

12. ACTION SUMMARY

#No.	Issue	Contact	"Message" or Action
1B	Clear Creek dam proposal	D.Seivers, FmHA	"EIS must study <u>cumulative</u> impacts. Dam is not justified!"
1C	Crooked Crk. dam proposal	Div.Water Poll.Control	Attend Jamestown hearing, or send comments
1D	BSF acquisition funds	Sen.Sasser	"Sincerest thanks for your major role all along!"
1G	BSF bear reintroduction	BSFNRA Supt.	"Support experimental reintroduction!"
2	Pickett addition	TCWP	Attend our celebration, Sept. 4
3A	State Water Quality Criteria	Div.Water Poll.Control	"Adopt proposed Antidegradation Statement!"
3B	Mixed Mesophytic Forest	John Harwood	Supply info for study
4B	Smokies buffer	Foothills Conservancy	Contribute toward land purchase
5A	S. Appal. ecological asmt	US Forest Service	Comment on proposed study topics
6A	TVA's Energy Policy	TVA	"Encourage energy conservation & efficiency!"
6B	Shoreline Mngt. Policy	TVA	"Expand Small Wild Areas program!"
7B	Champion lands	TCWP	Help with water-quality-data collection
8C	Oak Ridge Reservation	Kristen Clark, MMES	Make suggestions for future use
9A	"Pre-existing rights"	Sec. Babbitt, USDI	"Promulgate tough regsto protect federal lands!"
9B	Calif. Desert Protection	Several Reps. & Sens	"Support Senate version of bill!"
9C	Denali NP: inholding threat	Roger Kennedy, Dir. NPS	"Do not open Denali road to RVs!"
9G	Trade in endangered species	Pres. Clinton	"Thanks for exerting Pelly sanctions!"
10B	Letter-writing Social	Linda LaForest, TCWP	"I'll attend!"
10C	Annual Meeting	TCWP	Plan to attend
10D	TCWP nominations	Nominating Comm.	Offer to serve on Board

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 .

THIS IS OUR 200TH NEWSLETTER

I. BIG SOUTH FORK AND OBED: LOTS OF NEWS

A. Lee Davis replaces Bill Dickinson

Bill Dickinson, since October 1988 superintendent of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (BSFNRA) and Obed Wild & Scenic River (OWSR) left Tennessee on August 18. Bill's superior intelligence and high energy level, his ability to assess issues and deal with them, and his great sensitivity to park values made him ideally suited to manage these two relatively new National Park Service (NPS) areas during their critical developmental stages. One of his major initiatives was to start an assessment of whole-watershed problems, using the Obed as a prototype for study. This has yet to come to fruition. Bill always kept us well informed, and we found it a great pleasure to communicate and cooperate with him.

Bill has made a "lateral move" to become Assistant Superintendent at Lake Mead National Recreation Area. His new address is Lake Mead NRA, National Park Service, 601 Nevada Highway, Boulder City NV 89005.

He is replaced at BSFNRA by Lee Davis, a native of Hart County, KY, who, after earning a BS in Education, worked for 10 years for a firm that manages concession services (lodging, restaurant, transportation, etc.) in several national park sites. In 1976, he joined NPS as a concessions management specialist, and in 1989 he was appointed chief of concessions at NPS headquarters in Washington, DC. TCWP welcomes Mr. Davis and hopes to meet with him shortly after he reports for work on August 24.

B. EIS process is under way for the Clear Creek dam proposal

As we informed you last time (NL199 ¶2A), the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) agreed to generate a full-fledged EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) in lieu of the simple, meaningless FmHA Environmental Assessments for which the agency is notorious. This very substantial victory can be attributed to the numerous letters written by members of TCWP and NPCA, and the Friends of the Obed network, and to our conference call with David Seivers, the State Director of FmHA (NL198 ¶2A).

To be meaningful, the EIS must study not only the local but the *cumulative* impacts of the project, and must look at *watershed-wide* alternatives. The National Park Service has applied to FmHA to be a "cooperating agency" on the EIS, and FmHA has accepted. In addition, following a meeting with Lee Russell and Don Barger (NL199 ¶2B), TVA personnel agreed similarly to seek cooperating-agency status; The TVA role may, in fact, be broader, covering more watersheds in the Cumberlands.

The National Park Service, also, is continuing efforts, initiated by Bill Dickinson, to develop a watershed initiative using the Obed as a prototype (NL199 ¶2B). There are preliminary indications that modest funding will be forthcoming to develop a watershed-based water-resources protection strategy over the next two years.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Write to David Seivers, State Director, Farmers Home Administration (3322 West End Avenue, Suite 300, Nashville, TN 37203) to oppose the Clear Creek dam, and to let the agency know you are aware a full EIS is being prepared. Point out that this EIS must look at *cumulative* impacts this dam would have with other existing and potential projects in the watershed. Tell FmHA you want to be put on their mailing list for any document pertaining to the proposal, and especially for information on when the scoping process begins.

C. Hearings on Crooked Creek dam proposal

Because of significant negative comments received, the Tenn. Division of Water Pollution Control has scheduled hearings on the Fentress Utility District's proposal to construct a water-supply reservoir on Crooked Creek. These will be held Tuesday, September 6, 7 pm, at the Fentress County Courthouse, Jamestown.

This dam proposal (see NL195 ¶1B; NL197 ¶1B, NL199 ¶1C) affects the watershed of the Big South Fork. The Crooked Creek joins the Clear Fork at Peters Bridge and contributes a major amount of the Clear Fork's flow between Peters and Brewster Bridges, a segment that is a favorite for family canoeing because of the absence of difficult rapids. The 3.0 MGD (million gallons of water per day) that would be removed by the Crooked Creek reservoir constitute a significant percentage of the Clear Fork's water in that segment, especially during the summer and fall seasons. In addition, there are potential adverse water-quality and

ecological impacts from reservoir construction and operation.

More generally, there is a great need to bring a cumulative approach to proposals that would cause water-quantity diminution for the entire BSNFRRRA. All impoundments in the watershed cumulatively nibble away at the flow of rivers that form the heart of the federal area that now belongs to the people of the United States.

The questionable need for the project was underscored by a recent action of the Jamestown City Council, which voted to accept federal grants and loans to expand the water-treatment plant on the existing Jamestown reservoir. The Council made it quite clear that this would assure an adequate and accredited water supply for both Jamestown and the rest of Fentress County (as well as Pickett State Park and the BSNFRRRA). With Jamestown water available, there is plenty of time in which to conduct a thorough water supply/demand planning study for the entire watershed. If water need were to be clearly proved for the future, then the alternatives to be considered should include taking water from Dale Hollow Reservoir, and effectively coordinating utility districts.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Please come with us to the Jamestown hearings. If you are shy, you do not need to present oral testimony; written comments will be accepted but must be received by September 16. Send them to Tenn. Division of Water Pollution Control, 7th Floor Life & Casualty Annex, 401 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37243-1534.

