rule is withdrawn or drastically changed, the issue will be back in the courts.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Although the hearing will be over by the time you receive this Newsletter, there are other actions you can take to let OSM know that the proposed regulations are unacceptable and should be withdrawn. (1) Contact OSM: the comment period remains open until Sept. 16. Mail (or, better, FAX) your statement (which can be extremely short) to Mr. Patrick Boyd, OSMRE, Administrative Record, Room 5131-L, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1951 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20240; FAX 202-842-1399. (2) Write to your U.S. Rep. and to both Senators Sasser and Gore and urge them to

bring pressure (3) Send copies of your letters to the Letters-to-the Editor column of your paper.

B. *OSM is slow in addressing subsidence*

SMCRA addresses not only surface coal mining but also the surface effects of underground mining. In the aftermath of underground mining, particularly that by the long-wall method, the mine tunnel often collapses, and the land above it subsides, causing damage to buildings, ground-water supplies, scenic areas, etc. OSM has had 14 years to promulgate regulations on this subject. Instead, they have only just published a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) seeking public views on the need for rulemaking. It appears that OSM Director Harry Snyder has been committed to moving the rule-making process forward, but that some of his superiors in USDI have been too attentive to the coal industry, which would rather not see a rule that might require the financial compensation of coalfield citizens.

TCWP requested that hearings on the NOI be held in this area. We were told that there had not been a large enough number of requests to justify a full-fledged hearing, but that a Washington representative of OSM would come to Knoxville to meet with a few of us. This meeting took place on August 21; Bill Russell and Martha Kettle represented TCWP. The comment deadline for the NOI ended on September 3.

Following strong criticism by environmental groups and by Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV), Snyder wrote on August 13 that it was his goal to have a subsidence rule approved by USDI by the end of November 1991, and that the Notice of Inquiry had been designed mainly to get all the significant issues identified. The coal industry immediately shouted "foul!" -- how could OSM be conducting an objective inquiry if they have already decided to issue a rule?

5. SMOKIES: RED WOLVES, AIR QUALITY, AND JESSE HELMS

A. *Helms responds to Sanford bill*

Wilderness groups were disturbed when Sen. Terry Sanford of North Carolina (who has been more or less an ally on Smokies' wilderness issues in the past), recently introduced a bill that would compensate Swain County for the "1943 Agreement" by payment of \$16 million (NL183 ¶3A). Similar compensation has been included in past wilderness bills, and has helped to generate Swain County allies for such proposed legislation. Passage now of a "money-only" bill would make any future wilderness bill much harder to pass.

We needn't, however, have worried about the chances for Sen. Sanford's bill! North Carolina's

other senator, Jesse Helms, had this to say about it: "I cannot support any proposal which does not require the United States Government to honor its full and complete pledge -- and that means the construction of the road."

B. *Plans for red wolf reintroduction*

Of the two pairs of wolves that were brought to the Smokies in January, one gave birth to a healthy litter of three females and two males. Currently all wolves reside in acclimation pens in the Cades Cove area, but plans are to set free two of the pups, along with their parents, probably in October (the other three pups were moved to the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in NC, where a red wolf breeding program is in process). The four released wolves will be radio-tracked for 10-12 months, and then recaptured. Information gathered during the tracking period will be evaluated and a decision made about the feasibility of a permanent reintroduction effort.

C. *Special designation proposed to increase local acceptance of wolf introduction*

The original plan was to release some of the wolves during the summer. However, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) has become concerned about possible opposition to the reintroduction plan in the farming areas surrounding the Park. Consequently, FWS has delayed the release until comments are received on a proposed special regulation designating the red wolf population in the Smokies as "experimental/non-essential." This designation gives any animals that leave the Park a lesser degree of protection than would normally be afforded them in their "endangered" classification.

TCWP has submitted comments on the FWS proposal, which was published in the Federal Register of August 7. In view of FWS' belief that the "experimental/non-essential" designation will increase public acceptance of the proposed reintroduction effort, we support this designation, since our overriding desire is to have a permanent red wolf population established in the GSMNP.

