

TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR WILDERNESS PLANNING

* Newsletter No. 50, September 11, 1972

Don't miss the meeting (item 1) and hike (item 13) we sponsor this month. Remember, star in margin means "action required". Please try to tackle at least 2 jobs -- stripmine action very important at this time.

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1. MIKE FROME TO SPEAK TO TCWP

Time: Wednesday, October 11, 8:00 p.m.

Place: Knoxville, Univ. of Tenn. Student Center Ballroom

Title: The Age of the Environment is At Hand

Mike Frome, famed writer, conservation editor of FIELD & STREAM, author of many books (including "Strangers in High Places" about the Smokies), contributor to many magazines, and fearless champion of environmental causes, will speak to us on several matters of immediate concern -- USFS attitudes on clear cutting and wilderness, the Park Service's George Hartzog and the Smokies, the Tellico and Duck dam battles -- to mention but a few. Mike, who has a tremendous amount of inside information, never minces his words and is sure to start a controversy somewhere. This is a good program to advertise on any bulletin board accessible to you, and to bring your friends to! (Sponsors, in addition to TCWP, will be the U.T. Botany Dept. and the Graduate Program in Ecology).

2. STRIPMINE NEWS


A. Good federal bill has a chance if we all pitch in

The House Interior Committee under the leadership of Ed Edmondson (Chm. Aspinall being in Colorado to fight a primary battle) reported a surprisingly good stripmine bill Sept. 6. Credit for handling the lion's share of strengthening amendments goes to Congr. John Melcher (D. Montana). Floor action may come in 3 weeks. Although the

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Senate bill lags behind (the-Interior Committee has been unable to get a quorum to act on major strengthening amendments by Sen. Jackson and others) the gap could be quickly made up; or the Senate could adopt the House bill. Therefore, there is a chance that we may get a good stripmine bill, especially if the Congress decides to re-convene after the election.

Some of the strong points of the House bill are as follows: (a) two kinds of slope limitation: no overburden to be removed if slope is steeper than 20°, and no permanent spoil bank to be created if slope is steeper than 14°; (b) formulation and enforcement of regulations by federal government, unless state laws and capability are at least as rigorous as the federal; (c) requirement that reclamation will generally be either "backfilling to approximate original contour" or a stringent "terracing"; (d) burden of proof on operator that land can be reclaimed according to plan; (e) notification by operator of local governments, public notice, and opportunity for public hearing before permit is granted; (f) preservation of top soil.

 Terribly strong pressures will be brought by the coal industry, utilities, etc. to emasculate or defeat this presently good bill on the House floor. Therefore each and every one of us must take action now. Do one or more of the following (No. 1 has the highest priority).

1. Write your own Congressman (Repr. _____, U. S. House of Representatives, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20515) and ask that the above-mentioned features of the bill be retained, especially the 20° slope ban (actually we feel the ban should be set at 14°, but 20° is certainly better than the present 28° for Tennessee). Indicate that you are in favor of an amendment that will be offered to give jurisdiction to EPA instead of Dept. of the Interior (which, through its Bureau of Mines, is industry-oriented; see also B., below). If you have time for a short letter only, concentrate on the 20° ban -- it must remain as a mandatory prohibition.
2. Write to Repro Ed Edmondson, who chaired the latest Interior Committee Action, thank him for the good bill, and ask, him. to stick by it on the House floor. Ask that he transmit your sentiments to other members of the Interior Committee.
3. Write to Sen. Henry Jackson, Chmn., Senate Interior Committee (Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20510) and urge that his committee catch up with the House on stripmine legislation, lest it be blamed for killing the bill. Urge that the strengthening amendments proposed by him and staff be adopted for the Senate bill.
4. Ask Senators Baker and Brock if they'll endorse the mandatory 20° slope restriction. Even if you take time for nothing else this week, please take a few minutes to write one or more of these letters. An unbelievable amount of effort will go down the drain and an unbelievable amount of land will be destroyed if the presently good House bill is lost!

The coal industry has already begun to agitate strongly against the 20° ban, saying that one-fourth of the total U.S. bituminous coal production would be eliminated in 6 months and that we would have a power crisis. Note that this is equivalent to claiming that about half of our stripmined coal comes from slopes above 20° {since ca. half of our total coal is presently deepmined} -- a patently ridiculous statement. Actually, the careful EPC study outlined in NEWSLETTER #49 (Item 4A) indicates that electric utilities relied on coal stripped and augured on slopes over 14° for only 11% of their fuel needs; therefore, the figure for slopes over 20° would be considerably less than 11%. (Appalachian Stripmine Information Service estimates

5.5%). This small percentage could quickly be made up by a switch-over to deep mining: the EPC study showed that even if all added costs were passed on to the consumer, it would cost less than 50¢/person/year to switch from contour-stripped coal to low-sulphur deep-mined coal (presumably less if the slope ban is 20° rather than 14°).