D. May get \$1 million for BSNFRRRA land acquisition!

We started this summer with a repeat performance of past years: BSF acquisition funds in the Senate bill, but nothing in the House bill. Sen. Sasser had managed to get \$1.5 Million into the Senate bill, which, along with money "in the bank" from prior appropriations, would have brought to available funds to \$6 M, estimated to be the minimum needed to acquire just the North White Oak/Laurel Fork watershed. With zero funds in the House bill, the outcome was, however, very uncertain. We now hear that, thanks to Sen. Sasser's personal involvement in the conference committee process, the final bill (which has yet to go to the floor) will probably include \$1 M for BSF acquisition. This would certainly make it possible for NPS to move forward with needed appraisals and actual purchases. According to his staff, Rep.

Jim Cooper also had positive inputs into the conference committee's deliberations.

The North White Oak/Laurel Fork watershed is an integral component of the BSNFRRRA, and is very much threatened by logging, mining, etc. The existence of large tracts in that area creates the need for having available lump sums of considerable magnitude in order to make purchase offers to landowners.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Express your sincerest thanks to Sen. Sasser for the major role he has played all along -- and again this year -- in working toward completion of the acquisition process. Thank Rep. Cooper for any help he was able to give. Address on p.2.

E. Studies of O&W alternatives to be funded

In early April, Sen. Harlan Mathews met with Scott Cy. politicians who are pressing to have the O&W right-of-way developed for motorized traffic (NL197 ¶1A; NL198 ¶1A; NL199 ¶1B). In a subsequent meeting with Superintendent Dickinson, Mathews expressed concern over the NPS' Draft Roads and Trails Management Plan's recommendation to eliminate motorized traffic from the O&W right-of-way, citing the need for old and mobility-impaired people to have access to the river. Sen. Mathews also requested a cost estimate for a study of alternative means for providing access to the main O&W bridge over the BSF from the Park's eastern boundary. In response to the Senator's concerns, NPS provided two estimates, as well as offering to remove the O&W recommendation from the Roads & Trails Management Plan.

In July, we learned that Sen. Mathews had readied two amendments that he planned to attach to the NPS appropriations bill (¶1D, this NL) when it reached the floor. These amendments would authorize funding of two studies, one a \$50,000 "Transportation Feasibility Study" for the eastern portion of the O&W right of way (eastern Park boundary to O&W bridge), the other a \$25,000 "Development Concept Plan" for the western portion.

The first study "will provide an assessment of alternative means of providing access to the BSF River... [and] will compare continued auto, shuttle, and non-motorized methods of access. It will include an evaluation of bridge and road improvements required for each type of access, alternative shuttle technologies, alternative

staging area locations, ... parking area needs, ... [etc.]. The work will require approximately one year to complete, assuming that it would start just before the high visitation season to allow for timely data collection." The second study "will address needed multiple-use facility layout within the corridor between the O&W bridge and Zenith and ... would require approximately 6 months."

Although the appropriations bill has not yet reached the Senate floor, Mathews' amendments are expected to pass. The studies will probably be conducted by the Southeast Region of NPS.

F. Management Objective Workshop

As a first step in generating a set of BSNRRA Management Objectives, a workshop was held at Huntsville, TN, on July 13 and 14. A diversity of interests was represented by the almost 40 invited attendees, who included the county executives of the 5 counties involved, several concessionaires, user clubs (horse-back riders, mountain bikers, canoeists/kayakers), staff of state agencies (TN Div of Water Pollution Control, TN Wildlife Resources Agency), staff of federal agencies (NPS, Forest Service, TVA, Corps of Engineers), and a handful of conservationists (Don Barger for NPCA, Ray Payne for Smoky Mtns Hiking Club, Lee Russell for TCWP). Alternate meetings of the whole group (under an NPS facilitator) and of five subgroups resulted in the formulation of a "Purpose" statement, a list of issues, and statements for 9 management objectives. Although there was much compromise, the overall result was creditable.

Here we cite only a few examples.

Purpose: "To protect, interpret, and develop the park for healthful outdoor recreation and benefit to the regional economy, while preserving the outstanding scenic, natural, and cultural values of the area and the essentially primitive condition of the gorge."

Objective on Visitor Experience.

(a) "*Adjacent Areas* [i.e., the non-gorge portions of the BSNRRA]: To provide visitors the opportunity, in a mostly natural and/or historical setting, for outdoor recreation experiences related to, and compatible with, the resources and values of the Park."

(b) "*Gorge Areas*: To provide visitors the opportunity to experience long free-flowing stretches of natural rivers in a gorge environment characterized both by dramatic vistas and intimate settings; and, between authorized access and

development, a landscape of diverse natural ecosystems in their primitive state."

Once the whole set of Management Objectives is finalized, it will guide management decisions for the BSNRRA for several years to come, and will be the cornerstone for other planning and management documents.

G. Experimental bear release for BSNRRA

Black bears, which once ranged over virtually the entire North American continent, have been extirpated from most regions of the United States. In the Southeast, their range has shrunk to only 5-10% of its original extent. About 6 years ago, because of its philosophy of restoring extirpated native species to their historic ranges, NPS agreed to work with TWRA (the Tenn. Wildlife Resources Agency) to explore the feasibility of a proposal to reintroduce black bears into the BSNRRA. A working group of several federal- and state-agency representatives subsequently determined that two preliminary studies were needed: (1) a habitat suitability study, and (2) an experimental reintroduction under controlled conditions.

The first of these studies was completed in 1990 and found that food production in the Area, while not optimal, was adequate to support a resident bear population; it was expected to improve as the forest matures. The second study — experimental reintroduction — is now proposed to begin in 1995.

This experimental release should verify the conclusions of the habitat-suitability study, will determine bear movement patterns and home-range size, and will evaluate the range of potential human-bear conflicts, including the effects of roads on bear behavior, and the threat of poaching. After two years, the findings from the experimental release will be evaluated, and a decision made on whether to proceed with full-scale introduction.

The experimental release will be carried out by a U.T. team under Prof. Mike Pelton, and will involve 12 radio-collared bears that have no prior history of nuisance behavior. Acclimation and release will take place in the secluded west-central portion of the BSNRRA, in or near the No Business Creek drainage.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Success of this project will depend on public support, and your comments are important. Send them before September 16 to Superintendent, Big South Fork NRR, Rt. 3, Box 401, Oneida, TN 37841.

