

Newsletter No. 293

September 12, 2010

Taking Care of Wild Places

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11. ACTION SUMMARY

¶No.	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or Action
1A	Obed protection	TCWP	Contribute to our land-acquisition fund
2A	Upcoming elections	TCV, LCV, candidates	Research environmental record and positions. VOTE!
2B	Tenn. Bottle Bill for 2011	Marge Davis	Take recommended actions
3A	Regulation of coal-ash disposal	EPA by November 19	"CCR must be regulated under Subtitle C (<u>not</u> D)!" Also, attend Knoxville hearing, week of October 25
4A	Cherokee Wilderness bill	Sens. Alexander and Corker	"Thanks for bill! Please follow through to passage!"
5A	TVA Board nominees	Sen. Alexander	"Get colleagues to withdraw their 'holds'!"
6A	LWCF: full & permanent funding	Both you US senators	"Support S.3663, or any bill containing full funding for LWCF!"
7A	EPA regulation of GHG emissions	Concerned organizations	Support all efforts to prevent actions that would block EPA

Senator John Doe	The Hon. John Doe	Pres. Barack Obama	Governor Phil Bredesen
United States Senate	U.S. House of Representatives	The White House	State Capitol
Senate Office Building	House Office Building	Washington, DC 20500	Nashville, TN 37243-9872
Washington, DC 20510	Washington, DC 20515	202-456-1414; Fax 456-2461	615-741-2001; Fax 615-532-9711
		president@whitehouse.gov	phil.bredesen@state.tn.us
Dear Senator Doe	Dear Congressman Doe	Dear Mr. President	Dear Gov. Bredesen
Sincerely yours,	Sincerely yours,	Respectfully yours,	Respectfully yours,

Sen. Bob Corker

Ph: 202-224-3344; FAX: 202-228-0566 e-mail: http://corker.senate.gov/public/ Local: 865-637-4180 (FAX 637-9886) 800 Market St., Suite 121, Knoxville 37902 Sen. Lamar Alexander:

Ph: 202-224-4944; FAX: 202-228-3398 e-mail: http://alexander.senate.gov/public/ Local: 865-545-4253 (FAX 545-4252) 800 Market St., Suite 112, Knoxville 37902

Rep. Zach Wamp: Phone: 202-225-3271 FAX: 202-225-3494

Local: 865-576-1976 Web: www.house.gov/wamp

To call any Rep or Senator, dial Congressional switchboard, 202-224-3121. To find out about the status of bills, call 202-225-1772 URLs: http://www.house.gov/lastname/ and http://www.house.gov/lastname/ and http://www.lcv.org With mail to Congress still slow following the anthrax scare, consider faxing, phoning, and other modes of communication.

There is much contact information in our up-to-date Political Guide. Visit the TCWP web site (http://www.tcwp.org)

WHAT IS TCWP?

TCWP (Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning) is dedicated to achieving and perpetuating protection of natural lands and waters by means of public ownership, legislation, or cooperation of the private sector. While our first focus is on the Cumberland and Appalachian regions of Tennessee, our efforts may extend to the rest of the state and the nation. TCWP's strength lies in researching information pertinent to an issue, informing and educating our membership and the public, interacting with groups having similar objectives, and working through the legislative, administrative, and judicial branches of government on the federal, state, and local levels.

TCWP: 130 Tabor Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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Executive and Membership-Development Director: Sandra Goss, 865-522-3809; Sandra@sandrakgoss.com

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Internet: http://www.tcwp.org

1. OBED; BIG SOUTH FORK; EMORY WA-TERSHED

1A. The Obed WSR needs to be secured, and you can help

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

As the readers of this publication well know, preserving the natural character of the Obed system has been one of TCWP's top priorities from the beginning. Within the authorized boundaries of the Obed Wild and Scenic River (OWSR) that we succeeded in getting designated in 1976, about 1,000 acres still remain in private ownership, and therefore potentially at risk.

Over the years, we have worked to educate our elected representatives about the importance of preserving the wilderness experience that is afforded by the unique OWSR, and we have urged them to obtain Land and Water Conservation Funds to purchase the unprotected lands. At virtually each of these visits, we are asked "Are there willing sellers?" The current answer is YES, there are FIVE willing sellers.

National Park Service staff is aware of this, and working with the landowners as much as possible. The landowners are not bound to sell to the Park. They can sell to anyone they want to, which they might do if monies are not available for the Park to buy the land. Over the past several years, with the help of our members and generous bequests, TCWP has purchased property that is within the authorized boundary (for example, see NL292 ¶2B). We've also linked some willing sellers with "conservation buyers" – people dedicated to keeping the land undisturbed until it can become part of the Park.

The existence of willing sellers underscores the importance of our current fundraising effort. The money we are attempting to raise (\$40,000 before the end of the year) will be dedicated to just such opportunities: to purchase land within the authorized boundary until the Park Service obtains the funds to acquire it. It is super-critical that these lands not fall into the hands of developers who can spoil the wilderness experience with even a single house!

Please, examine your budget, and help us preserve this truly outstanding national resource. Your taxdeductible contribution will be an essential gift to the plants, animals, and humans who benefit from the restorative and inspiring qualities of the Obed River.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: For information on how to contribute, visit our web site (http://www.tcwp.org), or call Sandra at 865.522-3809.

1B. Status of landfill proposal for BSF watershed

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

There is still no final decision on the proposed Roberta landfill in Scott County at a site that would drain into the Big South Fork of the Cumberland via Bear Creek (NL289 ¶1A; NL290 ¶1A; NL291 ¶1B). The

landfill has been granted a Solid Waste permit by officials at the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). That permit is contingent on the granting of an Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit (ARAP) by another Division of TDEC. These state officials are waiting for the National Park Service's assessment of possible damage to the Big South Fork. The Park Service has requested additional information from the Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps will work with the engineering consulting company to provide the needed information.

1C. Big South Fork superintendent to retire

After 3 years service at the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Superintendent Stennis Young will retire at the end of the year. Many of us had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Young at the October 17, 2008 TCWP Annual meeting in the BSFNRRA and were impressed by his grasp of the problems facing the Park, such as the need to acquire still-unprotected inholdings, and by his friendly openness and approachability. We shall miss him!

1D. Crooked Fork Creek tour on Sept.18 to explore watershed needs

This tour on Sept. 18, already announced in NL292 ¶2C, has become even more interesting. It is open to the public at no charge and includes a free BBQ lunch.