Along with the designation, FWS proposes a special rule, part of which strikes us as potentially dangerous, namely, that a "taking [which could mean killing] by the public incidental to ... hunting, trapping, or other recreational activities" will not be a violation of the Endangered Species Act. "Other recreational activity" strikes us as an overly broad definition that invites all sorts of abuse. As concerns hunting, it should be noted that the Park is surrounded by counties in which hunting is widespread, and in which gun owners constitute a high percentage of the population.

The portion of the proposed special rule that applies to livestock owners, appears to us to provide adequate safeguards against the killing of wolves that

stray from the Park. The "laking" of red wolves by livestock owners is permitted only after three conditions are met: (1) the wolves must be actually engaged in the pursuit or killing of livestock, (2) the Park Superintendent must be notified, and (3) efforts to capture offending wolves must prove unsuccessful. [In our comments, we suggest that the rule be reworded so as to make it perfectly clear that all three conditions have to be met.]



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Although the official comment period ended on September 7, you may wish to call and express your support for reintroduction of the red wolf into the GSMNP. After having stated this main point, you should support the experimental/nonessential designation, but oppose that portion of the special rule that permits taking "incidental to ... other recreational activities" or "incidental to ... hunting." The person to contact: V. Gary Henry, Red Wolf Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC, 704-665-1195.

D. *Attempts to slow Smokies' air pollution*

Air pollution in the GSMNP is not just an esthetic problem; it has already severely damaged over 75 plant species in the Park. The National Park Service is trying to curb this ever-growing pollution threat, but, so far, the State of Tennessee has not cooperated.

NPS would like to institute emission offsets within 62 miles of the Park boundaries. "Offsets" means that if an industry plans new or increased emissions, it would have to make reductions in its existing ones, or pay another industry in the area to lower emissions by a comparable amount. Earlier this year, NPS asked the Tennessee Air Pollution Control Board to institute such emission offsets for SO₂, NO_x, and volatile organics [NPS has also asked EPA to take steps toward ozone offsets]. At its meeting on August 14, however, the Board postponed action on the NPS request until 1992, raising questions about what proportion of the pollution comes from industry, as opposed to automobiles (NPS estimates that each sector contributes about 40%). An NPS spokesman was quoted as saying: "Say you had a patient who has heart trouble and diabetes. Would you not treat the heart trouble because he had diabetes?"

6. AROUND THE STATE

A. *Collins River gets temporary reprieve*

In February, Tarleton Materials, Inc. of Nashville applied to the Corp of Engineers for a permit to dredge rock and gravel from a 4-mile segment of the Collins River, a stretch located just down the bluff from Beersheba Springs (NL183 ¶3D). Ever since the beautiful Collins was removed from the Tennessee Scenic Rivers System by opponents of

State river protection, it has been fair game for damaging developments such as the proposed operation.

The Corps received objections to the proposal from EPA, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, TWRA, the Sierra Club and numerous others [TCWP did not learn of the proposal until after the comment period had closed]. The applicant was then afforded an opportunity for resolution or rebuttal.

On June 3, Tarlton requested that the processing of their application be temporarily suspended. They will consider possible alternatives, such as reducing the scope of the work and/or forming a Watershed District (WD). If a WD were formed, Tarlton would work with the Soil Conservation Service, which has proposed several alternatives for flood-retarding structures in the Collins, and would then reopen the Corps of Engineers permit process. On the basis of additional information that will be gathered, the Corps will decide whether or not to hold a public hearing. They have promised to keep TCWP informed of developments.

Thus it appears that the Collins may have received a temporary reprieve, but that we need to be on the alert for possibly even more damaging proposals in the future.

B. *State acquires large tract in Cumberland*

As of September 15, the State of Tennessee will own, and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) will administer, 43,000 acres of largely forested land in Campbell and Scott Counties. This land represents the former Koppers property, which for some time had been leased by the Campbell County Recreation Association and was open to the public for hunting, etc. The General Assembly allowed TWRA to use Wetlands Acquisition funds to acquire the tract (which is not a wetland). Because of the cumbersome land acquisition process used by the State, the Nature Conservancy assisted greatly in the mechanics of purchasing the property.

