

TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR WILDERNESS PLANNING

*Newsletter No. 58, October 29, 1973

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1. ANNUAL MEETING: NEW FILM, REPORTS, ELECTION

Time: Monday, November 19, 8:00 p.m.

Place: Oak Ridge Civic Center, Meeting Rooms A & B (behind the fountain plaza),
Oak Ridge Turnpike (1-1/2 blocks east of Hiway 62 intersection)

Program:

- (1) Short reports on the year's efforts and achievements
- (2) Election of 1974 officers, board, and nominating committee
(see write-up of candidates, item 14, below)
- (3) Film "The Flooding River," one of our recent additions to the Harvey Broome
Memorial Film Series. This 34-minute color-sound film, a study of the inter-
relationship of flooding and riverine ecology, shows that the floodplain is an
integral part of the river. There are important lessons for our growing
efforts in behalf of land-use planning.
- (4) Refreshments and social time.

Though only members can participate in the election, the rest of the meeting is open
to the public. Bring friends and prospective members to hear about TCWP and to enjoy
the program.

2. OBED: REPORT ON HEARINGS; FURTHER ACTION

Both Obed hearings (Crossville, Sept. 20; Wartburg, Sept. 21) were well attended. At both
hearings, BOR gave an introductory talk (on the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act in general, and
on the Task Force findings on the Obed study in particular), then opened the meeting for
formal statements, and concluded with an informal period during which Task Force represen-
tatives answered questions from the audience. At both hearings, the overwhelming weight
of the formal oral statements was in favor of the Task Force proposal for national wild
and scenic river designation. At Crossville: 21 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 questioned. At
Wartburg: 36 in favor (including 14 Morgan County residents and/or landowners), 8 opposed,
1 questioned. Those who spoke in favor of the proposal stressed most of the points
contained also in the TCWP testimony (see below).

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Those few who were opposed consisted mostly of two groups. One group (mainly in Wartburg) were motivated by stripmine interests or by long-standing hatred of "outsiders." The other small group, consisting of people who own property in the river corridor, were fanned by some very vocal "absentee landlords" from Oak Ridge. These people claim that they are taking good care of the land and don't see why they should turn it over to an influx of the general public. They refuse to look into the future and to understand that the entire river system cannot be protected through scattered benevolent private ownership. Not all Obed landowners are motivated by preservation of the watershed. Besides, all of us must die; others may be forced to sell. What would happen to the land then? Stripminers are anxious to move in. The Dept. of Conservation has so far been able to withhold stripmine permits for the duration of the Wild River study; but if challenged in court, they could be forced to grant such permits. Second-home and recreation developments are already threatening on some parts of the watershed; and oil exploration could quickly destroy the gorges. Finally, just the general pressures of an expanding population are bound to mar the values we now hold so dear. Only through positive action by a government agency charged with preserving the rivers can we hope to limit overuse and to prevent wrong use.

Although the deadline for written testimonies to BOR has passed, we are now entering the phase where political activity becomes important. The Secretary of the Interior will make a recommendation to the Congress, and a bill will have to be introduced in both Houses (preferably by Tennessee Senators and Congressmen) that will add the rivers to the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers. Support from the State level will be very helpful, too. It is important for us to contact the following key figures: Senators Howard H. Baker, Jr. and Wm. E. Brock III (Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510); Congressmen LaMar Baker, Joe L. Evins, and your own Congressman (House Office Bldg., D.C. 20515); Asst. Secretary Nathaniel P. Reed, and National Park Service Director Ronald Walker (both at U.S. Dept. of the Interior, D.C. 20240), and Governor Winfield Dunn (State Capitol Bldg., Nashville, TN 37219). TCWP members are writing to:

- (1) Endorse the task force finding that about 100 miles of Obed, Clear Creek, and Daddys Creek are worthy of inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and should be classified as "wild" (except for the upper portion of Daddys Creek which is "scenic").
- (2) Endorse the task force recommendation that 2 miles of Emory be added; and suggest, also, addition of Whites Creek, Yellow Creek, Otter Creek, Little Clear Creek.
- (3) Ask for addition of a buffer strip outside the line-of-sight boundary, to be purchased through scenic easements that would allow continuation of current farming.
- (4) Ask for master-planning and management by the National Park Service (the agency with most sensitivity for wild areas), with participation by the State.
- (5) Ask that development be minimal and directed to protecting the wilderness character of the resource.
- (6) Ask that the managing agency be required and able to limit the nature and magnitude of visitor use. Specifically: no motorized vehicles on the river or off-road; visitation within the gorge to be limited to not more than 10 times the present use.

Members of TCWP's Chattanooga Chapter have met with Congr. LaMar Baker to urge him to act on Obed legislation, and found his reaction encouraging.