Crooked Fork is a lovely little stream that flows into the Emory River north of Camp Austin (south of where the Emory joins the Obed). The watershed lies in Morgan County, between Wartburg, Petros, and Mossy Grove. Some of you may be familiar with one or both of two spectacular waterfalls located on the river – Potter's Falls and LeMance Falls.

Crooked Fork needs help!

Listed as an impaired stream by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (NL292 ¶1B), Crooked Fork Creek is a stream in need of TLC. Landowners in the Crooked Fork Watershed can improve their lands (and ultimately water quality) using Sec.319-grant cost sharing, by which landowners pay only 25% of any approved projects.

On Saturday, September 18, 2010, the Emory River Watershed Association and the Obed Watershed Community Association will co-sponsor a tour of the Crooked Fork Creek Watershed. Representatives from the Morgan County Soil Conservation District will be on hand to discuss grant-funding availability for the area. Tour participants will explore the headwaters and stream crossings, look at success stories and current challenges, and discuss ways water quality can be improved in this important watershed.

The tour will leave from the Morgan County Vocational School Complex at 9 a.m. and return to the complex for a free lunch. The event should conclude by 1 p.m. If you have any questions, or would like to make a

reservation, please contact Amy Mathis at 865-591-9064 or amy_mathis@hotmail.com. For more information on the Sec.319 program, call Sharlene Justice, Morgan County Soil Conservation District, at 423-346-3770.

2. TENNESSEE STATE NEWS

2A. Who will represent Tennessee?

While no Tennessee Senate seats are up for election in November, one-third of our delegation's House seats are open.

Three long-term incumbents have chosen to retire from the US Congress at the end of this year. The Democrats are Representatives Bart Gordon and John Tanner. Gordon, who has represented the 6th District since 1984, had League of Conservation Voters (LCV) scores of 100% and 82% for 2009 and 2007/08, respectively, and has been an effective chairman of the House Committee on Science and Technology. John Tanner's corresponding LCV scores were 57% and 76%. Candidates who will battle for the 6th District seat are Brett Carter (D) and Diane Black (R); those for the 8th District are Roy Herron (D) and Stephen Lee Fincher (R). The retiring Republican, Zach Wamp (TN-3), with 2009 and 2007/08 LCV scores of 14% and 12%, respectively, will be replaced by either John Wolfe (D) or Chuck Fleischmann (R).

The 6 remaining districts all have incumbents running.

Dis- trict	Incumbent	Challenger
4	D - Lincoln Davis	R - Scott DesJarlais
5	D - Jim Cooper	R - David Hall
9	D - Steve Cohen	R - Charlotte Bergman
1	R - David Philip Roe	D - Michael Edward Clark
2	R - John Duncan, Jr	D - Dave Hancock
7	R - Marsha Blackburn	D - Greg Rabidoux

LCV scores for the incumbents are as follows:

Dis- trict	Incumbent	2009	2007- 2008	Life- time
1	David Philip Roe (R)	7		7
2	John Duncan, Jr (R)	7	9	13
4	Lincoln Davis (D)	64	79	59
5	Jim Cooper (D)	93	88	77
7	Marsha Blackburn (R)	0	3	2
9	Steve Cohen (D)	100	97	98

On the State level, information on incumbents is available from the 2010 Legislative Scorecard, which will be released by Tennessee Conservation Voters just before you receive this Newsletter. It is available at www.tnconservationvoters.org; or contact Chris Ford at 615-269-9090.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Check the environmental record of incumbents, as summarized here and in the Scorecard. Acquaint yourself with the environmental positions of challengers. Be sure to VOTE on November 2!

2B. Tennessee's Bottle Bill, 2011 version: return to returnables?

[Contributed by Jimmy Groton and Marge Davis]

After six years of discussions, revisions and research, the newest version of Tennessee's proposed bottle bill is ready to be introduced into next year's legislative session. According to Marge Davis, coordinator for Pride of Place, the new bill is widely considered a model of fairness, efficiency, and effectiveness. According to Marge more than 80% of our fellow Tennesseans support a 5¢ container deposit. So do the county mayors' association, the Tennessee Farm Bureau, numerous county commissions, and some of the largest manufacturers in the world, including Mohawk, Alcoa, and Owens Corning. Most important, the bill is gaining ground in the state legislature.

The program reduces solid-waste costs while boosting overall recycling rates. Here are its key features:

- Stores don't take back the empties.
- The program is privatized and self-supporting.
- There is no tax increase for the beverage companies.
- There is no interruption of Tennessee's existing litter program.
- Distributors have nothing to do with the empties.
- The bill adds an incentive payment for processors.

As you consider your level of commitment to this cause, keep in mind that it will do much more than protect Tennessee landscapes. The bill will change Tennessee attitudes about recycling and litter. Marge is optimistic that the bill stands a good chance of passage in 2011. There are several ways to help nudge it over the finish line (see Action Box, below).

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- 1. Get familiar with the proposed legislation (see #6, below)
- 2. Sign up for the Pride of Place e-mail alert list
- 3. Ask your county commission to pass a resolution in support of the proposed bill
- Arrange presentations for local rotaries, garden clubs, and other venues
- Seek a commitment of support from your state senator, state representative, and any contenders for those seats
- 6. Please contact Marge Davis for more details and resources: http://www.tnbottlebill.org/contactus.htm

2C. River advocates challenge Pigeon River paper-mill permit

[From Southern Environmental Law Center]

Downstream users and river advocates have challenged a North Carolina Division of Water Quality wastewater permit that fails to require adequate reductions in color and thermal pollutants being discharged by the Blue Ridge Paper Products mill into the Pigeon River in Haywood County, NC, about 40 miles from the Tennessee border.

The NC permit allows the paper mill to discharge wastewater into the Pigeon River that raises the temperature of the river beyond the limits allowed by state water-quality standards. In 2007, the death of at least 8000 fish near the paper mill was attributed to high water temperatures. Despite the threat that heated plant wastewater poses to fish and other aquatic life in the river, the permit only sets a *monthly average* temperature limit as measured nearly half a mile downstream, but sets no limits on daily fluctuations, and thus allows temperature spikes that can significantly exceed state temperature standards.

The coalition also challenged the adequacy of improvements to the discoloration of the river allowed by the permit. They argue that the discoloration of the Pigeon River and pollutants from the plant harm other enterprises that rely on a healthy river, including recreational fishing, boating, and related tourism.

The Southern Environmental Law Center filed the challenge in the NC Office of Administrative Hearings in Raleigh on behalf of Clean Water Expected for East Tennessee, Clean Water for North Carolina, Cocke County (TN), the Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club, Tennessee Conservation Voters, Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association and Western North Carolina Alliance.