C. *Forestry Div. not culpable on reservoir proposal for Chickasaw Forest*

Thanks to a communication from an interested reader of the TCWP Newsletter, we are able to make the following correction. In NL183 ¶3B, we reported that the Tenn. Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) had received preliminary approval to use a large portion of the 1,200-acre Chickasaw State Forest for the construction of a 200-acre fishing lake. This forest contains some of the State's best stands of threatened sweetbay magnolia trees. We attributed the anticipated loss of these trees to the transfer of the Forestry Division from the Dept. of Environment

and Conservation (DoEC) to the Dept. of Agriculture (DoA).

According to our correspondent, who is in an excellent position to know, it was TWRA that initiated the proposal, (probably responding to local political pressure), while Forestry sought to gather ecological data to bolster the case against the lake. The personnel who conducted the ecological survey were given the fullest cooperation from Forestry. The origin of the lake proposal well preceded any hint of possible transfer of Forestry to Agriculture.

In June of this year, the lake project was declared "deferred" due to budgetary considerations. It is thus dead for the time being. However, it may resurface later due to the political pressures behind it, despite the fact that there has never been any enthusiasm for it in Forestry.

7. PUBLIC-LANDS ISSUES

A. Forest management bills

The legislative landscape on national forests is constantly shifting, and another update is required. (For background, we refer you to NL183 §5, where we extensively covered national forest issues [apologies, incidentally, for the poor print job on the figure]).

The Oregon delegation in the House has taken the lead in working out a "compromise" between protection and timber interests, and Oregon's Rep. Les AuCoin has introduced HR.2807, which will probably replace Vento's HR.1590 as a starting point for negotiations. Vento's bill, as you may recall (NL183 §5A), would establish a reserve system of 16.3 million acres in 17 national forests and six BLM districts within which commercial logging would be prohibited. Specific boundaries would be recommended by a scientific committee set up by the bill, but there would be interim protection until these boundaries are drawn. Old-growth forests not designated as part of the reserve system would be managed according to "new forestry" methods, designed to regenerate old-growth characteristics. The AuCoin bill sets aside a specific acreage (800,000 acres) in Oregon, and leaves it to the Washington and California delegations to draw lines for their states. (The Vento bill, by contrast, would wait for recommendations by a panel of scientists before drawing specific boundaries.) In addition to the immediate set-asides, study areas would be recommended by the National Academy of Sciences within two years, and approved by the Administration one year thereafter. Like the Vento bill, AuCoin's HR.2807 includes a package of provisions to assist timber-dependent communities.

One very troubling feature of AuCoin's bill is that it would allow limited harvests in study areas during

the 3-year decision period. (Vento's bill prohibits logging in study areas during the interim period). Another troubling feature of the AuCoin bill is that, on remaining forests, the harvest level would be raised an average of 13% over current levels. (The Vento bill sets minimum timber-sales levels that are below current ones.) Perhaps the worst feature of the AuCoin bill is that it effectively prohibits judicial review of timber sales -- not just in the Pacific Northwest but in any national forest, a provision that will be fought by Gary Studds (D-MA), chairman of a Fisheries and Wildlife subcommittee.

Rep. Jim Jontz' Ancient Forest Protection Act (HR.842), which would establish a reserve system of "ancient forests" and contiguous "associated forests" on Forest Service and BLM lands (NL183 §5A), is presumably dormant while the AuCoin-initiated compromise is being forged.

On the other hand, there appears to be some momentum behind a timber-industry bill, the "Forests and Families Protection Act," S.156 (Packwood, R-OR)/HR.2463 (Huckaby, D-LA). While creating a bogus system of ancient forest preserves, this bill is actually a timber-industry wish list. Among several disastrous features, these may be the worst: the bill circumvents numerous provisions of the Endangered Species Act, significantly restricts citizens' rights to judicial review of agency decisions, and erodes forest protection nationwide -- not just in the Northwest.

* **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Ask your Representative and Senators to strongly oppose S.1156/HR.2463, which would jeopardize forests nationwide. Regarding ancient-forest protection: it should be based on scientific principles, should include all ancient-forest ecosystems throughout the country, and be mandated by Congress.