3. DUCK RIVER: THE EFFORT IS INVIGORATED

At the end of September, the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) officially withdrew from the Duck River law suit, leaving the Duck River Preservation Association (DRPA) as sole plaintiff. This action was due to the fact that EDF had become over-extended with regard to committed manpower and funds; but EDF had not changed in its conviction that the Duck River case was an excellent one from a legal point of view. Far from unduly discouraging

the local effort, EDF's withdrawal resulted in a renewed resolve to continue the fight, and stimulated a great deal of activity by DRPA, TCWP, and other Tennessee groups. EDF, on being approached by Bill Russell and by DRPA, agreed to continue providing an attorney to handle the pre-trial conference, which was scheduled within only 3 weeks after EDF's withdrawal. We now have a local attorney on the case full-time. This fact, and the initial success of a Tennessee fund-raising drive, have greatly impressed EDF with the strength of the local and state-wide support, and there is now an excellent chance for a renewal of EDF's assistance. The trial is set for January 14 in the federal court at Winchester.

X All of us who know anything at all about the proposed dams have no trouble in recognizing that they are probably the most unjustifiable of TVA's water resource projects. We hope TCWP members will help in the following ways:

- (1) Send a contribution to help with the Duck River court case. Lawsuits cost a mint; and there'll be advertising and other expenses too. Make your check payable to TCWP, Inc., and mark it "For the Duck R." (send to TCWP, 130 Tabor Road, Oak Ridge, TN 37830). TCWP has already contributed \$300 from the organization treasury, plus \$200 from individual members.
- (2) Agree to serve on a TCWP Duck River issues committee. We'll need help with preparing expert testimonies, getting the facts before the public, contacting politicians, maintaining liaison with other groups. Let the editor know if you can serve.

4. OTHER RIVER NEWS

A. Set-back on the Little T

Those who attended the Tellico lawsuit during the week of Sept. 17 were thoroughly impressed by how superbly the anti-dam case was handled by EDF attorneys Jon (Rick) Brown and Wally Duncan, and how very good the testimony was (we heard Walter Criley singled out for special praise). On October 25, however, Judge Taylor ruled that TVA's environmental impact statement meets the requirements of NEPA, and he lifted the injunction that had stopped work on the dam since January 1972. The plaintiffs are appealing the ruling to the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals at Cincinnati. It is not yet clear whether the injunction can be re-imposed until the appeal is heard.

B. State Scenic River progress; and help needed

X In the October issue (Volume 39, No. 10) of the Tennessee Conservationist, Mike Countess, Project Administrator for Scenic Rivers, summarizes some highlights from the content and implementation of the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (for passage of which, incidentally, he credits TCWP and TSRA -- there's a picture of the Russells in a canoe, too). TSRA president, Juanita Guinn, speaking at the Oct. 20 Intergroup Conference, gave the following progress report. Hiwassee: land acquisition virtually complete. Roaring R. system: aerial surveys and most land-owner contacts have been made, task force being formed. French Broad: aerial survey complete. Hatchie: surveys in progress. Collins: slated for master planning in 1974. Conasauga: state withholding action, pending outcome of Eastern Wilderness bill (see item 5). Badly needed are two additional project administrators, under Mike, to make the all-important land-owner contacts (Mike has prepared an excellent popular brochure on the contents of the Act, in an attempt to prevent the deliberate misinformation of landowners that led to loss of the Buffalo and Harpeth.) We can help by asking our state legislators to contact Ted Welch, Commissioner of Finance Administration, and ask that funds for this personnel addition be released. Or write to Mr. Welch directly. We cannot afford to lose any more rivers from the Act; and the longer land acquisition is delayed, the greater the adverse developments on our rivers.

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C. National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; Nolichucky addition

The Senate has passed a bill that would add 5 years to the moratorium on federal water resource projects for rivers in the study category (including our Obed and Buffalo -- on which the main threats, at this point, are from developments other than dams). A similar bill (H.R. 4864) has been reported by the House Interior Committee and may soon come to a floor vote. The Senate bill also contains a few minor amendments to the 1968 Act. Thus, (a) any future river studies would have to be completed within 3 full fiscal years from date of authorization; (b) any river receiving a negative recommendation from the study would retain its moratorium for 3 years to allow time for possible congressional action. -- Congressman James Quillen (R., Tenn.) has introduced H.R. 10771, which would add the entire main stem of the Nolichucky in Tenn. and N.C. to the study category. Hearings on this and other river-adding bills were held Oct. 29 and 30, but the record will stay open 2 weeks. Send a brief testimony (3 copies) supporting H.R. 10771 to Hon. Roy A. Taylor, Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515. Send a copy to American Rivers Conservation Council, 324 C Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. I am sure all of us will also want to express our thanks to Congr. Quillen.