2D. Preparing for the 2011 State legislative season

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

Conservationists, outdoor recreationists, farmers, foresters, and environmentalists will gather in Lebanon on Friday and Saturday, November 5 and 6, to discuss the challenges and opportunities for furthering a *Sustainable Tennessee*. This will be the fourth annual Sustainable Tennessee Conference (co-sponsored by the Tennessee Environmental Council, and Tennessee Conservation Voters).

At last year's conference, the real-estate transfer fund for conservation was deemed the number one issue of concern. The great need for this fund, the raids on it, and the eventually successful effort to restore it have been well covered in these pages (most recently in NL292 ¶1A). It was the constituencies that meet at the *Sustainable Tennessee* conferences that achieved this victory.

The next session of the Tennessee General Assembly and the projected budget shortfall will undoubtedly be important topics for discussion at the upcoming *Sustainable Tennessee* conference. To learn more about the meeting, visit http://www.TEC.org.

2E. New Administrator for EPA Region 4 (which includes Tennessee)

On September 1, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa P. Jackson announced

the selection of Gwen Keyes Fleming as the Regional Administrator for EPA's Region 4. This region encompasses 8 states, including Tennessee, and 6 Tribal Nations

Regional Administrators promote EPA's state and local environmental protection efforts and serve as liaison to state and local government officials. They are tasked with ensuring that EPA's efforts to address the environmental crises of today are rooted in three fundamental values: science-based policies and programs, adherence to the rule of law, and transparency.

Gwen Keyes Fleming has more than 15 years experience as both a prosecutor and administrator, serving as the District Attorney for the past five years in Georgia's Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit (which encompasses all of Dekalb County), a position in which she manages more than 165 employees. She is the first African-American and the first woman to have held the District Attorney position. In addition to her job, she has worked to institute several successful community outreach programs. Keyes Fleming obtained her B.S. in Finance from Rutgers University and her Juris Doctorate from the Emory University School of Law; she is the recipient of numerous awards.

2F. A listening session for America's Great Outdoors Initiative came to Nashville

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

Earlier this year, President Obama launched the new America's Great Outdoors project whereby the federal government hopes to gather ideas on how to build on initiatives for conservation of lands and waters (NL291 ¶7C; NL292 ¶6B). Tools include an interactive web site and a nationwide tour of listening sessions, conducted by officials of several federal agencies who are responsible for a report to President Obama, due in November. From this report, policy and budget priorities related to conservation and environmental protection will be developed.

The America's Great Outdoors Nashville Listening Session, held August 27, was a huge success. Several conservation/environmental organizations from across the state and the southeast worked together before the meeting to hone our message(s) and maximize attendance and written comments. Like that of many of our sister organizations', TCWP's central message was: FULLY FUND THE LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND!

Working together, we packed the place! More than 300 people attended the opening session - 230 in the Library auditorium and 75-85 in the spillover room with the big screen. Most of the people in attendance were from the conservation community. The session opened with comments by Will Shafroth, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of Interior; Harris Sherman, Undersecretary for Resource Development at USDA; Amy Salzman, White House

Council on Environmental Quality, Associate Director for Policy; Nashville Mayor Karl Dean; and Senator Lamar Alexander

The News Sentinel reported: "Alexander, the senior Republican on the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, said America's Great Outdoors Initiative 'is not about policy or politics. It is about the air we breathe, the fish we catch, the trails we hike, the mountains we admire and the way we live. This listening session is a great way to gather ideas to preserve and create outdoor opportunities for the next generation of Tennesseans.'

3. PROBLEMS OF COAL MINING AND COAL BURNING

3A. EPA needs our support to regulate coal ash as toxic waste

From the moment EPA announced its intention to regulate the disposal of coal ash (NL291 ¶5C; NL292 ¶3C), the agency has been under great pressure from the coal industry. A few weeks ago, the following members of the Tennessee Congressional delegation signed on to a factually inaccurate letter urging the EPA to abandon strong regulation of toxic coal ash: Senators Alexander and Corker, Representatives Duncan and Blackburn.

There are hundreds of coal-ash storages at power plants across the country, and EPA had scheduled hearings on coal-ash-disposal rules in 7 locations. Because none of these was in Tennessee, the state of the BIG spill at Kingston in December 2008, a coalition of 10 organizations (including the Tenn. Clean Water Network and SOCM) organized a "people's hearing" on September 2 at Harriman. This event, and a request from Sen. Alexander, prompted a decision to conduct an 8th EPA hearing at Knoxville, TN, during the week of October 25, 2010. The exact date and location will be posted on http://www.epa.gov/waste/nonhaz/industrial/special/fossil/ccr-rule/ccr-hearing.htm. Additionally, EPA has advanced the comment deadline from Sept. 20 to November 19.

EPA needs to hear from those of us who believe coal-ash disposal must be adequately regulated, namely under Subtitle C, under which permits are required and corrective action is monitored by the agency. EPA must not yield to pressures to regulate it under Subtitle D, under which no permits are required, and enforcement is only through citizen suits. Not only would Subtitle D regulation virtually eliminate precautionary and corrective actions, but it puts an unfair burden on already impacted communities. See the action box, below, for how you can send comments with little effort.

Opponents of Subtitle C have argued that regulation would be expensive and that utilities would simply pass this cost on to their electricity users. We must consider, however, that one reason coal power is cheap is that it has long had a free ride at every step of the way. No one has paid for the values lost when mountains, forests, and streams are destroyed by mining, when people's lungs are harmed by coal-combustion products dumped into the air, when acid rain kills vegetation and aquatic organisms, when greenhouse gases are sent into the atmosphere to threaten life on Earth. Paying for these real costs (including the disposal of coal ash), is an essential step in making alternative energies (and energy conservation) competitive.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: If you can attend the Knoxville hearing, check the EPA website for date (see article, above). In any case, by November 19, urge EPA to regulate coal-ash disposal by Subtitle C, under which permits are required and corrective action is monitored by the agency. You can provide comments in one of the following ways:

- (1) By email at: rcra-docket@epa.gov, subject: Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-RCRA-2009-0640
- (2) By fax at: 202-566-0272, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-RCRA-2009-0640
- (3) On the web: www.regulations.gov; under search ID, enter EPA-HQ-RCRA-2009-0640

3B. New directive will affect mountaintop-removal permits

[Information from EarthJustice]

On July 30, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) jointly announced that they would follow a longstanding requirement of the Clean Water Act in protecting streams. The Act has always required that both the structure and function of affected streams be assessed, but the latter requirement has long been ignored by the Corps in the permitting of mountaintop-removal coal mining. Mining companies have been allowed to completely bury streams with their mining waste and then dig drainage ditches to replace them. The fact that such ditches could not make up for the loss of a functioning, natural stream was ignored.