B. Land & Water Conservation Fund

The FY 1992 Land & Water Conservation Fund appropriation recently passed by the House of Representatives amounts to \$320.5 million. Though this sum represents the second highest amount since FY1983, it is actually below FY1991 spending (\$341.7 M), and also below the Administration request (\$350.3 M). The state-grants portion of the bill amounts to only \$23.5 M, a 30% reduction from current spending. The federal portion of the LWCF provides land acquisition money for the Paik Service (including Big S. Fork funds, see §2A, this NL), Forest Service, Fish & Wildlife Service, and BLM. Senate floor action on this bill is still pending.

C. Grand Canyon smog may decrease

Crystal clear air used to be a major component of the Grand Canyon experience. Over the past several years, visibility has been badly impaired by smog originating from the Navajo steam plant, about 80 miles NE of the Grand Canyon. The same power plant also spreads air pollution to Canyonlands,

Capitol Reef, Zion, and Mesa Verde National Parks. After years of effort by environmental groups to decrease emissions from the Navajo plant, an agreement was finally reached in early August. Smokestack-scrubbing equipment will be installed beginning in 1997, and will cut SO₂ emissions 90% by mid-1999. The 90% reduction will be based on an annual average, replacing an earlier EPA proposal to cut emissions by 70% based on a 30-day average.

motorboats and horses. Analysis of the House companion bill, HR.1155 (Petri), which is still pending, indicates that vehicle users, while making up just 11% of all trail users, could reap as much as 70% of all monies made available through the legislation. This bill is obviously an attempt to divert public money to the advantage of commercial recreational businesses rather than benefiting conservation.

D. Toward fairer grazing fees

Private ranches now graze their animals on public lands for a ridiculously low fee: \$1.97 per "animal unit month" (AUM). Much of this grazing has major adverse effects on natural vegetation, wild animal species, water quality, soil stability, etc. The House of Representatives recently voted in favor of an amendment to the Interior Appropriations bill which would raise the grazing fee to \$4.35/AUM in FY 1992, climbing gradually to \$8.75/AUM in FY 1995. Furthermore, half the fee revenues would be dedicated to enforcement of grazing allotments and restoration of wildlife and riparian habitat; currently the money goes back to ranchers for range improvements.

E. Commercial desecration at Zion NP

Sadly, we must report that the desecration of Zion National Park will probably take place after all (see NL 183 ¶7F). The town council of Springdale, Utah, has given World Odyssey, Inc. final approval to build a giant cinema-shopping complex, accompanied by a large parking lot, just outside the south entrance to the Zion NP. This monstrosity will be located between the visitor center and the campground, right in the foreground of the spectacular view of the colorful red sandstone cliffs at that end of Zion. To add insult to injury, Springdale maintains that the theater will enhance a visitor's experience of the park.

Another dangerous part of the Senate bill is a section that prevents federal agencies overall (not just highway agencies) from issuing regulations until the Justice Department certifies that the agency has minimized the regulations' effect on private property rights. (See ¶4A of this NL [on stripmining in parks, etc.] for an example of how such a provision could do much harm.) The House companion bill to this section of S.1204 is HR.1572. Conservation and labor groups are attempting to exclude this provision from the House version of the Highway bill.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** (1) Urge your Representative, (a) to oppose HR.1155, (b) not to include HR.1155, or the slightly modified version that passed the Senate, or any other bill containing the spirit of HR.1155 (e.g., HR.2950), in the pending House Highway bill, and (c) to consider a National Recreational Trails Fund bill as free-standing legislation, if at all. [Note that Rep. Marilyn Lloyd has simply stated "I will keep your views in mind," but has not committed herself to oppose HR.1155.] -- (2) Also urge your Representative to oppose HR.1572, which would use the "takings" issue to thwart needed environmental regulations. For addresses, see p. 2.

B. Population growth, a major root cause of environmental destruction

It took tens of thousands of years (until 1830) for the human population to reach 1 billion. Only 157 years later, the world's population was 5 billion. It is expected to reach 10.2 billion by the year 2050. According to a UN report, the population is increasing faster than expected, with 95% of the growth occurring in Third World countries. You do not have to be a mathematician or economist to see the collision course between the Earth's resources and the number of people sharing them. Overpopulation brings global warming, extinction of species, desertification, and ocean overharvesting, as well as much human misery.

The UN report concluded that, in order to lower the birth rate significantly, voluntary family planning must be increased by at least 50% in Third World countries by the end of this decade, and funding for family planning must be doubled.

