

TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 36, December 1, 1970

This NEWSLETTER, in addition to current news, includes summary reports of 1970 events and activities, some of which were presented at the annual meeting. These summaries are a good way to let prospective members know what TCWP is all about, so save them for that purpose.

I. Current news

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1. HELP URGENTLY NEEDED TO SECURE CEQ FUNDS

We urge all members to take action today to save what the President has called the "keeper of our environmental conscience". The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), which was created less than a year ago to implement the National Environmental Policy Act, NEPA, is in danger of perishing for lack of funds. One of the most important activities of CEQ is the reviewing of the so-called Section-102 statements: all federal agencies are required by NEPA to file such statements concerning projects (e.g. dams, channelizations, etc.) they plan to submit for Congressional approval. Conservationists have hailed this procedure as a great new potential for putting an end to pork-barrel or environmentally disastrous projects.

CEQ needs at least \$1.5 million to carry out its voluminous work. However, a new version of the originally vetoed Independent Agencies and Housing bill (see NL #34), still gives CEQ only \$1 million and was passed by the House in this form on Nov. 24. CEQ is now asking for a supplemental appropriation of \$500,000. Tennesseans are in an important position on this issue, since 4th District Congressman Evins is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Independent Offices and Dept. HUD, which handles this appropriation. We urge (a) all members residing in the 4th District to wire, phone or airmail messages to Congr. Evins to put through CEQ's supplemental appropriations request; and (b) all members residing elsewhere to wire, phone or airmail messages to their own congressmen asking them to request Congr. Evins to take the action outlined.

2. WHAT NOW ON THE SMOKIES?

On June 23, 1969, Secretary Hickel told our delegation of 100 conservationists that he would make a decision on the Smokies' road in 15-18 months; 18 months will be up on Dec. 23, 1970. On Nov. 25, Secretary Hickel, who had built up a fine and courageous conservation record, was fired on the spot by the President. Two days

later, six other high Interior Dept. officials--including Prof. Leslie Glasgow, Asst. Secy. for Fish, Wildlife and Parks--were told to "get out of the building by 5 o'clock". So far, Dr. Glasgow has refused to resign. What will happen on the Smokies decision? We are keeping in close touch and will notify you quickly in case of need. In the meantime, it would not hurt to communicate your feelings to the new Secretary, Rogers Morton, who will probably be confirmed early in the new year.

3. RESULTS OF TCWP ELECTIONS

The following slate becomes effective January 1.

President:	William L. Russell	Directors:	Edward E. C. Clebsch
Vice President:	Robert S. Lefler		Claire Nader
Secretary:	*Nancy Jaszczak		Liane B. Russell (past president)
Treasurer:	Fred H. Sweeton		*Donald E. Todd
			*MacKinlay Zimmerman

*Indicates newcomers to the Board

Nominating committee: Stanley I. Auerbach, Jean W. Bangham, John M. Judy

Amendment relating to date of annual meeting: passed unanimously.

Amendment relating to dues schedule: passed 60:6.

(For text of both amendments, see Newsletter #35).

4. NEW FILM AT JANUARY TCWP MEETINGS

"The Time of Man", a 50-minute film produced by Metromedia and the American Museum of Natural History will be shown both at Oak Ridge and Knoxville. The first screening will be on Sunday, January 10, 7:30 p.m. at the Oak Ridge Unitarian Church, Oak Ridge Turnpike (in co-sponsorship with the Unitarian Public Affairs Comm.). The film will again be shown in Knoxville on Thursday, January 14, 4:30 p.m., U.T. Student Center Auditorium, in joint sponsorship with the U.T. Botany Dept. and the Graduate Program in Ecology.

"The Time of Man" is a stimulating and brilliant exposition of the meaning of "environment". Taking first an evolutionary approach, it shows how species have survived or perished according to their ability to adapt to the environment. The bulk of the film has an anthropological orientation by focussing on several primitive groups whose life styles clearly reflect their attitudes toward the environment. Our ability to survive in a well-adjusted society is seen to be our ability to maintain the environment free of excessive interference.

5. FOOTHILLS PARKWAY MASTER PLAN

Hearings were held last week on the Foothills Parkway master plan, and several of those who testified expressed themselves against development of NPS campgrounds, advocating, instead, private campgrounds outside the park areas. The hearing record remains open for about 3 more weeks. Questions and testimonies should be addressed to J. Leonard Volz, Director, NPS Regional Office, P.O. Box 10008, Richmond, Va.

6. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AIDS NOW AVAILABLE

- A. The President signed the Environmental Education Act, H.R. 18260, about a month ago. The Act authorizes \$45 million over a three-year period to provide support for

environmental education in schools and communities. The funds can be used for grants to schools, development of environmental curricula, teacher training, development of materials for teaching and for use by mass media, community conferences, and for outdoor ecological study centers. In addition, citizen groups may qualify for small grants to conduct student seminars, workshops, etc. The Act sets up a 21-member Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commissioner of Education to include 3 ecologists and 3 students. We urge you to acquaint the school systems in your community with the contents of this Act and encourage them to make use of its provisions.

- B. The National Environmental Study Area program (NESA), a joint undertaking by the Interior Dept. (USDI) and the National Education Assoc. (NEA) will use the environment itself (from national parks to city parks) as classrooms for students of all ages. The NESA program was developed by the National Park Service, and other USDI Bureaus are adding their lands and skills to the training package now available to school systems. The guidebook "Man and his Environment: An Introduction to Using Environmental Study Areas," is available from NEA Publications, 1201 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 for \$1.75. Your school system should study it and make use of NESA.

7. NATIONAL NEWS CAPSULES

- A. Increase in Land and Water Conservation Fund. PL 91-485, which received the presidential signature Oct. 22, increases the level of the L & W Fund from \$200 to \$300 annually. It also provides for transfer of surplus federal lands (e.g. former Army bases) to states and local governments for park and recreation purposes.
- B. More potential additions to National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Another 47 rivers in 24 states were identified jointly by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture under the provisions of PL 90-542. None of these new rivers is in Tennessee; but, as you know, our Obed and Buffalo are in the original group of "potentials" and are now under study.
- C. Population bill passes. On Nov. 16, the House passed the Family Planning and Population Research Act which attempts to make comprehensive family planning services available to all. The Senate had already passed a similar measure (Tydings bill). Conference committee is the next step.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. PUBLICATIONS.

- A. The Tennessee Archaeological Society is trying to enlarge its membership and increase the number of its chapters in an effort to preserve knowledge of early man in Tennessee. Archaeological sites are destroyed daily, and with them a page of the state's prehistoric history is gone forever. For further information, contact Dr. Alfred K. Guthe, Sec.-Treas., Tenn. Archaeological Soc., Frank H. McClung Museum, Univ. of Tenn., Knoxville, TN 37916. Dues are \$5.
- B. The Wildlife Management Institute has released a pamphlet "Wildlife--the Environmental Barometer", designed for teachers and youth groups. Write WMI, 709 Wire Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20005.
- C. The Office of Science and Technology has released a report by an interagency study group (composed of CEQ, AEC, TVA, HEW, USDI, FPC, REA) entitled "Electric Power and the Environment", 75¢ from Supt. of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20240.

SUMMARY OF 1970 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

1. Smokies and surrounding regions

1970 was a year of waiting for the Smokies decision promised, on the occasion of our big June 23, 1969 delegation visit to Washington, to be forthcoming in 15-18 months (i.e., by Dec. 23, 1970).--TCWP joined other conservation groups in working for wilderness designation of the Slick Rock Creek watershed, close to the Park in the Cherokee and Nantahala National Forests. The re-routing of the Tellico Plains-Robbinsville road that is being advocated by conservationists will also make it possible to include the Joyce Kilmer Memorial in this wilderness.--TCWP participated in formulation of Land Use Planning Guides for National Forests in the Southern Appalachian Region.