The new directive is a formal recognition of the need to maintain the biological processes of stream ecosystems. Scientific analysis will be brought to the process of deciding whether mountaintop-removal projects are to be permitted.

4. CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST

4A. Status of Cherokee Wilderness bill

[Contributed by Jeff Hunter, Tennessee Wild]
On June 9, 2010, Senator Lamar Alexander introduced the Tennessee Wilderness Act of 2010 (S.3470)

on the floor of the US Senate. This bill, which is cosponsored by Sen. Corker, will designate nearly 20,000

acres of the Cherokee National Forest as wilderness, protected in perpetuity (NL292 ¶4A).

The bill is currently working its way through the Senate Agriculture Committee, from which it will hopefully emerge in September. Once this happens, the substance of the bill will be packaged in a Public Lands Omnibus Bill that will hopefully be debated by the full Senate and passed. After the bill passes the House as well as the Senate, it will land on the desk of the President. A signature by President Obama makes wilderness designation official.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Please thank Senators Alexander and Corker (addresses on p.2) for their role in bringing about significant Wilderness in the Cherokee National Forest.

4B. Corridor-K project enters environmental-review stage

[Contributed by Sandra Goss, with information from the TDoT web site]

Corridor K, an Appalachian Regional Commission road-improvement target, encompasses US 64, which traverses the Cherokee National Forest from west of the Ocoee River to Ducktown. After several months of meetings with stakeholders, concerned citizens, affected local, state, and federal agencies and entities, and the general public, the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDoT) has embarked on the environmental review process.

The study area includes part of the Ocoee Scenic Byway, which was designated as the nation's first National Forest Scenic Byway and also as a Tennessee Scenic Parkway. According to today's road and transportation standards, US 64/Corridor K has numerous transportation problems, including roadway deficiencies (e.g., lack of shoulders and guardrails, susceptibility to rockslides) and safety issues (e.g., inadequate sight distances, sharp curves). The proposed project will address these issues.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared in accordance with federal guidelines. The EIS will provide comprehensive information about the project's purpose and need, proposed plans, and potential environmental, social, and economic effects. Public input will be gathered throughout the development of the EIS.

The stakeholders' meetings leading up to this were called Citizen Resource Team (CRT) meetings and were part of a relatively new TDoT approach to road building called Context Sensitive Design. TCWP Executive Director Sandra K. Goss served on the CRT and worked hard to represent the sensible, science-based perspective that TCWP is rightfully proud of.

While the goals and methods of the Context Sensitive Design process sound laudable, the implementation of the process for Corridor K had some glaring flaws:

- The CRT had no representation from the out-of-town river-users community.
- An Economic Study, commissioned by the Southeast Development District, was used to justify Corridor K improvements. Unfortunately, the study had a number of flaws including self-selecting survey responses.
- TDoT used a bear expert from the western US who had no experience with bears and their habits in the eastern US. His lack of knowledge about our area's very different topography and geology also negated his effectiveness.

One must regretfully conclude that the Context Sensitive Design Process is merely a soft opening to a definite road building. Therefore, Sandra resigned from the CRT. TCWP will continue to keep citizens informed on this issue and will speak out at all opportunities on the EIS process.

5. TVA NEWS

5A. Republicans continue to hold up confirmation of TVA Board nominees

The TVA Board is close to becoming dysfunctional. Five years ago, during the Bush Administration, then-Senate Majority Leader Frist (TN-R) spearheaded a change from three full-time directors with 9-year terms to 9 part-time members with 5-year terms. This was supposed to make governance of TVA more effective and similar to corporate America. Of those 9, there are only 5 left, and one of these, whose term has expired, will roll off the Board in October. This will leave the TVA Board without a quorum.

It's not that Pres. Obama has failed to make nominations; it's that the Republicans in Congress have failed to confirm them. This is only part of the game being played by which hundreds and hundreds of Obama nominees have been long denied confirmation through secret "holds" that have nothing to do with the qualifications of the individuals – only with preventing efficient governance. "Is this the way to run the greatest country on Earth?" asked Rep. Jim Cooper (TN-D). Good question, especially at a time when TVA is being faced by major questions on energy policy.

The following are the nominees whose confirmations have been held up.

- Former TVA Board member and chairman William Sansom of Knoxville, chairman and CEO of a wholesale grocery business.
- Barbara Haskew, an economics professor at Middle Tennessee State University, who worked previously as TVA's head of development of wholesale and retail rates.
- Neil McBride, of Oak Ridge, the General Counsel with the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands.
- Marilyn A. Brown, professor of energy policy at Georgia Tech's School of Public Policy, and formerly man-

ager of the energy-efficiency research and development program at ORNL.

The term of each theoretically begins with the end of that of the person he/she is replacing. Thus, by the time they are confirmed, the terms would be much shorter than 5 years.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Sen. Alexander is the third-ranking Republican in the Senate. Urge him to get the "holds" removed. One of his spokesmen has expressed the hope that the TVA Board might be complete by late September (addresses on p.2)

5B. Appeals court overturns requirement for TVA to limit air pollution from coal plants

Emissions from coal-fired power plants in Tennessee are carried across the Smoky Mountains and into Western North Carolina. In January 2006, the State of North Carolina filed a lawsuit, asking that TVA reduce emissions to levels comparable with those generated by NC's 14 coal-fired power plants (NL278 ¶7D).

The lawsuit was filed against all 11 of TVA's coal-fired power plants, but the court confined it to the four closest to NC; in TN, these include Bull Run (at Oak Ridge), Kingston, and John Sevier (at Rogersville). For these four plants, a federal judge ordered installation of pollution controls for SO_2 , NO_x and mercury (NL285 $\P5D$).

TVA appealed the deadlines, requesting an extra two years that would extend some of the work to 2014, but the appeal for extension was denied in April 2009. In July of this year, however, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the earlier decision by the district court and asked that the case be dismissed.

The Appeals Court noted that TVA had reduced its air pollution. In 2009, TVA's SO_2 and NO_x emissions were 90% and 89%, respectively, lower than during their peak years. A scrubber has already been installed at Bull Run, and two are in process of installation at Kingston.

6. NATIONAL ISSUES

6A. Senate has opportunity to ensure full funding for LWCF

We are losing outstanding natural areas here in Tennessee (and elsewhere) because the funds are not available to acquire and protect them against evergrowing development pressure. Very substantial portions of parks and forests that Congress authorized *decades* ago (e.g., the Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area, the Obed National Wild & Scenic River, the Cherokee National Forest) still remain to be acquired and are sorely threatened by adverse developments. Additionally, state and local protection and out-

door-recreation initiatives are crippled because the federal matching funds they require are not available

After decades of insufficient funding dedicated to saving natural lands and waters, there may now be an opportunity. A fully funded Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has a chance of being passed.