In the '60s and '70s one of our real foreign-aid successes was providing contraceptive techniques to countries like Indonesia and Mexico, thus

8. OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

A. Two dangerous provisions in the Senate Highway bill

The Federal Highway Act, S.1204, passed the Senate by a vote of 117 on June 19, but floor action in the House is still pending. An amendment by Symms (R-ID), the National Recreational Trails Fund Act, is incorporated as Part B of the Senate bill. This provision calls for the states to use funds derived from iron-highway recreational fuel taxes for programs to develop "trails." Sounds good, until you read the cost allocations which indicate that, rather than being simple hiking footpaths, most of these trails would be constructed in public lands backcountry for the use of off-road and all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles,

accomplishing a real slow-down in population growth. In 1984, however, the Reagan Administration decreed (by the so-called Mexico City policy) that Agency for International Development (AID) funds could not be used to support foreign family planning organizations if such organizations provided abortion referrals with their own funds. The Bush Administration is continuing the Reagan policy.

Now Congress is attempting to do what the Administration won't. HR.1179, by Chet Atkins (D-MA) and Olympia Snow (R-ME), would overturn the Mexico City policy. HR.1110, by Kostmayer (D-PA), and Senate companion bill, S.1028, would increase U.S. assistance for international family planning to \$570 million a year. The House Appropriations Committee voted \$400 million -- not what the bill asked for, but an increase of \$70 million over the current level. [Note: it costs \$16 per couple for a year of comprehensive family planning services; to provide universal access to all couples in developing countries would require \$10.5 billion.]

- * **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Urge your senators and representative to support a reversal of the Mexico City Policy; a \$570 million U.S. allocation to international family planning programs; and renewed funding for the UN Population Fund. Urge them to co-sponsor HR.1179 and HR.1110/S.1028.

C. **Multiple attacks on wetlands**

Attack No. 1: HR.1330 (Hayes, D-LA), euphemistically titled the Comprehensive Wetlands Conservation & Management Act. This bill would cripple Sec.404 of the Clean Water Act (which regulates wetland activities), and would strip EPA of its important role in 404 proceedings. If enacted, it would remove hundreds of thousands of acres of wetlands from regulatory protection. Unfortunately, HR.1330 already has well over 100 co-sponsors. -- There is also a good wetlands bill that addresses a specific region of the country; HR.1306 (Miller, D-CA)/S.484 (Bradley, D-NJ) would require that part of the waters drained by California's huge Central Valley Project be returned to 14 wildlife refuges in the Valley.

- * **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Urge your Representative and Senators to oppose HR.1330 and any Senate companion bill thereto, and to support HR.1306/S.484.

Wetlands attack No.2: Congressional pressures to change definitions of wetlands. Sen. Johnston (D-LA) believes that definitions under the currently used 1989 Wetlands Manual wrongly add millions of acres to Corps of Engineers jurisdiction under the 404 program; he has put pressure on the Corps and EPA to issue a new manual with narrower definitions. This pressure is contained in the Senate Energy & Water Appropriations bill (HR.2427, which cleared

committee in mid-July), which blocks the Corps from using FY 1992 funds for various wetlands delineation and enforcement actions under the 1989 Manual.

Responding to this pressure, the Corps has proposed revisions, which, they say, should "result in improving the 1989 Manual's accuracy for identifying and delineating wetlands." These proposed revisions were published in the Federal Register during the week of Aug.12, and are open for public comment for 60 days.

- * **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** To obtain a copy of the proposed new manual call the EPA Wetlands Hotline, 1-800-832-7828. Examine the manual critically for the scientific criteria used and for the interpretations made. Send comments by October 12 to Gregory Peck (J), Chief, Wetlands & Aquatic Resources Regulatory Branch, Mail Code A-104F, EPA, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460.

D. **The extent of wetland losses**

A yet-to-be-released U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) survey of wetlands in the continental US reveals that wetland losses averaged 290,000 acres annually from the mid-1970s to the mid-1980s. "While this is a substantial decrease in earlier rates of loss of wetland resources," states the report, "it is still about 2/3 the rate of wetland loss observed from the mid-1950s to mid-1970's [namely, 458,000 acres/year]. ... Wetlands are being lost at a rate that still warrants concern." According to the National Wildlife Federation, the Administration is withholding release of this FWS report until it can unveil figures from a USDA survey that is expected to show smaller losses.