D. Stream pollution in Tennessee

The state of Tennessee has decided that it will not issue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits, and these are handled directly by EPA in Atlanta. Consequently we are the recipients of two voluminous sets of materials: (a) Public Notices, mailed about twice a month by EPA on applications by industries and municipal sewage systems for permits to discharge waste into specific Tennessee streams; and (b) monthly reports on activities of the Tenn. Water Quality Control Board. Undoubtedly we should comment on at least some of the proposed discharges -- but, as it is, we don't even have time to look over the voluminous notices. Any volunteers? We also draw your attention to the "Water Pollution Control Handbook: a Citizens Guide ..." and "Recycling on the Land: an Alternative for Water Pollution Control" --- both published by the Project on Clean Water, NRDC, and available in our library.

5. EASTERN WILDERNESS: THE BILL IS AGAIN IN JEOPARDY

Whatever our quarrel with boundaries of individual areas, all wilderness advocates agree that the main body of S.316 is an excellent bill for creating wilderness in eastern national forests without jeopardizing western wilderness. A new threat has now arisen as a result of the Senate Agriculture Committee's claim that it, rather than the Interior Committee, has jurisdiction over the bill. In order to avoid a jurisdictional fight, joint referral of S.316 has been agreed to, and the bill will move to the Agriculture Committee after it has been favorably reported by the Interior Committee -- probably this week. A recent statement by Sen. Talmadge (D., Ga.), chairman of the Agriculture Committee, indicates that he will lean very heavily on the U.S. Forest Service for advice. USFS attitude is revealed by the Service's own bill, S.938 (now S.2487) which (a) leaves it to the USFS, rather than the Congress, to determine whether an area shall be studied for wilderness designation; (b) allows cancellation of the study moratorium for any given area without giving Congress a chance to act; and (c) establishes separate definitions for eastern and western wilderness (disturbance by the works of man is allowed for the former but not the latter). This last item is of particular importance since it would make it virtually impossible to add new western areas to the Wilderness Preservation System. It is very important for all of us to contact Senators Baker and Brock without delay, and urge them to persuade members of the Senate Agriculture Committee to accept the good language of S.316 prepared by the Interior Committee. (For more particulars on this bill see NL #57, item 3, and our special mailing of August 22.)

Good news on the eastern wilderness front is that there is now agreement on all sides that the Haze Lead routing of the Tellico Plains-Robbinsville road is to be dropped in favor of some routing that will not split Joyce Kilmer from Slickrock. This proposal, originally made in 1972 by Ted Snyder for Joyce Kilmer Wilderness Advocates (of which TCWP is a member) to Mayor Hall of Tellico Plains, seems to have been accepted by the Federal Highway Administration, and by Senators Helms (R., N.C.) and Brock (R., TN), both of whom had earlier opposed the Slickrock-Kilmer Wilderness because of the road problem. Sen. Brock, however, was unwilling to go as far as asking for "instant" wilderness status for Citico, which will thus probably remain in the study category. He asked that the Big Frog Mtn. and "Section A" areas, part of the 27,000 acres cut from the Cohutta Wilderness proposal, be added in study status.

6. STRIPMINE NEWS

A. Federal bill: good Senate bill passes; House effort needed

On October 9, the U.S. Senate passed 82:8 a stripmine regulatory bill that is a vast improvement from last year's Senate bill (which never came to the floor), and better than the 1972 House bill. Senator Baker voted for the bill; Sen. Brock did not vote. This coal-only bill calls for the establishment of a special Office within the USDI, which would issue regulations based upon which states would develop their state programs (to be approved by the new Office); would inspect state programs; and would conduct a federal program on federal lands, or where states failed to develop or enforce a program. Among the most important features of the bill is the requirement to "backfill ... and grade to restore the approximate original contour of the land with all highwalls, spoil piles, and depressions eliminated ..." Furthermore, when "mining on steep slopes, no ... spoil material ... [may] be placed on the natural downslope below the bench ... except ... spoil material from the initial cut." Topsoil must be segregated and preserved. There are good and specific provisions for public involvement, such as the chance for any person to ask for hearings prior to the granting of the permit and prior to release of part of the bond. States must, within 3 years, complete an initial review of potential surface mining areas and make decisions on which, if any, areas are unsuitable for surface mining. Broad criteria for making this decision are given in the bill. The bill bars stripmining in units of the National Park System, Wildlife Refuge System, National Wild and Scenic Rivers and Trails Systems, and in National Recreation Areas. Among important amendments that passed is one that prohibits stripping where surface and sub-surface rights belong to different owners, with the federal government owning the latter; but a proposal by Sen. Cook of Kentucky (and supported by Sen. Baker) that would have required written consent of the surface owner where the subsurface rights are privately owned failed to pass. Sen. Case managed to insert an important finding to the effect that "the overwhelming percentage of the Nation's coal reserves can only be extracted by underground mining methods, and it is therefore essential to the national interest to insure the existence of an expanding ... underground mining industry;" \$20 million annually were authorized for research on improvements in underground mining methods, and safety and health. Sen. Baker introduced and passed 5 strengthening amendments. Perhaps his most important action consisted in providing strong arguments against an amendment that would have destroyed the "original contour" provision, and which subsequently lost 62:29 (Sen. Brock did not vote); and in establishing legislative history (i.e. clarifying the Congress' intent) with regard to a number of ambiguous and potentially dangerous provisions. We hope you will express your enthusiastic thanks to Sen. Baker for his contribution to the passage of this strong bill.