Enacted in 1964, the LWCF draws \$900 million annually from offshore oil- & gas-drilling lease proceeds (which typically exceed \$6 billion annually). Only *once* since 1965, however, has the full \$900 million been appropriated for its intended purpose. Over the years, Congress has diverted as much as \$17 billion (85%) of the Fund's dedicated revenue for projects quite unrelated to conservation – an unkept promise!

Great news! At the end of July, just before adjourning for the summer, the House passed H.R.3534, the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources (CLEAR) Act of 2010, sponsored by Natural Resources Committee Chairman Nick Rahall (D-WV). The bill (which also addresses oil spills, offshore drilling, and other related issues) dedicates LWCF funds into the future at the program's fully authorized level of \$900 million each year. At that level, the program would be able to proactively address backlogged conservation needs at the federal, state, and local levels. President Obama has announced his strong support for the bill and specifically for the LWCF funding it guarantees.

Now the Senate needs to act, but Big Oil has been busy trying to prevent this. Senate Majority Leader Reid, Energy & Natural Resources Chairman Bingaman (D-NM), Finance Committee Chairman Baucus (D-MT), and other senators are working to pass the Clean Energy Jobs and Oil Company Accountability Act (S. 3663), which includes guaranteed LWCF funding through 2015, with additional dedicated funding in future years. Just before the summer recess, however, the powerful oil lobby succeeded in stopping the Senate from voting on this bill. Now, with the recess over, we must urge senators to bring the bill back up to a vote.

Among talking points:

- LWCF is authorized to receive a very small percentage of OCS (Outer Continental Shelf) revenue \$900 million a year from revenues that typically exceed \$6 billion
- LWCF is the only account that provides a specific conservation benefit from federal energy development
- 86% of voters support committing funds from offshore drilling fees to LWCF
- The LWCF provides land suitable for outdoor recreation that is vital to the nation's economy (contributing \$730 billion annually to the economy, supporting 6.5 million jobs and stimulating 8% of all consumer spending)
- Depletion of one national, non-renewable natural resource (OCS oil) must be balanced by the long-term protection of threatened habitats and special places across America.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Not only members of the committee (e.g., Sen. Alexander) but ALL senators are important for this. Without delay, urge both your senators (see p.2) to support S.3663, or any other legislation that includes full and dedicated funding for the LWCF. You may wish to use some of the talking points immediately above, and/or name some lands at risk due to lack of LWCF money (e.g., in the Obed WSR. BSFNRRA, or Cherokee NF).

6B. Court returns wolves to Endangered Species list

Almost the only black mark against the Obama Administration's conservation record was the US Fish & Wildlife Service's decision, last year, to remove wolves in Idaho and Montana (but not in Wyoming) from the Endangered Species list before there was adequate scientific evidence for this action (the USFWS had set the wolf-recovery goal at a mere 300, while independent scientists recommended 2,000 to 5,000). Of the estimated 1,700 wolves across the Northern Rockies, hundreds were subsequently killed. Attempting to stop this slaughter, a team of 15 conservation groups initiated a lawsuit, handled by EarthJustice and NRDC.

On August 5, a federal court restored Endangered Species protection to wolves in Montana and Idaho! The ruling effectively returns all wolves in the Northern Rockies to the Endangered Species list and puts a halt to the wolf hunts that were planned for this fall. The judge ruled that the USFWS had acted illegally when it removed wolves from the Endangered Species list in Idaho and Montana but left them on the list in Wyoming, splitting the population along political, rather than biological, lines. Recovery decisions must be based on science, not politics.

Anti-wolf sentiment runs deep in the region, and counter-attacks by anti-wolf interests are imminent.* Conservation groups hope that wolves can at some point come off of the Endangered Species List — but only after they have recovered to the point where their survival is no longer in question and laws are in place to keep the population healthy. The recent court ruling opens the door to developing a science-based plan that will ensure the progress of wolf recovery in the Northern Rockies. In the meantime, it is important to continue on-the-ground efforts to prevent conflicts between ranchers and wolves, counter anti-wolf misinformation in the media, and ensure that wolves fully recover and can then be *legitimately* de-listed.

*Late-breaking news (from EarthJustice). Authorities in Idaho and Montana are now planning to use a Bush-era rule that would allow them to continue killing wolves despite their federally protected status. This is an amendment to Endangered Species Act regulations adopted during the final year of the Bush Administration, known as the 10(j) rule, that allows Idaho and Montana to kill protected wolves if they contribute to local declines or behavioral changes in elk or deer popula-

tions. (Note: those populations are booming!) Idaho officials are vowing to kill up to 65% of the wolves in certain parts of the state. And Montana is exploring its options to begin aerial gunning. EarthJustice and other national groups will need support to fight this loophole on several fronts.

7. CLIMATE CHANGE

7A. Climate-change legislation falls victim to money and politics, which also threaten regulation by EPA

Big Oil and Big Coal spent \$514 million over the past 18 months to kill climate action, and their objective has been achieved. A major reason why legislation that includes any kind of cap on carbon pollution (e.g., the House bill, or the Kerry-Lieberman bill) was allowed to languish in the Senate (NL292 ¶7A) was the fear that the vote would be exploited by Republicans in the mid-term election. Every Democrat who supported such a bill would be accused of being a "gas taxer" and "job killer." (Thomas Friedman, writing in *The New York Times* had an interesting rejoinder: the accusers should perhaps be labeled "Conservatives for OPEC," or "Friends of BP.")

As if the death of greenhouse-gas-limiting legislation were not bad enough, there's more bad news in store. Big Oil/Big Coal have now set their sight on blocking EPA from actions that could cut America's global warming pollution via enforcement of the Clean Air Act. As we have related earlier, the Supreme Court found in 2007 that, contrary to assertions by the Bush Administration, EPA had the authority to regulate CO₂ and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) under the provisions of the Clean Air Act (NL273 ¶8B). EPA subsequently issued the required "endangerment finding," a welldocumented statement to the effect that "greenhouse gases threaten the public health and welfare of the American people" (NL285 ¶11C). Subsequently, there have been several attempts in the Senate - and several more threaten – to undermine EPA's legal capacity to regulate GHG emissions (NL292 ¶7C; NL290 ¶7B).