B. Comptroller General criticizes TVA and Interior Dept. on stripmining

The General Accounting Office (GAO) of the Comptroller General has just issued two reports on federal regulation of stripmining by TVA and the Interior Dept., respectively. The reports show that both agencies frequently fail to implement and enforce the regulations they have promulgated, and that the results are ineffective reclamation. The report on TVA, numbered B-114850 (ask your Congressman to send you a copy) is based on a review of 25 contracts, 13 of them for operations in mountainous areas, Included among its findings are the following:

(1) Four of the contracts contained a 28° slope restriction. Yet landslides had occurred at two of these, and "the strip-mining operations at one of these two sites experienced seven slides. TVA should consider further limiting mining on steep slopes." (Note: in a phone conversation last fall with TVA General Manager Lynn Seeber, we pointed out that landslides had occurred despite the 28° slope limitation and were told that this was not so -- only occasional "uncontrolled earth movement.")

(2) "Eight of the 25 mining sites that GAO visited had revegetation problems because of acid-bearing soil, loss of topsoil, or improper planting techniques". (Note: TVA does not consider the environmental impact individual operations might have before granting contracts.)

(3) "There were 46 contracts under which delivery had been completed for more than 2 years but under which the reclamation had not been done to TVA's satisfaction. Of these..., 18 had been completed for more than 4 years."

(4) TVA does not have adequate procedures for inspection; and inspection reports do not accord with the facts. GAO cites, e.g., a TVA report dated 9/2/71 on a Tennessee operation that "stated that toxic materials had been buried and that the area had been adequately backfilled and was ready for planting. Our visit to the same site in October 1971 showed that coal wastes had not been buried; in our opinion, the area had not been adequately reclaimed for revegetation."

C. Delay in issuance of rules and regulations under Tennessee stripmine law

Most people don't realize that although our new stripmine law was signed March 23, 1972, the state is still operating under the old rules and regulations which, as Sect. 26 of the Act states, "shall remain in effect until repealed or modified by the Commissioner." Hearings on proposed new rules and regulations were held June 20 (see NL #49, item 4E); however, so far nothing has been officially issued by the Commissioner. You may recall that one of the major Administration arguments for omitting from the bill items that we thought should be in it was that these items would be taken care of by the rules and regulations. We hope there will be no further delays in making available this essential tool to stripmine control.

D. Recommended reading

The Council on Economic Priorities has just completed a thorough, objective analysis of 131 electric power plants throughout the country, particularly with respect to

pollution control measures. The complete 600-page study, "The Price of Power" costs \$30; the summary "Economic Priorities Report", is \$5. Order from Council on Economic Priorities, 456 Greenwich Street, New York, N. Y. 10013.

3. CAST AN INFORMED VOTE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Only if our elected representatives can be made to realize that the electorate cares about how they have voted and/or plan to vote on environmental issues, can we hope to get subsequent support in legislative matters. TCWP is organizing a series of meetings between major candidates and representatives of Tennessee organizations concerned with our natural and wild areas. As this NEWSLETTER goes to the printer, representatives of 11 groups (TCWP, Audubon, URPA, EACOR, ETWWC, LWV, Sierra, SMHC, SOCM, TSRA, TTA) are meeting with Congressman Blanton. We are now working to arrange similar sessions with Congressman LaMar Baker and his opponent, Howard Sompayrac. Thursday, at a meeting with Sen. Baker, organized by TEC, TCWP will, of course, be represented.

While these meetings fulfill a necessary function, it is very important for you, the individual member, to approach the candidates prior to the election to ascertain their views on specific environmental questions. You will fulfill the double function of informing yourself and making the environment an issue.

An important book for informing yourself is "Nixon and the Environment" edited by J. Rathlesberger and written by 13 authors from different front-line environmental groups, all of them professional and none given to rash judgments. Order from Village Voice, 80 University Place, New York, N. Y. 10003; \$2.45 plus 25¢ for handling.