H. BSNRRA Water Resources Management Plan

To initiate the effort to generate a Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) for the BSNRRA, a planning meeting was held three months ago. In addition to the Park's management team and to representatives of the NPS Water Resources Division (Denver), the meeting was attended by staff of the Tennessee Division of Water Pollution Control, which will write the Plan under an NPS contract.

The list of issues and circumstances to be addressed is almost endless. There are two management zones of the BSNRRA -- the National River (gorge area) and the National Recreation Area (adjacent area), and two states are involved (Tennessee and Kentucky). Within the Park, oil and gas extraction is permitted (within the "adjacent area" portion), abandoned (and unreclaimed) coal mines are scattered throughout, and water quality is degraded by ATV use and by vehicular fording of streams. Most significant is that a major proportion of the watershed lies outside the designated Park area, and that acid mine drainage and siltation from existing and past strip mines, timbering, other agricultural activities, industry, town sewage plants and dump sites, gas lines, etc., etc., seriously impact water quality in the BSNRRA, while a proliferation of dams threatens water quantity.

Among the many activities that must enter into the final formulation of the WRMP will be an assessment of existing monitoring programs, and the initiation of new ones (stream flows, stream morphology, WQ parameters, threatened and endangered species, groundwater, oil-well discharges, spills, erosion, wetlands, etc., etc.). It is anticipated that the study will take 12-18 months to complete.

J. March for Parks for BSNRRA -- final tally

Finally, more than 3 months after our great March for Parks event (in which over 30 people of all ages -- preschool through 83 -- had walked or paddled the Clear Fork), we had to set a cut-off point for checks that were still trickling in. The sum we raised was \$2379 -- more than double the amount we collected last year. The sum includes a corporate contribution of \$500 from SAIC and a check for \$250 from TSRA. The biggest collector of individual pledges was the Pellissippi State Community College Outdoor Club, which accumulated \$420. Again, our sincere thanks to all who participated. The Park Service will use the money for water protection or water studies.

2. GREAT NEWS ABOUT PICKETT

5,000 acres have been added; another 3,000 to come

Bobby Fulcher, Jenny Freeman, TCWP members, and many others: take a bow. Your very hard work, your perseverance, and your ability to work the system have succeeded in rescuing the magnificent lands west of Pickett State Park and Forest from an irresponsible developer (Patton Corp.) who has held an option on them for the past 8 months (NL196 ¶3).

The Mellon Family Foundation of Pittsburgh recently purchased 5,000 acres of the former Stearns land for which the State had been negotiating, and for which, to everyone's surprise and consternation, the Patton Corp. purchased an option just prior to TCWP's last annual meeting at Pickett. The Mellon Foundation gave the land to the State of Tennessee in a ceremony held August 8 at Nashville, which honored state legislators (including one who had argued to let the Patton Corp. keep the land!) and county executives -- but none of the citizens who had spent almost a year of hard effort on this issue. Yet another ceremony will be conducted by the State, this one on August 31 at the York Institute at Jamestown; don't be surprised if some of the same people get honored all over again!

There will, however, be a ceremony for citizens -- arranged by citizens -- on Sunday, 9/4/94 at Pickett State Park. It starts at 10 a.m. (CDT) and includes several outings and other events. We hope you'll come! Look for a special mailing informing you of the details; or call Jenny Freeman (462-5980, eve.) or Joan Burns (482-5735).

Things look good for the remaining 3,000 acres, which are made up of two tracts (roughly, 2,300 + 700 acres). These two tracts have been given the highest priority for the State's Land Acquisition Fund, and appraisals and related activities have been set in motion. The process is being handled by the State Forestry Division's Ken Arney, an expert in real-estate transactions.

3. OTHER STATE MATTERS

A. Support needed for strengthening State Water Quality Criteria

The state of Tennessee is required by law to perform a triennial review of the rules under which the Tennessee Water Pollution Control Act

of 1977 is implemented. In January, we received a staff proposal for comment (NL197 ¶4C) and subsequently commented in writing as well as at one of a series of information meetings (NL198 ¶5C). The proposed rules amendments will now be the subject of a series of hearings in the latter half of September, prior to being finalized and promulgated. Our input is again important.

Seven subjects are addressed by the proposed revisions. The subject of greatest importance to us is the so-called Antidegradation Statement within Chapter 1200-4-3, "General Water Quality Criteria." The revisions to this Statement include: clarification of the characteristics of high-quality waters, the adoption of a tiered approach for providing extra protection to high-quality streams, and a listing of good examples of high-quality waters. Two lists would be created: (a) Tier III -- Outstanding National Resource Waters (proposed for listing: portions of the Obed R., Clear Creek, Conasauga R. and others), and (b) Tier II -- Outstanding State Resource Waters (proposed for listing: White's Creek, Obed R., Buffalo R., and others, including State Scenic Rivers). The regulations would not allow new discharges, expansion of existing discharges, or other activities that would cause degradation of these waters. Tier I are "High quality waters not in Tiers III or II."

The proposed classification provides a higher level of protection to Tier III than was formerly possible in the absence of a tier system. The regulations would contain a provision for citizens to nominate waters for listing as Tier III or Tier II, subject to approval by the Water Quality Control Board.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Come to one of the hearings and support the proposed strengthening of the Antidegradation Statement. On September 27, two hearings will be held (2 pm and 7 pm) at the Pellissippi State Technical Community College, "A" Building Auditorium. Call Joan Burns (482-5735) if you'd like to carpool. Other hearings will be held at Memphis (9/19), Nashville (9/23), Chattanooga (9/26), and Johnson City (9/28). For details of time and place, and/or for info on when and where to send written comments, call Gregory M. Denton, Mgr., Planning & Standards Section, Division of Water Pollution Control, Nashville 615-532-0699.

B. *Study Mixed Mesophytic Forest*

The wonderful Mixed Mesophytic Forest (MMF), renowned for its antiquity and tremendous diversity, is in decline, probably as a result of acid precipitation, ozone, and excess nitrogen deposition. The MMF occupies a band through Appalachia, stretching from southern Pennsylvania, to northern Alabama. In Tennessee, it extends through the region of the Cumberlands, from Pickett, Fentress, Scott and Campbell Counties in the north to Marion and Franklin in the south.