Such Congressional sneak attacks must be blocked. Efforts must also be made to protect good climate laws in states like California, and to encourage regional alliances of states that are committed to accomplishing major reductions in GHG pollution.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Stay alert to any actions that might block EPA from regulating GHG emissions; and support all efforts to prevent such actions.

7B. Forests and seas play essential role in climate stability

Forests are carbon sinks. Here are some statistics.

• Forest soils and vegetation store 40% of all carbon in the terrestrial biosphere, and deforestation generates

- about 20% of human-caused carbon emissions (Source: World Resources Institute).
- One acre of forest absorbs about 6 tons of CO₂ and puts out nearly 4 tons of oxygen.
- The United States loses about 6,000 acres of forest space per day(!) as natural ecosystems are developed for residential, agricultural, and industrial use.
- Eliminating tree harvests on US public lands, which represent about 20% of the forested area of the country, would result in an increase of 17-29 million metric tons of carbon storage annually (Source: Pacific Northwest Research Station).

There was at least one positive outcome of last year's international climate talks at Copenhagen. Agreement was reached on key elements of a program called Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, under which developing countries would be compensated for preserving forests, peat soils, swamps, and fields that were efficient absorbers of CO₂.

All the above pertains only to the carbon sinks found on land. In addition, the ocean plays a vital role (Source: Dan Laffoley, *NY Times*, 12/27/09).

- The ocean absorbs some 25% of current annual CO₂ emissions.
- Half the world's carbon stocks are held in plankton, mangroves, salt marshes, and other marine life,
- Playing a major role are sea-grass meadows (which flourish in shallow ocean waters) and underwater forests of kelp.

Yet, the coastal habitats that support this important life are being rapidly lost to human activity, such as coastal pollution, land reclamation, and fish farming. It is suggested that a worldwide study is needed to identify coastal carbon sinks that that are in most immediate need of preservation.

7C. Weather extremes are getting worse

It's been a year of floods – New England, Nashville (19" of rain fell over just two days), Arkansas, Oklahoma; and all of these disasters were dwarfed by the monster flood in Pakistan. It would be irresponsible to attribute any one of these specific occurrences to global warming, but there is no doubt that extreme events are occurring with greater frequency, and (in many cases) with greater intensity. Weather always fluctuates, but *random* variations should lead to about as many record highs as record lows. The data for the USA show, however, that there have been about twice as many of the former than of the latter. Between January and July of this year, average temperatures were the highest ever on record (and that doesn't even include the August we just lived through).

Warm air holds more moisture, and wet areas will become much wetter; but other factors (e.g., changing ocean currents) can, conversely, cause dry areas to become dryer (as is the case in the recent Russian heat wave, and the regional forest fires). Obviously, both floods and droughts can have major adverse effects on the world's food supply.

8. OAK RIDGE NEWS

8A. City works on Climate Action Plan

[From a contribution by Jimmy Groton]

For the past 2½ years, at the request of Oak Ridge City Council, the city's Environmental Quality Advisory Board (EQAB) has been working on a Climate Action Plan. The purpose of the plan is to evaluate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for the city and to develop mitigation strategies to reduce these emissions in the coming years.

At a Public Forum held in January 2009, Oak Ridgers provided over 475 comments and suggestions related to GHG reductions and broader sustainability issues. EQAB completed a baseline GHG-emissions inventory for the City, based on 2004 data, and in September 2009 Council adopted the following emissions reduction goals.

- For the Municipal (Government) Sector: 10% reductions by 2015, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050.
- For the Community (Private) Sector: 5% reductions by 2015, 30% by 2030, and 70% by 2050.

In August 2010 EQAB prepared a Draft Climate Action Plan, which has been presented to City staff and to the public. The comment deadline ended September 10, and the draft CAP, with comments and suggestions incorporated, will be submitted to Council in time for its October 13 meeting. Once Council approves the plan, the implementation phase will begin -- to initiate projects, and continue those already under way to reduce the City's GHG emissions.

The CAP is available to download at www.cortn.org/government/287. Paper copies may be requested from the Oak Ridge Community Development Department (425-3531). Comments on the CAP may be e-mailed to Community Development Specialist Athanasia Senecal (asenecal@cortn.org, Phone: 425-3574).

The actions to reduce our GHG emissions and make our city more sustainable will require a lot of effort over many years. The total GHG emissions of the Municipal Sector are much lower than those of the Community Sector, and they are easier to control since they operate under the direction of the city government. GHG reductions in the Community Sector will require a lot of education and incentives to encourage local citizens, businesses, and corporations to do their part in making Oak Ridge a model of sustainability for the rest of the world.

[Ed.: Jimmy Groton, EQAB chairman, provides more details and thoughts in an interview published in *The Oak Ridge Observer* of 8/25/10.]

8B. Stimulus funds for energy efficiency and conservation

From Stimulus funding (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act), Oak Ridge was recently awarded a \$100,000 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (visit www.tn.gov/ecd for more information). The

City will use this money for, (a) development of a Community Energy Plan, and (b) HVAC retrofits at the Central Services Complex.

The Community Energy Plan (CEP) will be based on EQAB's Climate Action Plan (see 7A, above), specifically as this pertains to the "Community Sector." The CEP will be a reference guide to Oak Ridge residents on how they can contribute to the reduction of GHG emissions.

9. TCWP NEWS

9A. Board proposes changes to TCWP Constitution and Bylaws

[Contributed by Cindy Kendrick]

TCWP's Board of Directors recently reviewed our core documents and identified needed changes, including general "housekeeping," and updates to match current practices and values. These changes will be presented for approval by the membership at the annual meeting on October 9. The marked-up documents are available for preview on our web site at http://www.tcwp.org/

The more substantive changes are as follows:

- Updated "preamble" to the Constitution, consistent with the mission that we publish in each Newsletter;
- Eliminated written ballots (which haven't been used in years);
- Provided for election of a Chair of the Nominating Committee (NC) and selection of an alternate if a NC member is unable to serve:
- Updated committee structure and renamed "Service" Committee to "Program" Committee to better reflect the function;
- Restricted sharing of membership list to protect privacy (policy adopted by the Board several years ago);
- Redefined a quorum for the Board to be a majority (six); and
- Provided for hiring and supervision of any employees.

The Board recommends approval of all the proposed changes shown at the web site.

9B. Upcoming activities

[Contributed by Carol Grametbauer]

National Public Lands Day cleanup -- Saturday, September 25

Once again this year we will observe National Public Lands Day by spending a morning removing invasive exotic plants at the TVA Ecological Study Area at Worthington Cemetery on the east side of Oak Ridge. Our annual efforts in this area are helping to eradicate wisteria from the cemetery, and privet and other invasive exotics from the ESA. The event will begin with a walk and discussion about the cedar barren and wetland ecology; then participants will remove invasive pest plants and will plant some native vegetation.