TCWP Board member, Bill Countess, will very shortly be mailing a questionnaire to all Tennessee candidates for U. S. Congress as well as for the state legislature and will tabulate the results for your information prior to the election. In the last NEWSLETTER, we listed for you the League of Conservation Voters' ratings of incumbents, and the voting record on key issues of state legislators. In this issue, we bring you Mike Frome's ratings from the September issue of FIELD & STREAM (pp 58-65). Each Senator and Representative received two scores: (a) based on their voting record on important environmental bills (8 for the Senate, 12 for the House -- not the same array as used for the LCV ratings, though there is some overlap); (b) based on the Congressmen's reply to a questionnaire and on Frome's consultation with trust-worthy sources in environmental organizations. (We hope you'll consult the original article for details.) For comparison, we also repeat the LCV ratings.

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Further, certain flood-control structures create more dangerous conditions by restricting the natural channel. The Task Force recommended flood-plain zoning, flood warning systems, flood proofing of buildings, and flood insurance. The advantages of these non-structural alternatives must be obvious to TCWP members, as must most of the impediments (pork-barrel philosophy etc.) that exist to their adoption. To circumvent some of these impediments, Eisel suggests that the responsibility of agencies such as the Corps be broadened to include non-structural measures; and that federal financial assistance be made available to state and local governments for initiation of non-structural measures (instead of federal funds only for dams, channelization, etc.).

A bill H.R. 13206 to establish a National Floodplain Policy was introduced by Congr. Ben Blackburn of Georgia. This would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with federal and state agencies, to encourage the dedication of the nation's floodplains as natural floodways, to serve as beneficial alternatives to structural solutions. Talk to your Congressman about this bill.

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	FIELD & STREAM		LCV	
	Voting record	Congressional scorecard*	Current	Previous
Sen. McGovern	67	71-80		
Sen. Baker	0	20-30		
Sen. Brock	29	31-45		

Representatives (Distr. in parentheses)

James Quillen (1)	10	20-30	0	7
John Duncan (2)	42	31-45	40	38
LaMar Baker (3)	0	20-30	0	-
Joe Evins (4)	30	< 20	15	30
Dick Fulton (5)	50	61-70	63	28
Bill Anderson (6)	50	61-70	61	65
Ray Blanton (7)	10	20-30	8	0
Ed Jones (8)	20	20-30	4	45
Dan Kuykendall (9)	20	31-45	15	0

* Frome's explanation of scores: 71-80 "Responsive; voting right and then some"
 61-70 "Faced in the right direction"
 31-45 "More often wrong than right, or in position to do a great deal more, still a glimmer of hope"
 20-30 "Need to wake up before it's too late"
 < 20 "Too late; activists the wrong way"

4. LOTS OF NEWS ABOUT TCWP

**** We've got an office. As of Sept. 1, we moved from the Russell's house to the basement lounge of the ORAU Library, This move facilitates (a) putting our voluminous materials in order; (b) employing a part-time secretary (see below); (c) using more volunteer help (we hope). Our mailing address remains TCWP, 130 Tabor Road, Oak Ridge, TN 37830; and our phone number remains 615, 482-2153.

**** We have arranged to hire a part-time secretary, namely Phyllis Sweeton, chosen by the Board from 3 members who applied for the job.

**** We have a lot of extra expenses: (a) purchased furniture for the office (file cabinet, shelves), (b) rental for the office, (c) secretary's wages. This is an extra reason for those who owe dues to pay up and for everyone to consider contributing something extra to TCWP (tax deductible!). If you are proud of our fine achievements and hopeful of more to come, this is a good way to show it.

**** We have made progress in organizing chapters (Will Skelton, organizer). A Chattanooga chapter under the chairmanship of Jonathan Gibson was formed July 19, when Bill and Lee Russell addressed interested persons kindly assembled and entertained by Mrs. Bradley Currey at her home. A Kingsport-area chapter is definitely in the offing; and Nashville members are seriously thinking about one too. Get in touch with Will Skelton (8029 Sabre Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919, 584-6225 or 546-0352) if you want to do something in your area.

**** Films in TCWP's Harvey Broome Memorial Film Series have been lent to groups in 9 states during the 1971/72 year, and about 300 film show dates were arranged with an estimated total audience of 6000 individuals (communication from John Judy). Remember the Film Series needs funds too.