The FWS survey indicates that there was a net loss of 2.6 million acres of wetlands over the 9-year study period. In the mid 1980s our wetlands represented only about 46% of the 221 million acres of wetlands estimated to have existed in the lower 48 around the time of the American Revolution; by now, this percentage is probably even lower.

The bottomland hardwoods (wooded swamps) of the Southeast sustained the greatest loss: 95% of the total freshwater wetlands lost during the current study period were bottomland hardwoods. Their loss, in fact, was greater during the current study period than during the previous one.

E. **Biological diversity bills**

Two bills introduced this year would make conservation of biological diversity a national goal. HR.585 (Scheuer) and HR.2082 (Studds). Both bills would require that EISs consider impacts of federal actions on biological diversity, both would authorize very modest sums for various purposes, and each would establish a national center to help set scientific priorities in biodiversity research. HR 2082 would

direct the Secretary of the Interior to identify the kinds of natural areas currently protected, and to ensure long-term preservation of areas not currently protected. See NL183 ¶7C for other details.

Both bills have cleared subcommittees. The Scheuer bill, which was revised to satisfy numerous objections from the Justice Dept., has been marked up in full committee. (Among other things, Justice did not like singling out biodiversity for special treatment under NEPA.)

F. Private forest lands

Last year, the Congress authorized the Forest Legacy Program under which large acreages of undeveloped, privately owned forest land could become available for certain public uses, such as hiking and canoeing. Under this program, the landowner would retain easements for specific rights (e.g., timber cutting), while the government would take over all other rights by means of reserved-interest deeds. This program, which is chiefly applicable in the eastern U.S., could put a brake on certain types of extensive development, and on speculative land values, and would open lands for controlled recreational purposes. Efforts to implement the program, which will be administered by the states, may start this fall.

G. Rep. Cooper's bill would guard against greenhouse effect

John Sununu does not think anyone should be asked to spend money to solve an environmental problem, especially a problem whose existence he denies -- global warming. Fortunately, there are wiser heads in the Congress. Recently, Tennessee's Jim Cooper, along with Rep. Mike Synar (D-OK), introduced a pollution-offset bill that would require utilities to save a ton of greenhouse gases for every ton they pump into the air. Possible examples: collect methane (a potent greenhouse gas) which is currently vented from coal mines (or pay others to do so); switch from coal to natural gas; encourage utility consumers to conserve energy.

H. Antarctica one step closer to long-term protection

The Environmental Protocol for Antarctica was to be signed by 39 nations in Madrid on June 23, the 30th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty. The protocol places Antarctica off-limits to development, strictly regulates waste disposal and marine pollution, puts restrictions on tourism and research, and bans the use of any part of the continent for military testing. Importantly, despite initial objections by the USA, the protocol now includes a 50-year moratorium on mining (after that, the ban can be lifted only with the approval of all 26 of the Antarctic Treaty signatories). - On the eve of the June 23 signing, the USA demanded a "walk-away" clause for the mining provision, but, as a result of international pressure,

agreed 10 days later to sign the protocol -- as is. The signing ceremony has been rescheduled for October in Madrid.

The protocol must still be ratified by the U.S. Senate and by the other 38 signatory nations before it can take effect. Agreement by the whole world community on this matter will be a great symbolic step toward addressing other global issues.

J. Environmental community mourns Rick Sutherland

Rick Sutherland, president of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, was killed in an automobile accident on July 14. SCLDF (a separate entity from the Sierra Club) is the prime litigator of major environmental lawsuits for a variety of organizations. It was Rick Sutherland, the spark plug of the organization, whose pioneering work broke important new ground in the field of environmental law. A member of the SCLDF staff describes him as having been the ideal combination of principles, brains, charm, drive, humor, and compassion. Contributions to the Sutherland Memorial Fund can be sent to SCLDF, 180 Montgomery Str., Suite 1400, San Francisco, CA 94104.