In an effort to generate greater awareness of the values of the MMF, concern for the problems that confront it, and impetus for correcting these problems, a coalition of citizens' groups is undertaking a study of tree mortality in the forest. Trees for the Planet, The Lucy Braun Association for the MMF, and the Sierra Club's Southern Appalachian Highlands Ecoregion Taskforce will supply and train volunteers to collect data for the project. In the first phase of the study, the rate of tree mortality will be determined within older stands of native trees. Subsequent phases will assess tree condition and environments.

TCWP has been asked to identify candidate stands for the study. Qualifying study plots should be a minimum of 2.2 acres. There should be no evidence of major human disturbance within the past 40 years. At least 35% of the upper-stand canopy must be trees that were living in 1975 and that would be 120 years old in 1990.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** If you know of stands that meet these criteria -- whether on public or private land -- please bring them to the attention of John Harwood, 507 N. Womack Ave., Cookeville, TN 38501, Phone 615-528-2301. If you want to volunteer for the study, John would like your name, also.

C. *Nongame species*

Whereas the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) has several revenue sources for conducting game and fish programs, there is little or no funding for nongame species. This year, the Tennessee General Assembly passed two "Watchable Wildlife" bills. The first establishes a special license plate expected to generate revenues of \$125,000 annually. This will be deposited into the Watchable Wildlife Endowment Fund managed by TWRA. The second bill would have provided a stable ongoing source of funds for the project. In lieu of passing this second bill, the legislature made a one-time appropriation of \$100,000 -- enough to help start the program. The Environmental Action

Fund hopes to find enough receptivity in the next General Assembly to try once more for a stable funding source.

D. *Wetlands Conservation Strategy promulgated*

The Tennessee Wetlands Conservation Strategy, completed in February by the Governor's Interagency Wetlands Committee and its technical working group, has just been released. The study, representing the efforts of 5 state and 7 federal agencies, 4 private organizations and 2 universities, was funded by a grant from EPA to the Tennessee State Planning Office.

In completing the Strategy, Tennessee becomes the second state in the nation to have completed a wetland conservation plan. Governor McWherter formally endorsed the Strategy as an official mechanism of state policy, and expectations for implementation are high, especially so because the state has already received almost \$500,000 in federal implementation funds. The Strategy's Action Plan includes 10 objectives, most of which we would support.

4. SMOKIES

A. *New Superintendent responds on Parson's Branch Road*

Only two weeks after assuming her duties as the new superintendent of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NL199 ¶3C), Karen Wade responded to TCWP's letter about the future of the Parson's Branch Road, which was damaged by a spring flood (NL199 ¶3B). "We have not yet made a decision about whether to repair that road or convert all or part of it to a trail. Your proposal to make this decision a part of a Development Concept Plan (DCP) for Cades Cove is well taken, and we will give it strong consideration. A transportation analysis of the Cove will certainly be a major part of such a DCP. The Park has listed a Cades Cove DCP as one of its top planning priorities for several years, and we are very hopeful of eventually receiving funding for it."

In her letter, Superintendent Wade also expresses her pleasure at finding groups supportive of the Park. "Organized support groups make a valuable contribution towards helping us preserve the Park's priceless natural and cultural resources." TCWP looks forward to working with Ms. Wade.

B. *Conservancy seeks to provide vital buffer for Park*

The Foothills Land Conservancy (FLC) has initiated the Abrams Creek - Chilhowee Reserve Project, which would protect 4,600 vital acres adjoining the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) in Blount County. The tract includes a 2.26-mile boundary with the Park along Abrams Creek in Happy Valley - an area being seriously eyed by developers for timbering and home construction, as well as the entire Morton Bluff portion of Chilhowee Mountain, encompassing about 3 miles of the Foothills Parkway. The area is rich in wildlife, with over 30 fish, 58 amphibian, 49 reptile, 154 bird, and 65 mammal species recorded. The Chilhowee Mt. portion provides vital mast forage for black bears; and Abrams Creek supports river otters.

The FLC has an option to buy the 4,600 acres from ALCOA. If successful in raising the required \$1,226,000, the Conservancy will donate 300 acres adjacent to Abrams Creek to the GSMNP, and the Chilhowee Mountain acreage to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency for a Foothills Wildlife Management Area. The option expires December 31, 1994. If FLC fails, this could set off a chain reaction of overzealous development in the area that might culminate in another Pigeon Forge.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** The primary needs are money, and spreading the word. Two national foundations are considering challenge grants to match every dollar donated by the public. Every dollar buys 144 square feet of wild land that will be preserved forever, and you can "buy" an acre for \$300 (FLC will send you a "deed"). Donations of \$500 or above will make you eligible for limited-edition prints. You can also pledge over a 3-year period. The Foothills Land Conservancy's address is 352 High Street, Maryville, TN 37801. For more information you can call their executive director, Randy Brown, at 615-681-8326, or TCWP member John Rush at 984-6218.

5. SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN FORESTS

A. *Forest Service ecological assessment*

The Southern Region of the US Forest Service (USFS) and the SE Forest Experiment Station will conduct an ecological assessment of "broad-based, landscape-level" issues across the Southern Appalachians. There are two objectives: (a) to achieve an analysis and sharing of existing information relative to the region's resources, and

(b) to support individual revisions of the national forests in the region, including the Cherokee NF in Tennessee. The Assessment will not include any binding management directions.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The USFS is soliciting comments on questions posed under 6 topics: health of the forest ecosystems, plant and animal resources, water quality, roadless areas/wilderness, timber production, and social context. Our comments are important. To get a copy of the questions, write to: S. Appalachian Assessment, USDA Forest Service - Southern Region, Suite 7605, 1720 Peachtree Rd., NW, Atlanta, GA 30367-1902. Your comments should be sent to the same address by September 15.

B. *In-depth analysis of Southern Appalachians*

An in-depth analysis, "Sustaining Biodiversity in the Southern Appalachians," by D. Daniel Boone and Gregory H. Aplet (published in April by the Wilderness Society) resulted in the following findings.

- Federal lands constitute a relatively consolidated ownership block spanning the length of the region, and provide the best opportunity to conserve a functional regional ecosystem.
- Federal lands constitute 16% of the region but support 55% of the region's older forest. Over 80% of the 3,000 plant and animal species considered in the study are found on the region's public lands. Thus, the Southern Appalachians' national forests and parks are well suited to conserving the bulk of biodiversity in the region.
- Unfortunately, within the national forests, clearcutting and road construction threaten the best of what remains of the region's biodiversity. These practices bring about fragmentation of intact forest, exposing interior-dwelling species to hostile conditions, isolating and reducing populations, destroying uncommon communities, and homogenizing the landscape.
- There is a lack of coordinated management efforts, inadequate conservation of biodiversity on private lands, and failure by the USFS to follow legal mandates to ensure protection of biodiversity.