5. DUCK: TVA EMBARRASMENTS

In an interview taped for the television show "Jaycee Question of the Week" (Ch. 3, Sundays), Lynn Seeber, General Manager of TVA, made certain statements pertaining to calculation of the benefit/cost ratio of the Duck River project which led the interviewers to conclude that the ratio would be less than 1.0, even if calculated with TVA figures, TVA subsequently requested that that portion of the tape be deleted, and declined the Jaycee invitation to retape the pertinent questions and answers for the show. Fred Michlink, the Jaycee interviewer released a statement about the incident that was printed in The Knoxville Journal of 9/2/72. We quote excerpts: "He (Seeber) further stated that enhanced employment should not be considered a direct benefit but rather a secondary benefit which is not considered in determining (if) a project is feasible... In the TVA environmental statement for the Duck River Project ... the enhanced employment factor, which amounts to \$1,970,000, is included in the annual benefits. ... However, if... (this is) ... placed under secondary benefits, as it should be...this makes the ratio of direct annual benefits to annual costs...only 0.844 to 1.0 and the project is therefore not feasible... Did TVA figure no one would unearth this discrepancy? Did they figure the taxpayers were so naive that this would go unseen?"

(Note: W. L. Russell and Lee Russell appeared on the same TV show a few weeks before Mr. Seeber, talking about the Duck River and other issues of interest to TCWP).

The lawsuit to halt construction of the Duck River dams was filed July 5 by EDF, with the Duck River Preservation Association and five individuals as co-plaintiffs. The following dam supporters have joined as interveners: the Upper Duck River Development Assn (UDRDA) and Agency and the Tennessee River Valley Association; the cities of Columbia, Shelbyville, Lewisburg, and Tullahoma; and two of the four watershed counties, Maury and Marshall. UDRDA was unable to get the support of the other two counties, Bedford and Coffee Counties, or of the City of Manchester. The suit was transferred from Knoxville to Federal District Court in Winchester. TVA asked that the suit be dismissed, and plaintiffs have replied to the motion for dismissal. TVA's answer to this was filed on the day of the deadline, Sept. 5, and the decision on a hearing is not expected for some time yet, While court action is pending, construction of the Normandy dam is going forward at great speed, and the river flow has now been diverted through a channel near the dam site. Rumors in the area are continuing that TVA is planning a power plant on one of the Duck reservoirs, and TVA is describing its exploratory activities in this connection as "routine".

Salvage archeological operations in the Normandy area, financed by TVA are uncovering "significant material", including evidence of a 3000-year old Indian dwelling, probably "one of the earliest aboriginal structures discovered so far in Tennessee". This is what the Tennessee Archeological Soc. Newsletter of Sept, 1972 has to say: "The idea that our archeological heritage can be preserved by the excavation of 10% of a site before it is flooded is like saying you "saved" the Mona Lisa from a burning building by ripping off six inches of canvas."

The August 19-20 Duck River float, co-sponsored by ETWWC, CCC, and TCWP, and ably led by Margo Stone and Roy Shipp was most successful. TCWP had sent official invitations to Gov. Dunn, Senators Baker and Brockland Congressman Blanton. Congr. Blanton sent a representative, Bud Dunn, who floated the Saturday portion. Gov. Dunn and Sen. Brock sent their apologies before the event, and Sen. Baker about two weeks after the event.

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6. EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE OPPOSES TELlico DAM;
FIRST TVA HEAD URGES WAGNER TO SHELVE PROJECT

(Background note: several months ago, after the EDF--APLTR suit was filed, TVA flew a Mr. Keeler, Phillips Co, and other members of the oil-rich Western Band of the Cherokees, from Oklahoma, to the Little-T area and elicited a statement to the effect that the Cherokees would not join the law suit as co-plaintiffs. Arthur Morgan, in his letter quoted below, states "to one who knows Cherokee affairs, Keeler does not represent the Cherokee people") A statement released 8/28/72 and signed by Chief Noah Powell and other tribal dignitaries was sent to TVA, Gov. Dunn, and area Congressmen. The statement reads:

"The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians opposes the Tellico Dam Project due to the fact that this is the last place that the Cherokees, Eastern and Western Bands history remains. The Little Tennessee and Tellico River was once the heart land of the Cherokee, the birth place of Sequoyah, the place that Sequoyah perfected the Cherokee language and alphabet and taught our people. We sincerely think that flooding a whole race of people's history and heritage off the map should deeply be reconsidered."

X Letters from you to Chief Noah Powell, Cherokee, N. C., commending him on his action would be most thoughtful.

Dr. Arthur E. Morgan, TVA's first chairman, and author of the book "Dams and Other Disasters" about the Corps of Engineers (see Newsletter No. 49, p. 13), recently visited Cherokee friends

in this area and subsequently wrote to Chairman Aubrey Wagner, "I am now writing to express my hope that the TVA will give careful consideration to the interests of the Cherokee people...Would it be possible to shelve the construction of the Tellico Dam, continuing to maintain title to the land now under TVA control and employ it in a program of mutual benefit to the Cherokees?...The very fact of the land having been purchased for the reservoir can enable one of the most needed acts of justice and consideration for the natives of the land by virtue of this particular land having been the historic site of the Cherokee civilization. By this course, the TVA might be in the legitimate position to reaffirm its concern for people."