The House bill is still in committee, where industry and utilities are hoping to bottle it up on the assumption that power shortages during a cold winter could lead to sentiment for weakening the measure. There is, however, a good chance for the bill to come to the

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floor before the recess. It is therefore very important for you to let your Congressman know of your support for a bill at least as strong as the Senate bill. Remind him that only 2% of Appalachia's coal reserves are strippable -- 98% must be deepmined. As a minimum, he should vote for provisions that would (a) require restoring the land to approximate original contour, with highwalls eliminated; (b) require that no spoil be placed on an outslope steeper than 20°; (c) allow for public hearings prior to granting of a permit and prior to bond release; (d) contain provisions for designating certain lands as unsuitable for mining. Your letters are particularly important in view of the fact that those charged with conserving Tennessee's natural resources are lobbying against a regulatory bill (see B, below).

B. TVA and Tenn. Commissioner of Conservation lobby against federal regulatory bill

TVA, which has for years given lip service to legislative regulation of stripmining, is leaving no stone unturned to oppose such legislation now that it is in the offing. It is reported that TVA staff at the highest level tried personally to dissuade Sen. Jackson from the "original contour" provision when the bill was still in committee. Just days before it came to the Senate floor, TVA Chairman Wagner issued extensively publicized statements to the effect that present coal stockpiles at TVA steam plants are low, and that if pending legislation "should become law, we don't know where we could obtain the necessary coal to keep the TVA power system going." Finally, in the floor debate on the bill, Sen. Allen (D., Ala.) read a lengthy statement from TVA in support of an amendment that would have gutted the "original contour" provision, but which was defeated (see A., above). TVA's efforts are now directed toward weakening the House bill.

TCWP issued a statement in response to Chairman Wagner's, in which it pointed out that there was 40 times as much deepminable as strippable coal available in the present TVA coal purchase area; that, with the present distribution of coal purchases, the supply of mountain-stripped coal would be exhausted in 15-20 years -- even on the unlikely assumption of no increases in power consumption -- so that the agency will have to switch to deep-mining and area mining very soon in any case; and that it is obviously not due to any legislative restrictions that TVA stockpiles are already low.

The same facts contradict the following lobbying against federal bills that is being carried out at a high state level. Tennessee Conservation Commissioner, Granville Hinton, is reported by the Nashville Tennessean's Washington Correspondent (9/12/73) to have written to members of the Tennessee House delegation "warning that excessive 'zeal' to protect the environment 'could aggravate our so-called energy crisis'" and claiming that the pending House bill "would 'virtually eliminate surface mining in Tennessee.'" Comm. Hinton's opposition was especially directed toward a possible 20° slope limitation, the restoration to original contour, and the \$500/acre permit fee. The Governor's former environmental advisor, Dr. Thackston, in a similar vein, has repeatedly assured Tennessee's congressional delegation that existing state laws are quite sufficient to curb stripmine abuses.

C. The state scene: prospects for legislation; new regulations; taxes

High hopes that the legislative stripmine tour of August 1 and 2 (see NL #57, item 4A) would result in greater readiness to strengthen state legislation received a blow when the House Conservation Committee met Sept. 19 (Lily Rose Claiborne observed for TCWP). Members were exposed to sustained arguments by the Stripmine Division and by Dr. Thackston to the effect that Tennessee's 1972 law is practically perfect and needs no improvement. The Dept. of Conservation has even produced a new film "Until the Earth Lets Go" (they must have been hurting from SOCM's "The Stripping of Appalachia") which leaves the uninformed viewer with the impression that stripping is the only practical and cheap way to get coal. The only one of our proposed set of amendments (H.B. 390) that looks as though it might have a chance when the General Assembly reconvenes is the one requiring an operator to hold a wastewater discharge permit before he is granted a stripmine permit.

[Note: TCWF et al.'s writ-of-mandamus suit on this subject against the Division of Water Quality Control -- see NL #57, item 4B -- will be heard Nov. 2 in Judge Drowota's court in Nashville: watch the papers!]

The Department of Conservation is currently drafting changes in the Rules and Regulations pertaining to the stripmine law. The draft will probably be available early in November, and if you are interested in commenting, be sure to request a copy from the Department (2611 West End Ave., Nashville, TN 37203). We must be on the lookout against any weakening changes; and, conversely, we must try to get presently harmful practices, like the head-of-hollow fill, eliminated. Hearings will be held and the new regulations finalized by the first of the new year.