2. Big South Fork of the Cumberland

The federal inter-agency report on alternative uses for the Big S. Fork was sent to Congress in mid-February. It contains some of the TCWP input into the studies. Six alternatives, some of them with several sub-alternatives, are considered. Of these, the National Park (NP) proposal assures the best preservation of the area and has the greatest local economic impact relative to cost. Its main drawback is that it contains no land in the Kentucky portion of the watershed. However, liaison between TCWP and other conservation groups, particularly the Cumberland Chapter of the Sierra Club, has resulted in a conservationist proposal that combines an enlarged National Park (namely the NP alternative from the interagency report plus an extension into Kentucky), with a National Recreation Area north of it (to include the upper parts of Lake Cumberland) for more intensive recreation use.--The Corps of Engineers re-study, required to be filed at the same time as the inter-agency report, is still outstanding. Information in our hands indicates that BOR will make it most difficult for the Corps to claim recreation benefits for Devils Jumps dam. Tardiness of the Corps' report has prevented consideration of the interagency-study alternatives. Senator Baker will not discuss the subject with us, in spite of repeated attempts on our part; Sen. Gore endorsed the National Park proposal in a Senate speech; and Congr. Evins has told us he would help get appropriations for the NP proposal, should it get to that point. The Tenn. Dept. of Conservation is backing a joint state-federal recreation area but seems amenable to a TCWP-suggested statement that they would accept a NP proposal if it were made. Kentucky's administration seems less favorably inclined. The Kentucky Wild Rivers Commission deferred recommendation, although they went on record as favoring a free-flowing stream. Gov. Nunn and one of his would-be successors are rumored to be still in favor of Devils Jumps dam.--In the meantime, oil is gushing from a field around Pine Creek and a minor boom is on. However, there are no geological indications that the field would extend into the proposed NP area.--TCWP has attempted to acquaint as many people as possible with the Big S. Fork issue. In February, about 100 organizations and individuals outside Tennessee were contacted and asked to communicate to their representatives on the Public Works and Interior Committees (a) opposition to Devils Jumps dam, and (b) support for wilderness preservation of the gorges plus comprehensive protection for the watershed.--A large pictorial display was prepared for Earth Day and was later exhibited in various public places. Several outings were held in the watershed (see item II.11). Contacts with American Heritage magazine led to a short article in its June number.

3. Obed

The year began with a renewal of a Harriman-based pro-dam campaign triggered by a very heavy river flow on December 30. This campaign was backed by Sen. Baker and

Congr. Evins. However, a request to TVA to restudy the Nemo dam project merely resulted in an even lower benefit cost ratio, namely 0.5/1.0.--The BOR study for inclusion of the Obed and tributaries in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System was scheduled to start at the beginning of 1970; but, due to BOR reorganization and lack of funds, was delayed until it finally got underway in October. TCWP will be heavily involved.--In the meantime, TCWP performed watchdog functions and brought to public and official notice two potentially adverse developments. One was a river crossing by a high-voltage TVA line; the other, some damaging stripmining in the Obed gorge that was being carried out under TVA contract. In both cases, BOR entered the picture and TVA acted to minimize and/or repair the damage as much as possible. TVA has now promised that it will not enter into any more coal contracts affecting the gorges of the Obed and its tributaries.--The BOR-led wild-river study is scheduled to be complete by Sept. 1971.

4. State scenic rivers system; other rivers

Implementation of the state scenic rivers system is still lagging, but a major river was added to the system this year. This is the Hatchie, a long, natural swamp river in West Tennessee, which received Class-I status as a result of our working with the sponsor to specify somewhat more restrictive boundaries for swamp than for gorge rivers.--The Dept. of Conservation, which was to have outlined the boundaries of all scenic-river areas by April, instead submitted a more generalized report to the Legislature. It is now beginning to proceed on land and easement acquisition on a limited scale.--A bill to create a Division of Scenic Rivers passed the House 56:0 but failed to get on the Senate floor even though Sen. Brown Ayres twice brought it out of committee.

In spite of conservationists' efforts, TVA's Duck River dams received more Congressional funding this year. However, TCWP learned that TVA had not complied with the National Environmental Policy Act on this project. TVA is now preparing the statement required under this Act.--TCWP is supporting the Tenn. Game & Fish Commission in its stand against Corps of Engineers channelization of the Obion and Forked Deer Rivers in West Tennessee. The case is now in the courts.

5. Natural Areas legislation. State parks. Pocket Wildernesses.

TCWP strongly supported state legislation sponsored by Repr. Victor Ashe and Sen. Bruce to set up mechanisms for preserving a variety of natural areas. Just before the Legislature convened, TCWP sponsored a large Knoxville meeting with well-known speakers on the subject. The bill passed the House 55:16, but, though it twice got a majority vote in the Senate, failed by one vote to attain "constitutional" majority. Reasons for the failure were (a) misunderstandings about provisions affecting historical sites, and (b) active campaigning against the bill by the Dept. of Conservation, which was preparing rival legislation. The bill is now being revised for re-introduction.--TCWP supported efforts to give more permanent protection to Morgan Forest and hopes that this will be at least partially achieved by its conversion this year into Frozen Head State Park, which will have only minimal development.--TCWP is assisting the Middle Tenn. Conservancy Council in its efforts to find a way by which Savage Gulf can be preserved. This gorge would be a prime candidate for a Natural Areas System.