The cleanup will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude around noon with a pizza lunch. Participants should wear sturdy shoes and gloves, and bring loppers or shears if possible. Tools will also be available at the worksite.

TCWP Annual Meeting – Saturday, October 9

This year's annual meeting will begin in the early afternoon rather than in the morning, to allow for a different twist on our traditional post-meeting hikes. Ed Carter, who became executive director of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency in March 2009, will be our guest speaker. Following Ed's talk, our business meeting, and a box meal, we'll depart for a field trip to the Elk Viewing Stand at Royal Blue in Campbell County. Last year's outing yielded sightings of nearly 20 elk; we're hoping for an equally good outcome this year.

Watch for an upcoming mailing with time and location of the meeting, carpooling plans, and registration details! Specific information will also be posted on the TCWP website (www.tcwp.org) as soon as it becomes available.

Oak Ridge Cedar Barren cleanup – Sat., November 6

The Oak Ridge Cedar Barren will again be the site of exotic invasive plant removal as we conduct our fall cleanup. Located next to Jefferson Middle School in Oak Ridge, this Barren is a joint project of the City of Oak Ridge, State Natural Areas Division, and TCWP. One of a few cedar barrens in East Tennessee, the area is subject to invasion by Chinese lespedeza, leatherleaf ligustrum (Japanese privet), autumn olive, mimosa, Nepal grass, multiflora rose, and woody plants that threaten the system¹s prairie grasses. Our efforts help to eliminate the invasives and other shade-producing plants that prevent the prairie grasses from getting needed sun.

Volunteers should meet in the Jefferson Middle School Parking lot at 9 a.m., with sturdy shoes, loppers, gloves, and water. The work session will conclude at noon.

Additional information on all TCWP activities may be obtained from TCWP Executive Director Sandra K. Goss at Sandra@sandrakgoss.com or at 865-522-3809.

9C. A note from the Executive Director

Dear TCWP folk,

This year, TCWP is celebrating its 44th anniversary. Over the decades, our organization has made significant strides, beginning with establishment of the Obed Wild and Scenic River and the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. We have been playing major successful roles in activities that protect natural areas, rivers, parks, and trails; that designate wildernesses and limit damages from stripmining and other resource extraction. The list goes on and on. We frequently work with sister organizations to harmonize and amplify the many voices of conservation and environmental prudence of Tennessee.

We conservationists and environmentalists are often underfunded relative to the developers and resource extractors who usually oppose our efforts to preserve lands and waters, and protect water and air quality. It seems that we are getting somewhat smarter about calculating the value of our goals: there is a growing body of data about the economic benefits of healthy forests, free-flowing streams, breathable air.

In a zero-sum analysis of various human activities the associated health and resource costs of non- or sub-par regulation would be factored in at the beginning. But these costs are not usually balanced against the economic benefits (dollars and jobs) touted by the proponents of development, resource extraction, and industry These are important indices, but they are not the only important ones. Reasoning attitudes must include the costs associated with detrimental impacts on human life and human health, and the costs of losing functions performed by natural environments, functions such as water filtration and air purification.

There are two or more sides to every question, it is true. It is up to us to present our side courteously and comprehensively. Few among us fail to appreciate the intangible benefits of wild lands and waters. With some explanation we can lead others to an understanding of the tangible benefits of natural habitat, biodiversity, and abundant, pure drinking water.

For more information about these explanations and how to incorporate them into your everyday conversations, call me. We have tools to help you help others understand the value of our natural resources and the importance of keeping them secure.

Back to underfunding: Community Shares workplace campaigns are kicking off this month and next. Remember TCWP in making your charitable gifts. Don't forget the Brewers Jam next month, which benefits Community Shares. Also, please involve yourself in our efforts to preserve the "pristinity" of the Obed (¶1A, this NL). Make plans to contribute to the effort. Monthly payments are possible. For more information about this or any other effort we've got going, please call or e-mail me. We have many opportunities for people to make a difference, and we usually have fun while we do it.

Thanks.

Sandra

9D. A million thanks!

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

A million thanks to:

Cindy Kendrick for initiating and coordinating the effort to make needed changes in the TCWP Constitution and Bylaws (¶8A, above).

Jan Lyons, for her help with publicizing the Will Skelton presentation on Hikes in the Cherokee National Forest. Additional thanks for help with publicity go to Tim Bigelow, Carol Grametbauer, Jimmy Groton, and Cindy Kendrick.

Jean Bangham, John Bates, Carol Grametbauer, Frank Hensley, Charlie Klabunde, and Hal Smith for preparing the July TCWP Newsletter for mailing.

Tim Bigelow and Jan Lyons for developing, publicizing, and leading the much-enjoyed Bald River Falls outing.

Mark Bevelhimer, Tim Bigelow, Jimmy Groton, and Cindy Kendrick for liaising with the Nominating Committee.

Doris Gove, Frank Harris, and Joan Nelson for serving on the 2010 Nominating Committee.

Representatives from Eastern Forest Alliance, National Parks Conservation Association, Tennessee Clean Water Network, Tennessee Environmental Council, and other groups for helping get a good crowd out to the August America's Great Outdoors Listening Session in Nashville.

Tennessee Conservation Voters and Tennessee Environmental Council for sponsoring a successful preliminary agenda-setting meeting on upcoming legislative issues.

9E. Reminders: Political Guide, e-mail-alert sign-up are on our web site

The Political Guide for 2010 (NL290 ¶9A), which was included with our March NL, can also be accessed by visiting the TCWP website, www.tcwp.org.

You can also use our web site to sign up for TCWP e-mail alerts (http://tcwp.org/emailalert.shtml); or e-mail Sandra at Sandra@sandrakgoss.com to be added to the alert list.

9F. Recent events

Will Skelton, "Hiking in the Cherokee National Forest" – Thursday, July 29

A full house of about 60 people gathered at the Oak Ridge Civic Center to hear Knoxville conservationist Will Skelton describe some of his favorite CNF hikes. Will coordinated the Cherokee National Forest Wilderness Coalition during the 1980s wilderness campaigns, and served as chairman of the Knoxville Greenways Commission from 1992-2008. In addition to entertaining us with slides of his many backpacking trips in both the northern and southern districts of the National Forest, Will (who is also editor of the *Cherokee National Forest Hiking Guide*) provided an update on the status of the Tennessee Wilderness Act of 2010, which will add some 20,000 acres of wilderness to the area.