7. OTHER RIVER NEWS

A. Obed

The initial BOR draft report which was completed in late June has been reviewed by the field task force, which subsequently held a meeting in Knoxville. The report is now undergoing minor revisions and will be submitted to the Scenic Rivers Study Group and the Secretary of the Interior, as well as to the Washington Office of BOR. If clearance by these Washington offices is received, the plan will be presented to the public later this year,

B. Big South Fork

Word from Sen. Baker's office indicates that the Big S. Fork Cooper-Baker bill, S.3349, will probably be incorporated into the omnibus Rivers and Harbors bill (which authorizes Corps of Engineers projects). This bill is late on the agenda this year, due to a staff retirement. In the meantime, the map is still under discussion between the Corps and the Senators, and we have seen only sketches of a couple of recent versions. We were promised the latest official version about a month ago by a Baker aide but

have not received it. According to a Louisville Courier-Journal article of 7/31/72, about 30,000 acres are in Kentucky (16,500 of them in public ownership) and 90-95,000 acres in Tennessee. Sen. Baker's staff indicates that "most" of our suggested changes in the language of the bill would be incorporated. Again, we do not know details. The NPS study ordered at the May 25 Senate Public Works Comm. hearing and completed in June (see NL #49, Item 3B), has apparently not reached the Senator's office.

An application to stripmine on Tarkiln Creek in the North Whiteoak Creek drainage was received by the Tenn. Dept. of Conservation. As of our latest conversation with the Stripmine Division, they were getting ready to deny the permit, but were expecting to be sued on this.

C. Harpeth

The Corps announced late in June that the proposed Three Islands Dam, as well as upstream or tributary reservoirs, were unfeasible. Hearings have recently been held on a Corps proposal for channel clearing and "snagging" a 5-mile stretch of river. The Corps recommended adoption of flood-plain zoning by local governments.

8. TENNESSEE CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

Commissioner Bill Jenkins has been nominated for the TVA Board by Pres. Nixon, but confirmation hearings in the Senate have not yet been held. It is generally agreed that Gov. Dunn will appoint Rep. Granville Hinton, of Savannah, as Jenkins' successor. Hinton's voting record, according to TSRA's conservation committee, is as follows. Scenic Rivers: although he co-sponsored and finally voted for the amended Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, he also voted for amendments to delete Obed, Clear Creek, Daddys Creek, Big S. Fork, and Clear Fork; in 1969 he co-sponsored the Buffalo deletion bill and voted for it; and in 1972 he voted for Harpeth deletion. Trails: voted for Tenn. Trails System Act of 1971. Natural Areas: voted for Natural Areas Preservation Act of 1971, Our check of 1972 stripmine tallies indicates that he was not among these voting on the side of conservationists on any one of five key occasions.

Some fine appointments have been made in the Planning Division (under Walter Criley). We have earlier mentioned Joe Gaines, the energetic State Trails Administrator. Somewhat later, Tim McCall was added to become Project Administrator for Natural Areas. And the most recent appointment is that of TCWP member Mike Countess, brother of Board member Bill Countess, to replace Doug Erdman as Project Administrator for Scenic Rivers. Mike has been working as City Landscape Architect in Oak Ridge, in which capacity he's had dealings with the TCWP Greenbelt Trails Committee. With these 3 tremendous young men on the job, we expect great things to happen with respect to implementation of the three important Acts in the drafting and enactment of which TCWP played such a large part.

Tim McCall is already going great guns on Natural Areas, the first of which will probably be 10,000 acres of Savage Gulf. The Nature Conservancy may assist with initial purchase of this area, for which \$1,000,000 in state funds will probably be available. Use of the area will be highly restricted, with entrance by permit only; and development will be limited to two picnic areas on the rim and trails in the Gulf. McCall is also looking into the possibility of acquiring Northrup Falls as a State Natural Area. Since this was included in the Big South Fork NRA proposal, state acquisition of Northrup Falls would allow federal acreage to be added elsewhere to the BSF plan.

State Rep, Victor Ashe has been appointed to the Advisory Committee of Tennessee Beautiful, Inc., a recently created group whose purpose it is "to help clean up Tennessee."