TCWP cooperated with Bowaters Southern Paper Corp. in the establishment of its "Pocket Wilderness" program. Virgin Falls in the Caney Fork Valley, brought to the company's attention by TCWP, was the first wilderness to be dedicated in May. In November, Bowaters dedicated the lovely Laurel-Snow wilderness near Dayton. Both will be kept totally undeveloped except for simple walking trails.

6. Trails. Greenbelts and city parks.

TCWP has supported the Tenn. Trails Assoc. in its effort to establish a Tennessee Trails System. A bill to this effect was introduced late in the 1970 session but did not get out of committee. TCWP is very actively participating in the complete revision of this bill which will be re-introduced.--TCWP's Oak Ridge Greenbelt trails made a great deal of progress in 1970 with several new sections marked and completed. A trail map was prepared and the system publicized by several public hikes, an Earth Day Fair exhibit, and a newspaper article. The Trails Committee submitted a progress report to City Council.--Because of our interest in greenbelt preservation, several TCWP members actively participated in the creation of the Oak Ridge Environmental Quality Advisory Board, advisory to City Council.

Although TCWP has not been able to enter directly into the fight to protect Overton Park, Memphis against an Interstate Highway crossing, it has tried to stimulate financial contributions to this cause.

7. Educational activities

The Harvey Broome Memorial Film fund of TCWP has to date purchased 7 films which have been widely circulated to schools, civic organizations, churches, etc. and are used in teacher workshops on environmental awareness by the Cooperative Science Education Center. The committee has worked up short film descriptions, a Harvey Broome biography, and description of the project purpose, all of which are sent out with the films. Study aids for each film are being developed.--The pilot Environmental Studies course sponsored by TCWP at Oak Ridge High School 1969/70 has been set up as a regular course during the 1970/71 school year. TCWP members Bill Countess and Bob Lefler are teaching several sections of a "Spaceship Earth" course.

8. Political activities

In an effort to stimulate more communication between citizens and their elected representatives, and to inform the latter on matters of concern to conservationists, TCWP undertook the following activities in 1970. (a) At the beginning of the year, each TCWP member received a "political guide", telling him who his state and U.S. representatives and senators were and how to reach them. Various administrative departments were also listed. (b) All candidates in the primary election, state and federal, received a questionnaire on issues of concern to us. Results of these were published before the election. Some newspaper publicity ensued. (c) Members were also informed about ratings by the League of Conservation Voters, a national organization. (d) A public forum was held in Knoxville before the General Election at which candidates were questioned by a panel of experts.

9. National issues

During 1970, TCWP has taken a stand and communicated its thinking to Congressmen, etc. on the following national issues: the Timber Supply bill, SST funding, National Environmental Policy Act and CEQ funding, Alaska pipeline, Hells Canyon, N. Cascades wilderness, Cross Florida Barge Canal, Big Thicket National Park, and Mission Mountains wilderness. In addition, a number of other issues were brought to the attention of the membership for individual action.

10. TCWP membership. Organizational matters. TWAC.

TCWP's paid membership increased from 371 on 9/22/69 to 615 on 10/24/70. Of these, 39 are students, 30 corresponding members, 471 regular individual or family members, and 75 in higher dues classes.--Address and other information has recently been put on IBM cards for label print-out and sorting.--A questionnaire was sent to the

membership to determine special talents, interests, and offers of help. The returns have been entered on cards and are being used for committee assignments.

TWAC (Tenn. Wilderness Action Council), the liaison network sponsored by TCWP, completed its roster of District Representatives. A brochure was printed and distributed in an effort to reach large numbers of interested organizations. Several calls to action were sent out during the year.

11. Meetings and events. Outings.

TCWP sponsored 4 open meetings and events: (1) natural areas symposium "Preserving Tennessee's Scenic and Natural Resources", Knoxville, 1/8/70; (2) participation in the Earth Day Fair (Big S. Fork, Obed, Trails exhibit, panel participation), Oak Ridge, 4/22/70; (3) a candidate-panel forum, Knoxville, 10/6/70; (4) the annual meeting, featuring 2 films and summary reports, Oak Ridge 10/29/70. In addition we have publicized eight events sponsored by other groups.--TCWP was one of only two citizens' groups asked to participate in the National Symposium on Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Waterways, St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 9-12.