9. TCWP NEWS

A. Obed Overlook outing, September 22

Have you never seen the beautiful Obed River we've worked so hard to preserve? Or have you seen it but would welcome another opportunity? In either case, join us for our Sept. 22 outing -- another event in TCWP's year-long 25th Anniversary celebration. For a relatively short, level, hike (perhaps 4 miles round-trip), you'll be rewarded by breath-taking vistas.

We'll have two assembly points. (1) Anyone wishing to carpool should be at the Cancun Restaurant, NE corner of Oak Ridge Turnpike and Illinois Ave, at 9 a.m. EDT, Sunday, Sept. 22. (2) Oak Ridge carpoolers will meet any others wishing to join the outing in front of the NPS Obed Headquarters in Warburg (behind the Court House) at 9:45 a.m. EDT. From Warburg, we will proceed across Lilly Bridge and up the other side to the trailhead. Our hike will take us to a high point overlooking the confluence between the Obed and Clear Creek. We will then backtrack a short distance and proceed upstream along the Obed, on top of the bluff. After returning to Lilly Bridge, anyone who feels like it can take a dip in a beautiful pool in Clear Creek.



Bring a lunch and canteen, rain gear, and camera. Wear sturdy shoes. If you bring kids, be prepared to hold onto them whenever we near the edge of the bluff. For further information, call Lee

Russell, 482-2153 (evenings) or 574-0860 (workdays).

B. Whites Creek Trail, October 20

This is another 25th Anniversary event. The Whites Creek Small Wild Area, which was set aside by TVA almost 10 years ago at the urging of TCWP, consists of a group of wooded hills and deep coves along the shores of Watts Bar Lake. TCWP assists in maintaining the attractive, varied trail that winds through the area.

Anyone wishing to carpool should meet at Big Turtle Park at 9 a.m. EDT, Sunday, October 20. Big Turtle Park is on the Oak Ridge Turnpike, about 0.1-0.2 miles west of traffic light #15. Anyone wishing to go to the trailhead on his/her own should proceed as follows. Going south through Rockwood, stay on U.S. 27, but note the point at which U.S. 70 turns off (just south of Rockwood). About 4 miles beyond that point, note the Whites Creek Baptist Church on your left. Just past the church is a blue bridge over Whites Creek, currently undergoing construction. Almost exactly 2 miles from the bridge, turn left at Roddy, and proceed 1 mile to a parking lot at the shores of the lake. We will assemble there at 10 a.m. EDT.



Bring a lunch, canteen, rain gear. If you wish to assist in casual trail maintenance, bring a plastic garbage bag and/or vegetation clippers. This is a circular trail, about 4 miles long, with some ups and downs. It is a fine place to bring family and friends. For more information call Judith Bartlow, Norris 494-9421, or Knoxville 632-1592.

C. Report on Haw Ridge Canoe Trail outing

On Saturday, July 27, Chuck Coutant led a group of 14 people in 7 canoes along the shores of Haw Ridge Peninsula, on a loop route that TCWP is developing as a canoe trail. Much wildlife was observed, and the trip therefore proceeded in a leisurely fashion for 2 1/2 hours. Afterwards, many participants proceeded to Maureen Cunningham/ Webb Van Winkle's home for a picnic lunch.

Chuck has developed a one page Guide to the canoe trail which is available on request (send stamped, self-addressed envelope to Chuck Coutant, 120 Miramar Circle, Oak Ridge 37830). After being revised, the brochure will be available at the Oak Ridge Library. TCWP is working with the City to develop signs for the trail.

D. Annual meeting: nominations

Look for a special mailing (soon) with information on our annual meeting. This will be held November 15-17 at Wesley Woods near the Smokies. We are planning a great program, and hope many of you will attend; please return forms without

delay. -- The same mailing will contain a list of nominees for the 1991 TCWP Board.

E. TCWP, greenbelts, and North Ridge Trail featured in magazine

A magazine-style publication, "Oak Ridge," produced by Journal Publications of Nashville for the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce, contains, as the first of six features, an article entitled "Seeing Green," and subtitled "Oak Ridge's greenbelts and heavily supported environmental programs are enviable assets." A major portion of the article is devoted to TCWP's work on greenbelts, including the following paragraph: "Liane Russell, a founder of TCWP, says the fight to save the Cedar Barrens, a green area that was almost turned into a mall, focused attention on the campaign to protect the environment, and got more environmentally aware citizens on town council." There is a lovely, full-page, color photo, showing Bill Russell and David Adler wandering on the North Ridge Trail. For info on how to get a copy, call Journal Publications, Brentwood, TN, 615-371-0010.