Among key recommendations for conserving the region's biodiversity are these:

- Broaden the scope of planning to include analysis of the landscape beyond administrative borders.
- Re-establish large, contiguous blocks of interior, old-growth forest habitat and maintain the diversity of forest types; halt conversion of natural forests to tree plantations!

- Change forest plans to relieve the pressure to cut older forests; protect remaining roadless areas from logging.
- Improve the information base on forest conditions and utilize geographic information systems (GIS) to develop a comprehensive inventory of biodiversity within and outside administrative borders.

Hopefully, the upcoming ecological assessment announced by the USFS (§5A, above) will meet some of these recommendations. Our input will be important.

6. TVA SEEKS PUBLIC INPUTS

A. *TVA's energy policy has major impacts on region's environment: your input needed*

After over 60 years of making only "in-house" decisions on energy policy, TVA is now required by the 1992 Energy Act to go through a comprehensive energy-planning process, IRP (Integrated Resource Planning), that balances new technology, consumer needs, existing resources, and environmental concerns. In formulating this plan -- "Energy Vision 2020" -- TVA is seeking public input (NL199 §5A).

Because power generation by TVA has a major impact on the environment of our region, measures that will encourage energy conservation and energy efficiency should be at the top of the list of actions we want the agency to write into its Plan. With roughly 80% of the power being coal-generated, TVA provides a major stimulus for stripmining. Stack emissions continue to be significant contributors to the region's air pollution, even after installation of the control measures brought about in the late 1970s through concerted efforts by TCWP and other citizens' groups (interacting with the enlightened TVA chairmanship of David Freeman). Even now, atmospheric deposition of nitrogen and sulfur is higher in the Gt. Smoky Mtns. National Park than at any other site in the USA.

In the Northwest, utilities are required to fully explore energy-efficiency and conservation programs before they can make an argument to build more power plants. Under David Freeman's chairmanship in the late 1970s, TVA instituted an enlightened residential energy-conservation program that reduced the demand for electricity by 1,400 megawatts (the equivalent of two medium-sized power plants). This program was canceled in 1988, and the agency now spends only 0.1% of its revenues on conservation.

Another great energy saver is "load management," the process of leveling out the use of electricity over time. The ability to interrupt power during peak loads allows TVA to control about 1,700 megawatts used by the industries that participate in this program.

TVA is providing extensive opportunities for comments. Twelve public hearings have been scheduled throughout the TVA service area, and there is a long period during which written comments will be received.



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Although 4 "energy forums" (public meetings) have already been held (including one in Knoxville), 8 others are yet to come, in places like Nashville (9/1/94), Memphis (9/22/94), and Chattanooga (11/3/94). Written comments are equally acceptable and will be received through December 5. Urge TVA to adopt measures that will encourage energy conservation and energy efficiency. Send comments (which need not be long or elaborate) to Lynn C. Maxwell, Integrated Resource Planning, TVA, 1101 Market Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801. To get more detailed information about the public meetings, call the Tennessee Valley Energy Reform Coalition at 615-637-6055 (Fax 524-4479).

B. Still time to provide input on TVA shoreline management.

In June and July, TVA held a series of 13 public meetings to solicit input on the way the agency should manage its reservoir shorelines (NL199 15B). TCWP members attended at least one of them (Howard and Martha Adler, Joan Burns, Bill and Lee Russell at Farragut) and were well-impressed with how the process was being handled.

According to the TVA publication "Neighbors," people came out by the hundreds to voice their opinion, and many "spoke in favor of restrictions to preserve the natural beauty of the shoreline, to protect water quality and wildlife habitat, and to provide recreational opportunities for the general public." Among four opinion capsules presented in the publication below photographs of the speakers is one by Lee Russell, as follows: "I would really like to see TVA expand its Small Wild Areas program. I'd also like to see TVA assist landowners with their expertise and knowledge in stabilizing banks in a natural appearing manner, including the use of native plants."



WHAT YOU CAN DO: You have until August 31 to have an input in the process. All it takes is one

short phone call to 1-800-TVA-LAND, or 615-632-1669; or write (a sentence or two will do) to TVA, Shoreline Management Initiative, 17 Ridgeway Rd., Norris, TN 37828. If you like Lee's suggestion that TVA should expand its Small Wild Areas program, say so.

C. Whites Creek Small Wild Area

This TVA Small Wild Area, located in the Whites Creek embayment of Watts Bar Lake, is of special interest to TCWP, because we were instrumental in having it set aside and have undertaken to maintain a lovely hiking trail on it. Part of this trail goes through adjoining Bowaters Paper Co. land that contains a pine plantation.

Bowaters foresters have discovered a pine-beetle infestation on their land and have informed TVA foresters that they wish to cut down infested trees and bulldoze them toward the center of each patch. TVA has asked Bowaters to leave a buffer of uncut trees near the trail corridor. No trees will be cut on TVA land.

**7. UNREGULATED CLEARCUTTING NOW
THREATENS MORE THAN EVER**

(Contributed by Joan Burns)

A. County? or State? or neither?

For the past five months, TCWP has been lobbying the Anderson County Board of Commissioners to adopt zoning provisions that would regulate logging operations in the county (NL196 13B; NL199 16A). The issue of zoning was raised by the Commission when it became known that Champion Paper Company was negotiating to purchase large tracts of land in north Anderson County, as well as in Campbell and Scott Counties, and that these tracts would most likely be clearcut.

Despite lots of attention and time devoted to the issue by the Regional Planning Commission and by an *ad hoc* committee appointed by the operations committee, the issue is still in political limbo. The latest draft of the resolution simply requires that a site plan be submitted by the logging corporation, that Best Management Practices (BMPs) be followed, and that bonding may be required if there is potential damage to adjacent properties or impacts on streams and other waterways. At the last minute of the June 20 meeting, the Commissioners amended the resolution to include an exemption for property owned by individuals that is less than 500 acre in size.

At this time, the Anderson County Commissioners are waiting for an opinion by the Tennessee Attorney General on whether this type of regulation would be legal. Those opposed to the regulation claim that logging operations fall under agricultural practices and that the power to regulate agricultural uses of land is specifically denied to local governments. This argument will probably have to be tested in court before we see much progress made in the way of protective zoning for logging operations.

TCWP believes that we will have to focus our attention at the state level to make any changes in the way forestry and logging operations are conducted. Last year, the General Assembly created a 'forestry study committee' that is to report on the clearcutting question in January 1995. We will be looking into the workings of that committee and hope to be able to give you a report.