At the Sept. 19 meeting of the House Conservation Committee, Rep. Ed Williams (R., Shelby) attempted to get the Committee to request an investigation by the Comptroller into tax payments of various sorts by stripmine operators (which, supposedly, make up a \$50 million industry in Tennessee!). The Committee refused; but other legislators -- Senators Ray Baird and Carl Koella, Representatives Keith Bissell, Mike Murphy, and Sandra Clark -- joined Rep. Williams in his official request. These 6 certainly deserve our thanks.

7. LAND-USE PLANNING PROGRESS

On the federal level, House action on the Land Use Policy and Planning Assistance Act will hopefully come before the Christmas recess, and our Congressmen should be strongly urged to support this bill. (The corresponding Senate bill passed in June.) We must point out that the bill does not -- as opponents have claimed -- put the federal government into the business of regulating land use. The substance of land-use decisions will be determined by local governments under broad guidelines and by the states. The bill is a grant-in-aid program to the states, and it recognizes that the states have the authority to play some role in decisions that are of more than local significance and which are presently being made purely locally without taking account of the broader interest. Any examples of present abuses that you can cite from your own experience will help convince your Congressman of the need for this legislation.

On the state level, the Subcommittee on Land Use Planning of the House State and Local Government Committee, under the chairmanship of Rep. Tom Jensen (R., Knox), is conducting public hearings on the need for state legislation. By the time you receive this, hearings will already have been held in Nashville and Memphis. But you are urged to testify Nov. 5, 7:00 p.m. in Knoxville or Nov. 13, 7:00 p.m. in Chattanooga. The Knoxville hearing will be at the Cedar Bluff Middle School; the Chattanooga hearing at the Interstate Life and Accident Insurance Co. Auditorium, 540 McCallie Ave. If you need further information, contact Bob Farmer, 99 Reservoir Rd., Norris TN 37828, phone 494-7908.

The TCWP Land-use Planning Committee, chaired by Bob Farmer, presented a statement to the State Tax Modernization and Reform Commission meeting at Knoxville, Sept. 17, urging adoption of a land tax system designed to enhance the esthetic and economic benefits derived from wild lands. TCWP also co-sponsored 2 October meetings with SOCM and Fair Taxes Now to discuss land taxation, particularly with regard to coal lands.

The citizens' ad hoc working group, also chaired by Bob Farmer, has prepared working papers (a) on data bases and (b) on critical land use problems in Tennessee, and has identified key elements of a state land-use policy. It also prepared a resolution on "Land Use Planning and Guidance System for Tennessee," which was slightly modified at, and then adopted by, the 2nd Intergroup Conference (see item 12). The resolution, among other things, proposes establishment of a temporary legislative commission on land-use planning, and specifies its format and operational mandates.

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8. TENNESSEE CAPSULES

A. Smokies: gear up for a new effort!

The report by the NPS Master Planning Team (NL #55, item 2; NL #56, item 2; NL #57, item 6A) is not yet out, but there are fairly reliable rumors to the effect that the wilderness proposal will contain significant exclusions for the projected North Shore Road and for the Parsons Branch Road. In the meantime, many groups, led by SMHC, are working on a unified wilderness proposal that will represent the consensus of the conservation community. NPS Director, Ronald Walker, visited the Park October 6, and TCWP requested a short period of his time for a meeting with conservation representatives. We were, however, told that he was coming on a rush visit at the request of Congressmen Quillen and Duncan to discuss road repairs on TN 73, and that he would definitely meet with us on the occasion of his next visit. News reports of his Oct. 6 visit, however, indicate that Mr. Walker did not succeed in restricting the subject matter of his visit to road repairs: he was apparently also subjected to much propaganda for another transmountain road.

B. Honor Farm land near Frozen Head State Park to become industrial park

The State is selling Morgan County some Highway-62 frontage (reports vary from 55 to 122 acres) at the entrance to the beautiful valley leading into Frozen Head State Park. The county plans to use this land, (formerly part of the prison Honor Farm) as an industrial park. We hope that the conditions of sale will at least specify non-polluting industry. Much of the remaining Honor Farm land will probably be used as a tree nursery by the Forestry Division of the Tenn. Dept. of Conservation -- a much more compatible use.

C. Overton Park

Because the Tennessee Department of Transportation has claimed that former Secretary Volpe's decision against the Overton Park route for I-40 was invalid since (they claim) he did not present specific alternatives, Citizens to Preserve Overton Park are back in court and need more financial support. As in the past, CPOP contributions (tax exempt) should be sent to Mrs. Anona Stoner, 192 Williford St., Memphis, TN 38112. CPOP also requests that you write to Secretary Claude Brinegar, Dept. of Transportation, D.C., opposing the Overton Park route for I-40.

D. State Legislative Newsletter available

A weekly newsletter on the proceedings of the 1974 General Assembly will be published, with a preliminary issue available Nov. 15. If you are interested in the status of bills and voting records, send \$3.50 to CCLC Newsletter, 1815 Parkway Towers, Nashville, TN 37219.