F. Building a network

TCWP is trying to build a network that should help us make quick contact with key legislators on critical issues (NL 183 § 8A). Several of you returned the form we enclosed with the last Newsletter (thank you!), but we were hoping for a bigger response. We are enclosing another copy of the form. Won't you please take a minute to return it? (It needs no envelope, just a 29¢ stamp)



G. News about TCWP members

Maureen Cunningham (TCWP Vice President) and Webb Van Winkle were married on August 17 in a lovely ceremony on the terrace of the Lakeside Grill. What a great partnership!

Board member Bob Luxmoore happened to be in Moscow on the day of the big coup. He saw little of it, and left as scheduled, for Stockholm.

The following members kindly assisted Director Dick Ambrose (now fully recovered from his skull surgery) in assembling NL 183: Marion Garber, Louise Markel, Fred and Phyllis Sweeton, Charlie Klabunde, and Dick Ambrose. We are grateful to them!

10. JOB OPENINGS: ACTIVITIES: READING MATTER

- JOB OPENING: The Mineral Policy Center has an opening for a "Circuit Rider," a combination technical/environmental expert and community organizer, to serve in the Northern Rockies.

(Contact: Beverly Biddle, MPC, 1325 Massachusetts Ave, NW, #550, Wash., DC 20005; 202-737-1872).

- **JOB OPENING:** OPM is looking for a Museum Technician, a Civil-Service level GS-5 job. Knowledge of museum and archaeological methods, record keeping, inventorying, and photography are among the requirements. (Contact: OPM, Memphis Area Office, 200 Jefferson Ave, Suite 1312, Memphis, TN 38103-2335).
 - **JOB OPENING:** The Nantahala Outdoor Center may still have an opening for Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer. Strong financial skills and "people" skills are a must. (Contact: Marc Hunt, NOC, Bryson City, NC, 704-488-2175).
 - September 22, TCWP's Obed Overlook outing. See ¶9A, this NL.
 - October 20, TCWP's Whites Creek Trail outing. See ¶9B, this NL.
 - November 9-12, "Parkways, Greenways, Riverways: Partnership for Beauty and Progress," Charlottesville, VA. A conference sponsored by the Blue Ridge Parkway, NPS, Amer. Soc. of Landscape Architects, and others. Call Appalachian Consortium, Boone, NC, 704-262-2064.
 - November 15-17, TCWP's Annual Meeting. See ¶9D, this NL.
 - River Network (P.O. Box 8787, Portland, OR 97207, Ph. 503-236-8011) is a national organization committed to building local support for river protection. River Network has three programs: (1) the River Clearinghouse, to provide information and referrals to local river activists; (2) the River Leadership Project, to develop leaders at the state and local levels; and (3) the Riverlands Conservancy, to acquire outstanding riverlands and convey them to the public for protection.
 - *The American Rivers Guide to Wild and Scenic River Designation: a Primer on National River Conservation*, by Kevin Coyle (pres. of American Rivers), explains the process for protecting rivers through the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act. The 180-page book also answers common land-owner questions and concerns. (\$15.95 from American Rivers, 801 Pennsylvania Ave, SE, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20003).
 - *A Water Snake's Year*, by long-standing TCWP member Doris Gove, is an informative and attention-holding book for children in the 7- to 11-year range. Beautifully illustrated by Beverly Duncan, it should do much to abolish unreasonable fear of snakes.
- Published by Macmillan Children's Book Group (866 Third Aven New York, NY 10022), it should be available in local book stores at \$13.95.
- The Lincoln Inst. of Land Policy is offering a series of short courses in a variety of locations throughout the country during the 1991-1992 school year. For a catalog, address the institute at 113 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.
 - Correct your Political Guide. For Commissioner of Conservation, substitute: J.W. Luna, Commissioner, Tenn. Dept. of Environment and Conservation, 701 Broadway, Nashville, TN 37243-0435.
 - SAIC made a donation to TCWP in memory of Marion Roesel's mother, who recently passed away.