B. *Champion International buys local land*

For the past several months, Champion International Paper Co. has been negotiating a deal to purchase about 90,000 acres of Hanson/Beazer land in Anderson, Scott, and Campbell counties. Completion of the deal was disclosed toward the end of July. Most of this land is located in the rugged and spectacular New River watershed, which drains into the Big South Fork Cumberland River, and which is beautifully and densely forested. Much of the forest is of the rare "mixed Mesophytic" type found in only a limited portion of our country (see ¶3B, this NL). Furthermore, the streams in this area have already been heavily impacted by stripmining, and the erosion from these mine sites and surrounding lands could be badly exacerbated by logging.

Champion says they want to be "good neighbors" and will be managing the land in a sustainable way. TCWP and SOCM have teamed up to take a proactive stand in letting Champion know about our interests and concerns for the land. Doug Murray, a member of both TCWP and SOCM, and Maureen Cunningham, TCWP Board member, have compiled a database of all the endangered, threatened, and rare species that are found on the Hanson land as well as those in the watersheds that may be affected by commercial activities on the property. A list of these species, with their locations and status, has been sent to Champion International, and will be kept updated by us.

Additionally, there is a water-quality study under way for streams that contain rare aquatic

species, and for streams where acid mine drainage is now or could in the future become a problem. The parameters being measured are pH, iron, and manganese. These data will also be sent to Champion. (If you would like to participate in the data collection for the water-quality study, please let us know.) We have asked Champion for access to the property and for timely notification of any areas to be logged.

8. OAK RIDGE PROJECTS

A. *Grand Opening planned for first Greenway*

Linda La Forest, our new Assistant Executive Director (see ¶10A, below), who sits on the Oak Ridge Greenways Committee, has submitted the following information about the Grand Opening of the new Cedar Hills Greenway. This will take place on September 18 at 2 p.m. at Cedar Hill Park (corner of Michigan Avenue and Outer Drive). The ceremony will be followed by a guided walk. For more information, call Linda at 945-8910.

B. *Illegal dumping at the Worthington Cemetery natural area*

In 1992, TCWP undertook to clean up a 29-acre tract of TVA land on the Melton Hill Lake waterfront that includes the Worthington Cemetery, and to make it into an urban wildlife sanctuary and environmental-education site. Subsequently, this land, near Elza Gate, was rezoned from "industrial" to "greenbelt" and many improvements have been made at the site by the City, by TVA, and by TCWP and other volunteers (NL196 ¶8).

Despite all the progress in cleaning up the Elza Gate/Worthington Cemetery Natural Area, there continues to be a problem with illegal dumping. TVA and the City of Oak Ridge have installed a locked gate and maintain the area, but they continue to find garbage in front of the gate. Old landscaping materials, used tires, and other trash are probably being dumped at the end of the day.

If you should happen to be in the area and notice a pickup truck or other vehicle dumping garbage, please take note of the license plate and description of the vehicle. Do not try and stop the dumping yourself. If you call Judith Bartlow at TVA, 632-1592, she will be able to report the matter to the police.

C. *Planning future uses of the Oak Ridge Reservation*

The Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Reservation extends over 35,000 acres. A planning process is currently getting underway for future uses of this land. The final report to DOE, due December 1995, will propose options that take account of DOE mission needs as well as of desires of area citizens.

A series of public interactions (meetings, discussion groups, neighborhood coffees) will be held over the next 18 months. Watch the media for announcements. You can also send written comments and suggestions to Kristen Clark, Martin Marietta Energy Systems, Inc., K-1001B, MS 7169, P.O. Box 2003, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-7169; or phone her at 241-2895.

9. NATIONAL NEWS

A. *Right-of-way claims threaten parks etc.*

Off-road-vehicle groups and certain counties and states in the West and in Alaska are claiming "pre-existing rights" for criss-crossing national parks and other federal areas with a network of roads. Their claims are based on Revised Statute (R.S.) 2477, a Civil-War-era law that sought to make the West more accessible; and even though the law was repealed in 1976, these groups are claiming "pre-existing" rights. During the Reagan Administration, Interior Secretary Hodel decreed in 1988 that virtually any track, footpath, or dog-sled route could qualify as an R.S. 2477 right-of-way (ROW) and could be widened, realigned, or paved-- with virtually no federal oversight.

Now, under Secretary Babbitt, USDI is developing new regulations. Their content will be crucial to the future of our public lands. The recently issued draft is an improvement over the Hodel policy, but leaves dangerous loopholes. The regs must be strengthened (not surprisingly, Wise Use groups and several Western senators are trying to weaken them).

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Sec. Bruce Babbitt today (USDI, 18th and C Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20240) to say that you want tough new regs that fully protect our parks and other federal lands from R.S.2477 right-of-way (ROW) claims. The deadline is Sept. 30.

Here are some more specific arguments you may wish to make. (1) The criteria governing which

routes qualify as valid R.S.2477 ROWs should be limited -- in particular the definition of "highway." (2) At a minimum, the regs should require that in order to qualify as a R.S.2477 ROW, a route connect "identified and significant centers of public activity". (3) The regs must direct federal land managers to exercise their full legal authority to avoid harmful impacts to parks and other federal lands. (4) The deadline for filing R.S.2477 claims should be no more than 1 year after the regs are finalized (rather than 2 years).

B. *California Desert Protection weakened in House bill*

In the spring, the Senate overwhelmingly passed the largest land-protection measure in the lower 48 states -- the California Desert Protection Act, S.21 (NL199 ¶10C). The Senate bill protects 7.75 million acres (representing about 1/3 of the California Desert) by creating the Mojave National Park, upgrading Death Valley and Joshua Tree national monuments to national parks, and designating 74 wild mess areas.

Now, the House has passed a considerably weaker version by a vote of 298-128. Major lobbying by the National Rifle Association led to an amendment that would designate the Mojave as a "preserve," rather than a national park, specifically authorizing hunting (a floor amendment to that effect in the Senate was decisively defeated). A second damaging amendment, pushed by private-property-rights advocates and sponsored by endangered-species foe Billy Tauzin, would prohibit the Interior Department from considering the Endangered Species Act when appraising private land during the land-acquisition process. This would result in increased cost of purchases. One good amendment also passed: it would control aircraft overflights in the Mojave and Death Valley expansion areas.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The fate of the bill will be decided by a conference committee in the fall, and your letter should therefore be sent fairly soon. Contact the following: Reps. George Miller, Richard Lehman, and Don Young; and Senators J. Bennett Johnston, Diane Feinstein, and Malcolm Wallop (all addresses on p.2), and urge them to support the *Senate version* of the bill. Specifically, reject turning the Mojave into a shooting range (as per the House version). Do support the House position on overflights

C. Inholder's demands threaten character of Denali National Park

An inholder in Kantishna, at the heart of Denali National Park, has demanded the right to use the existing park road for access to her property on which she wishes to establish a recreational-vehicle (RV) campground. The grand and wildlife-rich Denali National Park has been a model for managed transportation. The single road through the park is closed to most individual motorized vehicles. Most visitors see the park from Park-Service-operated buses that make *ad hoc* stops for wildlife viewing, as well as request-stops to drop or pick up hikers. Because the animals are not disturbed by unregulated traffic and visitation, they come close to the road, providing super viewing opportunities from the buses.