9. THE USFS AND EASTERN WILDERNESS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO AREAS CLOSE AT HAND

A. The Wilderness Act or new legislation for eastern areas?

The "in-lieu-of--wilderness" bills (H.R. 14392, S. 3699) on which we reported in NL #49 (item 2A) and which were based on the USFS premise that there is no wilderness in the East received a poor reception at House and Senate hearings held in the latter half of July. Nearly all of the approximately 40 witnesses called the bill an inferior substitute for the Wilderness Act of 1964. Just prior to the hearings, identical bills S. 3792 (Jackson, Buckely, and others) and H.R. 16044 (Dow) were introduced, which would bring about immediate inclusion of 11 major eastern forest areas in the National Wilderness Preservation System. (Tennessee lands included are in the "Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Wilderness", 14,935 acres, and in the "Cohutta Wilderness", about 39,000 acres -- about both of which see more below.) According to the Wilderness Society, conservationists interpret these events as an opportunity to extend protection of the Wilderness Act to areas in eastern national forests by building public support for their preservation.

TCWP presented testimony July 17 at the USFS-conducted "listening session" for Tennessee on "wildland values" in the forests of the South. Our statement, and virtually all the rest of those that were presented, stressed that the Wilderness Act of 1964 was the best instrument for preserving areas that presently meet the broad criteria for wilderness designation, and that there were several such areas in the region. The USFS recently sent a summary of all testimony received for the South and stated that over 300 persons made written or oral comments; "a large majority, 81%... favored a wild area concept," Although not expressly stated, the implication is that "a wild area concept" is an alternative to wilderness designation. If so, the Tennessee hearing was certainly representative! We would venture to guess, however, that many who testified elsewhere did not realize that this interpretation would be made -- having responded to an invitation that stated that the USFS wanted "to know how the National Forest System in the East and South could help meet the needs of the people which the National Wilderness Preservation System answers in the West."

B. The "roadless area inventory". _____ USFS believes only two eastern areas qualify for wilderness study.

There are about 35 million roadless acres in the National Forest System that presently have no protection. Former USFS Chief Ed Cliff in February 1971 directed an inventory of roadless areas to be completed. July 1, 1972, ostensibly for the purpose of selecting suitable areas for further study as wilderness. However, close followers of the program view it as a USFS attempt to block preservation for the bulk of the unprotected roadless areas. In evidence, they cite the fact that Regional Foresters have been authorizing timber sales in roadless areas that are not on the tentative selection list (which is expected to be announced by the end of this year). It is obvious that a proper inventory of potential wilderness study areas in 35 million acres cannot be made in a few months (by contrast it took the USFS over 8 years to make wilderness recommendations for only 5 million acres of "primitive areas"); nor can the opportunity for public involvement be more than a show. Consequently, the Sierra Club, NRDC, and other groups on June 16 filed suit against the USFS, and on August 16 obtained a preliminary injunction which stops the USFS from issuing any new timber contracts or building new logging roads in forest areas subject to the inventory. A group of forest products associations filed a countersuit that calls for \$10 million in actual damages and \$10 million in punitive damages.

TCWP on July 19 wrote to USFS Chief McGuire and asked for a copy of the list of inventoried areas that lie in the Cherokee National Forest or in national forests adjacent to it. Chief McGuire's reply, dated Aug. 28, states that "there are 2 areas in the Eastern U.S. which were inventoried as roadless, undeveloped, and containing 5,000 acres or more....Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock...and Bradwell Bay in Florida. These are being analyzed along with a long list of other inventoried areas to determine which should be selected as new wilderness study areas."

C. Slickrock-Kilmer and Cohuttas

Both of these areas are listed in the new eastern wilderness bill (Item A., above). In addition, the former is on the USFS inventory (Item B., above) and in Congr. Duncan's bill (see NL #49). TCWP wrote to the Tennessee Congressional delegation asking them to support the Duncan bill (this was prior to introduction of the eastern wilderness bill) and received the following replies. Congr. Anderson: "I want to assure you of my wholehearted support," Congr. Blanton: "be assured that I will join with him" (i.e., Duncan, should he ask for co-sponsorship), Congr. Evins: "it seems that this would be a most desirable development...." Congr. Jones: "I... see no reason why I can't support his bill," Congr. Kuykendall: "will give it every consideration". Sen. Brock: "In response to your suggestion, to introduce legislation to designate the area a wilderness area would be futile until the Forest Service has completed its study..." (Question: who moves whom?) Sen. Baker: "It is my greatest concern that the proposed establishment of a wilderness area not impede the completion of the Tellico Plains-Robbinsville Road."