9. WATER RESOURCE PLANNING: A NEW BALLGAME -- BUT OUR WORK IS NOT OVER

New Principles and Standards for Planning Water and Related Land Resources, prepared by the Water Resources Council (WRC), went into effect 10/25/73, and will replace Senate Document 97 as the official set of procedures federal agencies must follow in planning water-related projects. You may recall that TCWP urged its members to comment on the WRC draft early in 1972 (Newsletter #46, item 5). As a result of excellent input by many conservationists, the new Principles represent a very considerable improvement over Senate Doc. 97. It is up to us to keep the agencies in compliance.

The complete text of the new Standards is published in the Federal Register for 9/10/73 (Vol. 38, No. 174, Part III). Highlights are as follows. The new discount rate (used in calculation of cost for the benefit/cost ratio) is now 6-7/8% (a considerable improvement over the 3-1/4% advocated by water developers) but can change up or down annually by 0.5% steps, depending on cost of federal borrowing. Agencies must formulate alternative plans, one of them having "enhancement of environmental quality" as the major planning objective. Much greater opportunities for public participation is provided through the

* requirement for early public meetings and the proviso that all plans, data analyses, and other information must be made available to the public. Each agency head is given the discretion to have his old (authorized but unfunded) projects re-evaluated under the new Principles. Since it is likely that most of these old projects would turn out to be unjustifiable upon review, agency heads will undoubtedly not choose this course, unless forced to. We must prevail on OMB to require that such re-evaluation under the new Principles become standard procedure. Write: Roy Ash, Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office Bldg., D.C. 20503.

* We must also urge the WRC (Rogers Morton, Chairman, WRC, 2120 L Street NW, D.C. 20037) to complete draft legislation on cost-sharing reforms in accordance with the proposals of the now-disbanded National Water Commission (see NL #57, Item 7D). If "identifiable beneficiaries" had to "bear an equitable share of cost commensurate with beneficial effects received," many of our pork-barrel projects would never see the light of day. Developers, realizing this, are trying to get Congress to reject the NWC report; and 100 Congressmen signed a letter to the President opposing cost-sharing. Among these were Tennessee's John Duncan, Joe Evins, Dick Fulton, and Ed Jones. You may wish to express your disapproval to these gentlemen. Our remaining Congressmen should hear of your support for the NWC's cost-sharing proposal. The NWC summary report is in the TCWP library.

* Incidentally, the Corps of Engineers is preparing an inventory of all dams which are higher than 25 feet or impound more than 50 acre-feet. It is estimated that there are over 60,000 dams of this type in the country!

10. EPC HELPS US -- NEEDS HELP

* The Environmental Policy Center, more than any other Washington group, has been invaluable to TCWP's efforts. Louise Dunlap and John McCormack on the stripmine front have provided fantastic amounts of pertinent research, worked closely with the staffs of legislative committees in arriving at meaningful and viable legislation, and have coordinated a strong grass-roots effort. Brent Blackwelder and Bill Painter have performed similar functions in the water-resource and river-protection field. Dave Calfee is right on top of land-use legislation. Without these brilliant and dedicated young people, we and other local groups could literally not function in federal endeavours. Yet their existence is purely hand-to-mouth. EPC is not a membership organization -- they are dependent on donations; and since they are definitely a lobbying group, gifts to them are not tax-exempt. EPC's survival is now precarious. If you can support only one national group, we urge you to choose EPC! [EPC, 324 C Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20003]

11. NATIONAL NEWS CAPSULES

-- Rep. John Saylor (R., Pa) died Oct. 28. The ranking Republican on the House Interior Committee, he was one of the strongest voices for wilderness. His passing will be sorely felt.

-- Russell E. Train, who left CEQ to head up EPA (replacing Ruckleshouse -- remember what happened to him?), in a recent speech defended environmentalists against industry's effort to discredit them. "There is a well organized campaign afoot to propagandize the public into believing that our environmental concerns ... are the cause of major economic and energy problems ... The real anti-growth forces ... are those who continually oppose environmental progress."

-- The chairmanship of CEQ was filled by the appointment of Russell E. Peterson (from Russell Train to Russell Peterson -- what's in a first name?). As governor of Delaware, Peterson was instrumental in getting a strong Coastal Zone Management Act enacted.

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-- As a postscript to the disastrous Alaska pipeline vote last summer, we give you the voting record of Tennesseans on the important amendments -- those whose outcome injured NEPA. Voting against the interests of NEPA (i.e. for the Gavel amendment in the Senate; and against the Dellenback amendment in the House) were Senators Baker and Brock, and Congressmen LaMar Baker, Beard, Fulton, Jones, Kuykendall, and Quillen. Evins did not vote. Only Congr. Duncan deserves our thanks for staying on the side of NEPA.