Large RVs would significantly increase traffic impacts on wildlife and could require road "improvements" that would dramatically change the wild character of Denali.

✱ WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Roger Kennedy, Director, National Park Service (USDI, P.O. Box 371, Washington, DC 20013-7127) and urge him not to open the Denali road to RVs, but to insist on strong regulations to protect the wildlife and the wild character of the Park.

D. Spotted Owl injunction lifted

Three years ago, during the Bush Administration, Judge Dwyer issued an injunction against the US Forest Service which prevented timber sales in the national forests of the Pacific Northwest. NEPA (the National Environmental Policy Act) requires forest plans to consider effects of clearcutting on endangered species, such as the spotted owl, but the Forest Service had failed to file a plan in the first place. For 3 years, the injunction protected thousands of acres of the very last remaining Ancient Forests from being sold to the timber industry.

Now, Judge Dwyer has lifted the injunction on the grounds that a forest plan has been filed by the Clinton Administration. This plan, "Option 9," announced July 1 (NL:99 #10D), has met the procedural legal requirements of NEPA, and while the judge is not saying that he agrees with the plan, he has to acknowledge that there is one.

Many of the original plaintiffs are now filing new lawsuits against the Forest Service based on issues that are more substantive than technical. It

is hoped that these legal actions may permanently halt logging of the precious Ancient Forests.

E. Concession Reform bill ready for Presidential signature

Late in March, by an overwhelming vote (90:9), the Senate passed S.208, the National Park Concessions Policy Reform Act, which would change the law that has been in effect since 1965. A similar bill was passed 386:30 in the House on July 28. The Reform Act will increase the fee paid by concessionaires, have this money returned to the parks rather than the general treasury, open concession contracts to competition, and repeal concessionaire subsidies (such as costly taxpayer buyouts of building improvements when a concessionaire leaves a park).

Passage of the Act ends a 30-year period during which concessionaires could make a fortune from the captive audience of almost 300 million annual park visitors without benefiting the park system.

F. National Park System in "average" condition at best

Superintendents of every national-park-system unit in the nation were asked to grade the state of their parks in a 1994 survey conducted by the National Parks & Conservation Assoc (NPCA) and Colorado State Univ. About 85% responded, giving much reliability to the results.

Overall, 75% of the parks scored a C. Most often cited was lack of funding and personnel (cited as top priority for improvement by 61% and 53%, respectively, of the superintendents). Among other failings is the lack of resource information, i.e. the baseline data needed for ecosystem management and for other new management philosophies. Other serious problems are impacts of exotic plant and animal species, high noise levels from aircraft overflights, and deterioration of park trails.

On the plus side, citizen involvement is growing (volunteers are used by 80% of the parks), there are improvements in park planning and in cooperation with other agencies, and several parks have been successful in opposing development pressures.

NPCA has commended NPS Director Kennedy and Secretary Babbitt for their support and enthusiasm for the conduct of the study.

A cause for considerable concern for an agency already as understaffed and well-run as the Park Service is the "downsizing" of federal employees under last year's Budget Agreement, which could affect over 2,000 NPS employees. The agency has chosen to make the personnel cuts not in the parks themselves but at Washington headquarters, regional offices, and service centers, which in aggregate could lose 25% of their staffs. The parks cannot help but feel the impact of reduced services that are now being performed for them at these other offices. Perhaps the NPS function most seriously affected by personnel downsizing will be park-land acquisition.

G. *Pres. Clinton acts to stop trade in endangered species*

On April 11, Pres. Clinton became the first U.S. President to exert the powerful Pelly sanctions by announcing an import ban on wildlife, and on parts and products of wildlife from Taiwan because of that country's failure to stop illegal trade in endangered species. Last fall, Taiwan and China had been certified for continued trade in rhinoceros and tiger parts and products, contrary to CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species).

The import ban includes reptile-leather goods (shoes, handbags, etc.), jewelry made from coral, mussel shells, or bone, edible frogs' legs, topical fish for the aquarium trade, and bird feathers or down products. The total declared value of wildlife imports was \$22 million in 1992.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Please thank President Clinton (the White House, Washington, DC 20500, or phone 202-456-1111).

H. *A watershed protection bill takes novel approach*

The River and Watershed Protection and Restoration Act, H.R. 4213 (Richardson, D-NM) creates a voluntary river and watershed registry. Landowners, communities, businesses, watershed councils, etc., can petition the Interior Secretary to place their watershed on a National Registry of Rivers and Watersheds. Placement on the registry will allow local conservationists to obtain federal funding, technical assistance, and protection from activities (dams, channelization) that are inconsistent with the approved river or watershed conservation strategy. The bill authorizes \$13 million/year in funding; it does not authorize land acquisition.

10. TCWP NEWS

A. *TCWP has a new staff person*

Linda LaForest has joined the staff of TCWP as Assistant Executive Director. She will share the hours with Joan Burns, who remains as the Executive Director. Linda and Joan, between them, will now be able to keep the TCWP office staffed 4 mornings a week, Monday through Thursday. Please stop in and meet her!

Linda, a native of Florida, comes to us with a background in agricultural economics and a strong interest in environmental issues. She sits on the conservation committee of the League of Women Voters, and serves as the League's representative to the Greenways Committee. Linda has an undergraduate degree from Davidson University, and a masters degree from the University of Florida.

B. *Letter-writing Social, September 12, 1994*

TCWP is attempting to revive the letter-writing socials we pioneered several years ago and then allowed to go into a decline. Members get together at somebody's home, enjoy each other's company, and write letters on timely issues. For novice letter writers, it's a very good way to get help on the subject; and for seasoned writers, it's a good way to set aside a time slot to get a bunch of letters taken care of all at once.