* The Third Annual Rededication of Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest will be October 14th, 1 p.m. EDT. Meet at parking lot at entrance to proceed to Memorial Plaque. Five hikes will depart after the rededication: one short stroll, 3 overnight backpacks, (including one into the Citico drainage, parts of which some of us believe should be included in the Slickrock-Kilmer wilderness), and a dayhike on the following day (assemble 10 a.m.). There will also be a group supper Oct. 14 for ca. \$2/adult, \$1/child. Place and time will be furnished on receipt of reservation (send to Ted Snyder, P.O. Box 232, Greeneville, S. C. 24602).

The USFS held public listening sessions August 1 and 3 on the management of the Cohutta Mountain unit in Tennessee and Georgia, TCWP's new Chattanooga Chapter (see Item 4) was represented and sent testimony supporting the position of Trout Unlimited, the Alabama Conservancy, and the Sierra Club, which recommended wilderness designation under the 1964 Act for the area including all of Big Frog Mountain and the watersheds of both Jacks and Conasauga Rivers all the way down to Moneyham Creek.

D. Volunteers requested

* Since the problems of eastern wilderness and the USFS will continue to demand a great deal of TCWP time, we ask for interested volunteers to form a committee on the subject. Contact the editor.

10. ROADS IN SMOKIES AND SURROUNDINGS

The National Park Service is preparing to advertise for bids for construction of Section 9A4 of the "North Shore Road", which would extend the present road an additional 1.7 miles **into Forney Creek. Conservationists have consistently urged that the road be turned south** across Fontana Res. at the end of the present construction. TCWP has registered opposition with the Atlanta NPS office and has requested a copy of the draft environmental impact statement as soon as this is released.

The recently-formed Southcentral Tennessee Development District is promoting a Memphis-to-Asheville superhighway which would have to cross the mountains between Chattanooga and Asheville. An enquiry from Bob Brandt to Sen. Brock elicited the information that the route would follow the corridors of "Appalachian development highway K and part of A", as designated by the Appalachian Regional Commission. We shall have to watch this potential highway problem.

11. OAK RIDGE'S NORTH-RIDGE TRAIL, A STEP CLOSER TO
RECEIVING "NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL" DESIGNATION

A staff member of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation's (BOR) Southeast Regional Office, Bob Klant, inspected major portions of the 9-mile North Ridge Trail on September 7 (Delaware Trail and the Illinois-Key Springs section). TCWP 6 years ago conceived the idea of this trail, developed it, maintains it, and has been instrumental in trying to get official recognition for it; the active Oak Ridge Trails committee is chaired by Lily Rose Claiborne. Mr. Klant was obviously impressed with the beauty of the greenbelt, and the placement and condition of the trail. We still need to provide him with certain particulars, but there is little doubt that his report to Washington BOR will be highly favorable. What is needed now is for the City of Oak Ridge to make official application for National Recreation Trail designation, which, if approved, is granted by the Secretary of the Interior (no Congressional action required). So far, there are only three National Recreation Trails in the entire southeastern U.S.

12. OVERTON PARK HIGHWAY CONTROVERSY AT CRUCIAL POINT

The Federal Highway Administration and Tennessee Dept. of Transportation have prepared a draft statement as required by NEPA and by Sec. 4(f) of the Transportation Act on the controversial proposed I-40 crossing of Overton Park. Public hearings on this draft will be held in Memphis Sept. 14, and written comments are due by Sept. 25. According to Citizens to Preserve Overton Park, the draft statement omits "any recognition of the park as a park -- its need and contribution to the community in a sociological, educational, and recreational way." TCWP is attempting to assist CPOP elicit testimony on this draft and we have a copy for your inspection. Please call Mrs. Anona Stoner (192 Williford Street, Memphis, TN 38112) 901, 327-0735 if you can help in any way. As we have pointed out before, this is a precedent-setting case, and expressway-park controversies in several major cities hinge on its outcome. Our friends in Memphis also must have funds for their continuing court battle. Send tax-deductible contributions to Citizens to Preserve Overton Park, Inc., at the above address.

13. TCWP CO-SPONSORS DADDYS CREEK HIKE, SEPT. 30

Charlie Klabunde (TCWP treasurer) has organized this hike for SMHC, TTA, and TCWP, and we welcome the opportunity to see the most dramatic and most rugged portion of Daddys Creek which, with Obed and Clear Creek, is on its way to becoming part of our National Wild Rivers System. We'll be walking between steep sandstone bluffs in a deep gorge filled with huge boulders and beautiful vegetation.