-- Pres. Nixon has given his blessing to a report released 9/24 by the President's Advisory Panel on Timber and the Environment, which recommends that timber sales from national forests be raised. Most conservation groups (e.g. National Audubon, Sierra Club, FOE) believe that the present allowable cut (13.6 billion board feet) is already way too high, and that all the other resources that only our public forests can provide (and that belong to all citizens) are being seriously jeopardized in favor of timber-industry interests. It is of interest that the Advisory Timber Panel included the executive vice president of the National Forest Products Assn., principal lobbying group for the industry.

12. TCWP SHORT ITEMS

-- Jack Gibbons, a TCWP Life Member, and founder of the Harvey Broome Memorial Film Series, has become Director of Energy Conservation, USDI. Jack was Director of the ORNL-NSF Environmental Program, and subsequently headed the U.T. Environmental Center. He joins the list of TCWP members who have recently assumed important public office (Tony Koella and Mike Countess are others).

-- Several TCWP members attended the 2nd Intergroup Conference, arranged by TEC Oct. 20-21 (TCWP arranged the first one, last January). Hal Smith, Don Todd, Lee Russell, Bob Farmer, Fred & Phyllis Sweeton, Reid Gryder, Louise Currey, and Helen Mason primarily represented TCWP, and there were also members among those who primarily represented other groups. Bob Farmer and Lee Russell were in charge of arranging information sessions and workshops on land-use planning and stripmining, respectively. Several resolutions were passed on these and other subjects. Their substance is embodied in some of the action suggestions in this newsletter.

-- Robert Baker, BOR's S.E. Regional Director, kindly pinchhit for Nat Reed (who had serious illness in his immediate family) at TCWP's October 19 meeting. His talk "Logic of a preservation system -- a dialogue" recounted the California experience in planning for the preservation of areas representative of various geological and biological features.

-- If you have not yet returned the questionnaire mailed out with our NL #56, please do so. If you have lost it request another one.

-- TCWP has a beautiful, brand new brochure, sporting an original Bill Russell photo of the Obed on its cover, and listing our achievements, goals, and strengths. If you'd like to send some copies to interested friends, let us know.

-- Our treasurer reports that in the third quarter of 1973 alone we netted close to 100 renewals. Usually renewals peter out by this late in the year, but our reminder campaign evidently helped. Some of you are still guilty, though. Check the top righthand corner of your mailing label: if there is only one number following the letter M, you owe us dues (\$1 for student, \$6 for regular member, \$10 for husband-plus-wife, \$2 for corresponding member)

-- Our envelopes are date-stamped for the day of mailing. If you experience undue delay in receiving your Newsletter, let us know: we have been successful in eliminating the bulk-mailing delay in several post offices.

13. CALENDAR

November 5 - Public hearing on state land-use planning legislation, Knoxville, Cedar Bluff Middle School, 7 p.m. (see item 7)
November 8 - Audubon Wildlife Theater, McClung Museum, U.T., 7:30
November 10- TERC Hiking Club hike on AT from TN.91 to Watauga Dam (call Dave Petke, Kingsport 246-9035)
Nov. 10, 11- TSRA float on the Little T (call Bob Brandt, Nashville 244-6670 or 292-1775)
November 13- Public hearing on state land-use planning legislation, Chattanooga (see item 7 for details)
November 19- TCWP Annual Meeting, 8:00 p.m. Oak Ridge Civic Center (see item 1)
Dec. 12-14 - Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning & Design Seminar
Disney World, Florida
December 13- Audubon Wildlife Theater, McClung Museum, U.T., 7:30

14. NOMINEES FOR ELECTION

The nominating committee, consisting of Miriam Guthrie (chairman), Dick Reed, and Grimes Slaughter presents a fine slate for 1974. In its zeal, the committee came up with 2 more nominations than the minimum called for by our constitution - a good sign of TCWP's health.

PRESIDENT: Donald E. Todd, Wartburg, science teacher, Wartburg school. TCWP Board, 1971, 1972, 1973; stripmine committee 1971- ; Pres. TTA 1971, 1972.

Instrumental in securing passage of Tenn. Trails System Act, park status for new Frozenhead State Park. With his sons developed major portions of Cumberland Trail. Helped in bringing about control of stripmining on Obed. Director of weekly radio program, "Recreation Unlimited" WECO 9400, in which he develops his philosophy on natural areas. Is interested in conservation education and the development of a wilderness concept for parklands.

VICE PRESIDENT: Reid K. Gryder, Oak Ridge, computer systems analyst, UCNC. TCWP stripmine committee 1973- ; life member. Conservation chairman and past president, ETWWC. Special interests: water quality, wilderness protection, river preservation, stripmine regulation, energy conservation, land-use planning. Hobbies: white-water canoeing, camping, hiking, bicycling.