In 1970, TCWP sponsored or co-sponsored 14 outings to areas we are interested in preserving. In addition, we announced 13 outings sponsored by other organizations. In the former group of outings were the following: Conasauga hike-float, 3/14-3/15; Morgan Forest hikes, 4/18-4/19; O.R. Trails 4/19 (2 hikes) and 4/26 (2 hikes); Clear Fork floats 4/25, 4/26; Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness dedication, 5/23; Obed float, 5/16 and 5/17; Duck R. float, 6/6; Big S. Fork-N. Whiteoak Creek float and hike, 6/13; Big S. Fork two-day float, 10/17-18; Frozenhead State Park hike, 10/24; stripmine tour, 11/7; Laurel-Snow Pocket Wilderness, 11/14; Tandem Arches, 11/21.

12. Credits

Throughout the preceding summaries, mention of names of individuals has been avoided. Here we list (alphabetically) the names of persons who have contributed substantial efforts on the various issues and in the service committees. In a list this long, there are probably some unforgivable omissions, for which we apologize in advance.

Rivers: Bodley, Collier, Clebsch, Gibbons, Harbour, R. Miller, L. Russell,
W. Russell, H. Smith, S. Stevens, Todd, M. Young

Smokies, National Forests: Chaffin, Clebsch, Dahlman, Dickerman, DuBois, Fox,
Payne, E. Peelle

Natural Areas, State Parks, Pocket Wildernesses: Camisa, Clebsch, R. Davis, Hall,
Klabunde, R. Miller, R. Peelle, Slaughter, Slusher, Streetman, Todd

Trails, Greenbelts, EQAB: M. Adler, Brightman, R. Brown, Claiborne, Countess,
Curtiss, Duncan, Grove, Guthrie, M. Ketelle, Lefler, Reichle, L. Russell,
Schlafke, 3 Todds

Stripmine legislation: Hebble, Farmer, Lefler, R. Peelle, L. Russell, Todd Sr.
(chmn) Todd Jr., K. Warren

Educational Activities: Brichetto, Broome, Cohan, Countess, Gibbons, Judy (chmn),
Lefler, Nader, Peelles

Political Activities: Countesses, Lefler, Mayfield, R. Miller, Plasil, L. Russell,
Terry

National issues: Dickerman, L. Russell

TWAC: Carver, K. Warren (co-chairmen), D. Adams, Collier, Curry, Galloway, Hall,
James, Mayfield, Phelps, Kin Zimmermann

Membership, organizational: Oates, L. Russell, Sweeton

Phone: Dempster, E. DuBois, Meservey, H. Warren, and many helpers
 Photography and Art: L. Andrews, Lorenz, Oakberg, Ramsey, W. Russell, A. Skeel,
 Todd, P. Turner, G. Wilson
 Publicity and Programs: Kelly, Rahn, L. Russell, F. Smith, Kin Zimmermann
 Outings: Collier, Klabunde (chmn), Lambert, Lefler, Mitchum, Reed, Slaughter,
 Slusher, Streetman, Todds
 Clerical (typing, mailings, etc.): M. Dunn, R. Faulkner, Gerrard, Jaszczak,
 H. Jones, Lee, Lewis, Luippold, Neiler, S. Rucker, Sollins, Stallworth, Stelsons,
 Tallackson, G. Wilson, Young (chmn).
 Newsletter: L. Russell
 Board: L. Russell (pres.), Lefler (vice pres.), Sweeton (treas.), Carver (secy),
 Clebsch, Dickerman, Nader, W. Russell, K. Warren

Lee Russell, Editor
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LATE BULLETIN ON THE DUCK RIVER

The U. S. Office of Budget and Management has impounded \$7 million appropriated earlier this year for starts on new TVA projects. Among affected projects are the two Duck River dams (Normandy and Columbia) and a series of dams on the Upper French Broad River in N. Carolina. The order allows TVA to spend only \$300,000 of the \$4.6 million appropriated for the Duck River dams, and it stipulates that the impounded funds cannot be spent until fiscal 1972 or later.