Although the total distance is only 4-1/2 miles (1-1/2 mi down Yellow Creek and 3 mi along Daddys Cr.) this is definitely a rugged hike with rock-hopping and much scrambling through trackless rhododendron thickets or woods -- 6 hours for the fastest hikers. Absolutely required attire includes boots and long pants. Each hiker must carry enough water. Half-way down Daddys Creek, there is an optional climb-out point for those who do not wish to go all the way to Devil's Breakfast Table.

Driving instructions: Proceed to Crab Orchard, where you should be at 8:20 a.m. EDT - 7:20 a.m. local time, (If coming from the east, go I-40, then US 27 to Rockwood, then US 70 to Crab Orchard.) In Crab Orchard, at the crossroad where the I-40 exit comes in, turn north off US 70 to cross a railroad (odometer: zero), then immediately turn L and go 3 very short blocks to turn R by the White Church of God. The pavement soon turns to well-maintained gravel. At 7.8 miles bear R at T-intersection. One mile further, bear L at Y in front of school. At 10.2 miles, road crosses Yellow Creek bridge and, enters Catoosa. Temporarily park at road-side beyond bridge while we assess best car shuttle. Assembly time 8:45-9:00 EDT (= 7:45-8:00 CDT). (If you wish to drive in a group, leave Knoxville from Kingston Pike K-Mart lot, 7:20 a.m. EDT; or leave Oak Ridge from King's parking lot, 7:30 a.m. EDT.)

14. _ CALENDAR

- Sept. 16,17 - TSRA: Duck River trip. See 22 of the 54 miles that would be inundated by the Columbia Reservoir, (Call Pete Hollenbeck, Huntsville, Ala., 205, 881-6645)
- Sept. 22-24 - TSRA: Annual Meeting -- talks, floats, walks. Camp Hy-Lake on US 70S near Sparta (Call W. H. McLean, Nashville 747-3231 or Gallatin 452-2049)
- Sept. 23-24 - Cumb. Chapt. SC: Red River Gorge backpack (Call Ron Crouch, Louisville, Ky., 502-451-6156)
- Sept. 24-27 - EPA's "National Environmental Information Symposium," Cincinnati, Ohio (Call G. M. Gigliotti, EPA, Cincinnati 513, 871-1820)
- Sept. 30 - SMHC, TCWP, TTA: Daddys Creek hike (See Item 13 this NL)
- Oct. 8 - SMHC: Abrams Falls via Pine Mtn, (Call Paul Threlkeld, Knoxville 577-1211)
- Oct. 11 - TCWP: Mike Frome lecture, U.T. (See Item 1 this NL)
- Oct. 13-16 - Cancellation. The 2nd Natl. Trail Symposium originally scheduled for these dates has been postponed until June 1973
- Oct. 14-15 - Third Annual Rededication of Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, group supper and 5 hikes (See Item 9C this NL)
- Oct. 14-15 - TSRA, TVCC: Big S. Fork fall color trip with canoe camping (Call Dick Wooten, Nashville, 352-1247)
- Oct. 21-22 - Cumb. Chapt.: SC: Backpack on Mischa Mokwa Trail, Cumberland Gap Natl Hist. Park (Call Dudley Martin, Princeton, Ky. 502, 388-7953)
- Oct. 21-22 - SMHC: Gregory Bald hike. (Call Dick Ketelle, Oak Ridge, 483-5272)
- Oct. 22 - SMHC: Greenbrier Pinnacle hike (Call Eleanor DuBois,, Kingston 376-9813)
- Oct. 22-25 - Annual meeting; Southeastern Assn, of Game and Fish Commissioners, Knoxville, Regency Hyatt Hotel (Call Harold Warvel, Nashville 741-1431)

15. NEW IMPETUS FOR DAM PROMOTERS AND NEW COUNTER ARGUMENTS

The flood damage from Hurricane Agnes has led to a big move to resurrect old flood control projects and to plan new ones. Locally, in a July 3 release, TVA's Reed Elliott states that if Agnes' heavy rainfall had occurred here, it "would have caused extensive damage in spite of all that the TVA flood control system could do, especially at Chattanooga. This emphasizes the desirability of additional reservoirs... such as Tellico..."

Dr. Leo M. Eisel, Staff Scientist for the Environmental Defense Fund, has prepared a commentary that suggests a positive course of action for federal flood control agencies. He points to the 1966 President's Task Force on Flood Control Policy finding that despite huge sums spent on flood control projects, annual flood losses in the U.S. were still increasing. (They have increased 10-fold since 1966.) This results partly from accelerated development in the flood plains below the dam and a subsequently higher potential for disaster should the storage capacity be exceeded by a new flood.

(Continued on bottom half P. 4)