SECRETARY: Martha Ketelle, Concord, geologist, Chemical Technology Division (salt mine waste depository group), ORNL. TCWP State Phone Chairman 1973- . Marty was born in Oak Ridge, graduated from Earlham College, got a Masters degree from the U. of Wisc. (hydrology and water resource management), and returned to Tennessee in 1972. Special interests: wild and scenic river preservation.

TREASURER: Charles Klabunde, Oak Ridge, physicist, Solid State Division, ORNL. TCWP Treasurer 1972, 1973; Outings Chmn. 1970, 1971. In charge of TCWP's computerized membership records and mailing labels. Special interests: Smokies wilderness and trails system.

DIRECTORS: (vote for 4 only; past president, Bill Russell, automatically remains on Board)

James M. Anker, Knoxville, psychologist, Director of the Program in Clinical Psychology, Univ. of Tennessee. As 1973 chairman of the Harvey Broome Group of the Sierra Club, he has been very active in recent efforts for Eastern Wilderness, a wilderness plan for the Smokies, the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, and the Obed Wild and Scenic River.

Howard F. Bauman, Oak Ridge, chemical and nuclear engineer (now in Reactor Environmental Impact Statement project), ORNL. As member of TCWP's Trail Committee, ^{he} helped develop North Ridge Trail (now both a National and State Recreation Trail). Worked on Roan Mtn. relocation of Appalachian Trail. Special interests: preservation of wilderness and wild rivers.

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Edward E. C. Clebsch, Knoxville, ecologist, assoc. professor, Botany Dept. and Graduate Program in Ecology, U.T. TCWP Director, 1967, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, VP 1972. Chmn. Conserv. Comm., Assn SE Biologists. Serves on SMHC conserv. comm. Advisor to U.T. Earth Day activities. He is interested in saving natural areas as preserves for recreational purposes and for scientific study.

Donald W. Jared, Oak Ridge, biologist, Biology Division, ORNL. Has organized EACOR's tree-planting projects and helped with ETWWC activities. Interested in preservation of rivers, stripmine legislation, and development of hiking trails.

Nancy Rennie, Knoxville, graduate student in landscape design, U.T., and working part-time in shop selling house plants. TCWP phone chairman for Knox County 1973. Nancy is from Nashville and has done graduate work in plant ecology. Her special interests are current Tennessee conservation issues, especially those involving the Smokies and the Little•T.

Liane B. (Lee) Russell, Oak Ridge, geneticist, Biology Div., ORNL. TCWP founder, Vice President, 1966, President, 1967-70, director, 1971, 1972, 1973. Has written TCWP Newsletter, 1966 - present. Winner of 1969 HOLIDAY "Award for a Beautiful America". Speaker at National Wilderness Conference, 1971. Particularly active on stripmine, Big S. Fork, Obad committees, intergroup liaison. Feels that certain areas must be preserved free of the intrusion of man's works, and believes that this can be done by acquainting citizens, administrators, and legislators with properly researched information on issues. Wants to continue perfecting TCWP's effectiveness.

Harold G. Smith, Oak Ridge, physicist, Solid State Division, ORNL. TCWP Treasurer 1968, Director 1969, Vice President 1973, Chairman, Big S. Fork Committee 1969- , Delegate to TEC 1973. Has also been active in SMHC. Primary interests: Big S. Fork preservation; threats from highway programs.

Pat Tyrrell, Knox County, research assistant in Biology Division, ORNL and graduate student in ecology, U.T. As TCWP Volunteer Chairman, 1973 she has sent out a questionnaire designed to determine members' interests, expertise, and willingness to help with various efforts. Her special interest is land-use planning.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (vote for 3 only)

Robert E. Farmer, Jr., Norris, plant physiologist, TVA Div. of Forestry, Fisheries, and Wildlife Development. TCWP director 1972; stripmine committee 1971, 1972; chairman, land-use planning committee 1973. Organized ad hoc land/use study group.

Harry Hubbell, Oak Ridge, retired. Helped with development of TCWP's North Ridge Trail. Has been active with SMHC (Program Committee), TTA (Cumberland Trail). Special interest: hiking.

Elizabeth Peelle, Oak Ridge, Environmental Program, ORNL. One of the founders of TCWP, and member of original steering committee. Chairman of TCWP's Harvey Broome Memorial Film Series Committee. Her special interest is in social institutions as they relate to resource use and planning.

William H. (Will) Skelton, Knoxville, attorney. TCWP chapter coordinator. Conservation chairman of Tennessee Chapter of Sierra Club. Has been active in organizing Harvey Broome Group of Sierra Club, of which he is currently vice chairman and will be 1974 chairman. Interested primarily in wilderness preservation.

Ruth K. Young, Oak Ridge, secretary, ORGDP. TCWP Secretary 1967, 1969. SMHC Board 1972, 1973, editor 1974. Her concerns are the lands, waters, and air of our whole planet, but she realizes that our special efforts are needed in nearby regions.