Will also asked Bill Hodge of the Tennessee Wild coalition to speak briefly on the importance of trail stewardship in advocating for wilderness. Wilderness trails must be maintained with traditional tools, and volunteers are needed to help with this effort. To this end, Bill and others are forming the Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards (SAWS); more information is available from Bill at billhodge10@gmail.com or 865-617-4804.

The July 29 meeting was co-sponsored by the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club and the Harvey Broome Group of the Sierra Club. We hope to have more joint meetings with these groups in the future.

<u>Bald River Falls Trail hike, Cherokee National Forest – Saturday, August 21</u>

Having attended Will Skelton's July 29 talk, TCWP Service Committee members Jan Lyons and Tim Bigelow decided to follow up by offering a hike on one of the trails Will described. Eight people participated, making a stop at Tellico Grains bakery enroute to pick up trail sustenance. The day began with light rain, but turned out to be pleasant; and, after lunch, the group was able to swim in the Bald River on their way back to the trailhead. Many interesting mushrooms were spotted. Thanks to Jan and Tim for their initiative in coordinating this event!

10. CALENDAR; RESOURCES

•• CALENDAR (events and deadlines)

(For details, check the referenced NL item; or contact Sandra Goss, 865-522-3809, or Sandra@sandrakgoss.com

- September 18, Tour of Crooked Fork Creek Watershed. Contact amy_mathis@hotmail.com (see ¶1D, this NL).
- September 25, National Public Lands Day cleanup at Worthington Cemetery (see ¶9B, this NL).
- Sept. 25-27, Washington, DC, Appalachia Rising, a mass mobilization calling for an end to mountaintop removal mining. Contact chris@socm.org.
- October 9, TCWP Annual Meeting (see ¶9B, this NL).
- Week of Oct. 25 (exact date TBA), Knoxville, EPA coal-ash hearing (see ¶3A, this NL).
- Nov. 5 and 6, Lebanon, TN, Sustainable Tennessee Conference (see ¶2D, this NL).
- November 6, Oak Ridge Cedar Barren cleanup (see ¶9B, this NL).
- November 16-18, Gatlinburg, SAMAB Conference on "Climate Change: Science to Action." visit www.SAMAB.org.
- November 19, deadline for commenting on EPA's coalash regulations (see ¶3A, this NL).

•• RESOURCES

• "A Field Guide for the Identification of Invasive Plants in Southern Forests" is available free-of charge. This updated guide by Jim Miller, Erwin Chambliss, and

Nancy Loewinstein has great pictures of plants in different seasons, as well as information on the history of introduction and on the ecology. To obtain a free copy, visit pubrequest@fs.fed.us and enter your name and mailing address, along with book title, authors, and publication number, GTR-SRS-119.

- The Union for Concerned Scientists (UCS) has evaluated hybrid motor vehicles relative to their global-warming benefits. Criteria include: (a) reduction in global-warming pollution over its closest *conventional* counterpart, (b) smog-forming emission performance, (c) cost effectiveness of the global-warming-emissions reductions. Visit www.HybridCenter.org.
- Tennessee's Cumberland Plateau Nature Trail is a brochure developed by the Alliance for the Cumberlands that maps sites of natural significance accessible by automobile tours. There are 14, 17, and 17 sites marked, respectively, on a Northern, Central, and Southern tour of the Cumberlands. The brochure can be requested from www.AllianceForTheCumberlands.org; or, you can access a reduced-size copy at www.cpnaturetrail.com.
- Open through September 26! The great biodiversity of the Great Smoky Mountains may be glimpsed in the "Discover Life in America" (DLIA) exhibition at the American Museum of Science and Energy at Oak Ridge. Drawing on the tool of the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory, DLIA's aim is to identify and understand all the species of life within an 800-square-mile ecosystem of the Park. To learn more, visit www.dlia.org.
- City of Oak Ridge GREENWAYS is a brochure diagrammatically mapping 11 greenways. The longest is the North Ridge Trail, developed and maintained by TCWP. Others on which TCWP performs service functions are the Wildflower and Worthington Greenways. Contact www.orrecparks.org or 865-425-3450.

Upcoming Dates of Interest

Sat., Sept. 25—National Public Lands Day/Elza Gate and Worthington Cemetery—East Oak Ridge

Sat., Oct. 9--Annual Meeting with TWRA Director Ed Carter—LaFollette

New this year—**Afternoon** Annual Meeting, to be followed by . . .

A Trip to the Elk Viewing Stand. Back by popular demand, this reprise of a 2009 outing should provide participants with sights and sounds of elk in the wild from the TWRA Elk Viewing Stand

Sat., Nov. 6—Oak Ridge Cedar Barren Workday

Do you like **The TCWP Newsletter?**

Since 1966, the Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning Newsletter has been providing the best source of environmental news in the Southeast.

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Here's how to get these for yourself — **join TCWP today**

Complete the coupon below and mail with a check for TCWP to:

Charlie Klabunde, TCWP Treasurer, 219 East Vanderbilt Dr., Oak Ridge, TN 37830. TCWP membership includes a subscription to the Newsletter and our annual Political Guide. Individual dues are \$25, Family \$35, Sustain \$100, Support \$200, Life \$500, all IRS tax-deductible.

More info at www.tcwp.org or 865-522-3809 You may use form for Renewal.

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- CFC (Combined Federal Campaigns),
- Vanderbilt University,
- Metro Nashville Schools and Metro Nashville Government,
- Knox County Schools, Knox County Government,
- The University of Tennessee,
- St. Mary's Health Systems,
- and all of the Board of Regents Schools.

Use Code 11048 to donate to TCWP through Community Shares — If you work for:

- City of Knoxville (new campaign site this year; please make contribution; we must have minimum number of donors to continue to be in the campaign next year)
- Knox County Government
- Metro Nashville Government
- Nashville Electric Service (NES)
- Nashville Public Schools
- · Vanderbilt University

If you participate in the 2010 Combined Federal Campaign, the TCWP code is 77429.

In the 2010 Tennessee Employees Charitable Campaign, our code is CS270.

If you do not have <u>Community Shares</u> as a choice for your non-government workplace giving program, please <u>contact us</u> for more information about opening your workplace to Community Shares.

Newsletter #293

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Liane (Lee) RussellDirector
Sandra GossExecutive Director

TCWP Annual Meeting – Saturday, October 9

An early afternoon start at a location yet to be decided, to hear new TWRA Executive Director, **Ed Carter**, and go to the **Elk Viewing** Stand at Royal Blue in Campbell County. Details soon; see page 11.