As an extra bonus, this first letter-writing social also provides members an opportunity to meet our new staff person, Linda LaForest (see ¶10A, above). We'll meet at her house on Monday, September 12, at 7:30 p.m. Address: 589 Tillery Road (which is a section of Bull Run Road), Claxton. To get driving directions, call Linda at 945-8910.

✱ **C. *Annual Meeting, November 4-6, 1994***

✱ Plan NOW to attend TCWP's Annual Meeting, scheduled for November 4-6 at Wesley Woods, near Townsend. Our annual meetings have always been characterized by outstanding programs and lots of good times, and we'd love to have high attendance, worthy of the event. Plan now to get away for this fall weekend, which is bound to be informative as well as lots of fun, with many opportunities for enjoying the outdoors.

Our planning committee (Patrice Cole, Eric Hirst, Peter Salpas, and Joan Burns) has invited the new superintendent of the Great Smoky Mtns National Park, Karen Wade (¶4A, this NL), and

we hope she'll join us to talk about Smokies issues. Otherspeakers are also being approached.

Some of the "whole-family entertainment" parts of the program have already been firmed up. Woody Gove will tell wonderful mountain tales, fun for both kids and adults; and Doris Gove has agreed to share her great wealth of knowledge about snakes and other animals. We will have nature activities planned for children, hikes and a paddle for all ages, a slide show, evening socials, recognition of our volunteers, and an open forum to share your ideas about and with TCWP Board members. We will also provide a babysitter and activities for children during some of the programs for adults.

Lodging will be in the dorms at Wesley Woods, families may be able to stay together in their own rooms. There are commercial camp sites nearby, and you may be able to pitch your own tent on the grounds. Meals will be cooked for us and will cost between \$4 and \$5; children age 2-8 half price.

D. Nominating Committee is deliberating

The nominating committee is working on a slate of 1995 TCWP officers and directors. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please let us know by calling Bob Luxmoore at 574-7357, or Dave Adler at 481-3382. Elections will take place during the Annual Meeting weekend (see ¶10B, above).

E. TCWP members interacting with other groups

TCWP President, Jenny Freeman, is serving on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Environmental Council, an umbrella organization of which TCWP is a member. Her term of office began in May.

TCWP Director and Secretary, Margaret Cunningham, is helping the Oak Ridge Greenways Task Force by donating her professional services as a botanist to perform an ecological survey of the Cedar Hill Greenway area.

Executive director Joan Burns, on behalf of TCWP, recently contacted the National Trust for Historic Preservation in support of an application from Historic Rugby for a loan to purchase 151 acres of greenbelt.

Lee Russell got profiled in a recent book by the National Parks & Conservation Association (see ¶11, this NL). Unfortunately, the writer, who conducted his interview by phone, embellished the article with extraneous details that bear virtually no resemblance to real history.

11. ACTIVITIES and READING MATTER

- September 4, Pickett State Park. Celebration (honoring citizen activists) of our success in adding lands to Pickett (see ¶2, this NL, and special mailing)
- September 6, Fentress County Courthouse, Jamestown, 7 pm CDT. Hearing on Crooked Creek dam proposal (see ¶1C, this NL)
- September 12. Letter-writing Social at Linda LaForest's house (see ¶10B, this NL).
- September 18, Cedar Hill Park, 2 pm. Grand opening of Oak Ridge's first Greenway (see ¶8A, this NL).
- September 27, Pellissippi State Community College, 2 pm and 7 pm. Hearings on State Water Quality Criteria (see ¶3A, this NL).
- Oct. 28-30, Banner Elk, NC, Transportation Workshop sponsored by the Southern Appalachian Highlands Ecoregion of the Sierra Club. (Contact Arthur Smith, Kingsport, 615-247-7895.)
- November 4-6. TCWP Annual Meeting (see ¶10C, this NL).
- **DEADLINES**
- 8/31/94: Comments on TVA's shoreline management policy (¶6B, this NL).
- 9/15/94: Comment on Forest Service's ecological assessment of Southern Appalachian forests (¶5A, this NL).
- 9/16/94: Comments on proposal for experimental re-introduction of black bear into BSFNRRRA (see ¶1G, this NL).
- 9/30/94: Comments on regs to protect our public lands against "preexisting" right-of-way claims (see ¶9A, this NL).
- 12/5/94: Written comments on TVA's future energy policy (see ¶6A, this NL).
- Just out: *Exploring the Big South Fork*, by Russ Manning. This new handbook on the BSFNRRRA provides background on geology, plants, animals, and people of the region; gives advice on planning a visit; and presents specific details for hiking, backpacking, paddling the rivers, and other outdoor activities. Illustrated with color and B&W photos, 222 pp. (\$15.95 from area bookstores; or order from Mountain Laurel Place, P.O. Box 3001, Norris, TN 37828, 615-494-8121.)

- *The Environmental Citizen: Winning for the Earth at the Ballot Box*, published by the League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, provides basic how-to instructions to prime people for effective civic participation; it contains illustrative case studies and numerous useful directories. (LCV Education Fund, 1707 L Street, NW, Suite 550, Washington, DC 20036.)
- *These American Lands*, by Dyan Zaslowsky and T. H. Watkins, is a history of our public lands. Also includes names and vital statistics of all the national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, and other federal lands. 408 pp., photos, appendices, bibliography. (\$22, paperback; \$45 hard cover; plus \$4.25 shipping first book, \$1 for additional; from Island Press, Box 7, Dept 4TWS, Covelo, CA 95428.)
- *How to Save a River: A Handbook for Citizen Action*, by David Bolling, is a basic how-to guide, 266pp. [\$17, paperback, from Island Press (1-800-828-1302); but River Network (1-800-423-6747) is offering a special price for activists, \$14.]
- In *Our Endangered Parks: What You Can Do to Protect Our National Heritage*, the National Parks & Conservation Association examines the major threats facing our parks and the steps you can take to address them. Includes profiles of several individuals who got involved in the preservation of their parks. (\$10.95 from Foghorn Press, 555 De Haro Street #220, San Francisco, CA 94107.)
- About 300 species of fish inhabit the waters of Tennessee, making it the most diverse collection of freshwater fauna in any state. *The Fishes of Tennessee*, by David A. Etnier and Wayne C. Starnes, examines this diversity within the state's complex natural history, and synthesizes a wealth of scientific knowledge. (\$60 in cloth from the Univ. of Tennessee Press, 1-800-621-2736.)
- *A Field Guide to the Trees and Shrubs of the Southern Appalachians*, by Robert E. Swanson, is an authoritative, thorough, and clearly illustrated compendium. Contains separate summer and winter keys, and shortcuts to identifying some woody plants; 399 pp. (\$18.95 paperback from The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2715 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218-4319.)