

TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 75, August 9, 1976*

*
* ANNUAL MEETING REMINDER *
*
* For its 10th Anniversary, TCWP is, for the first time, holding a *
* weekend-long Annual Meeting at a central location, Cumberland *
* Mountain State Park. Dates are Oct. 22-24 -- the height of the *
* fall-color season. Our special committee is planning many inter- *
* esting programs, outdoor activities, evening fun. We do hope you *
* (and your family) will come! *
*
* By now you should have received a special mailing that gives more *
* details about arrangements and asks you to return your room *
* reservation form, etc. If you have not already responded, please *
* do so as soon as you possibly can. *

*
* LETTER-WRITING SOCIAL *
*
* Wednesday, Sept. 1, Oak Ridge: Howard and Marty Adler *
*
* 128 Indian Lane, 483-9455 *
*
* Come at 7:30 p.m. Spend an hour writing needed letters, *
* then enjoy your TCWP friends over refreshments. Call *
* your hosts ahead of time, if possible, but this is not *
* essential. Bring along prospective members if you can! *
* This is a good way to acquaint them with TCWP activities. *
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Obed: House hearings successful; Senate bill introduced;
your efforts still needed. p. 2
2. Other rivers in Tennessee and nearby (Big S. Fork authorization;
Tellico Dam court victory comes to naught; Duck R. dams,
huge cost increase; New River). p. 4
3. Stripmine news (AMAX hearings delayed; Federal Coal Leasing
and Stripmine bills; FACT blames reclamation laws for
layoffs and TCWP replies; Will Appalachian shales be
exploited?. p. 5
4. State matters (Governmental reorganization scheme holds dangers;
New appointments in Dept. of Conservation; Endangered species
expertise; Land use planning. p. 7

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Star in margin means "Action needed!"

5. TVA matters (Rate-structure reform urged; GAO to audit TVA; Board nomination and Hooper suit).	p. 8
6. TCWP organization news (Some dues increases recommended; Finance and membership drive; Candidate questionnaire)	p. 8
7. National news (National Forest bill needs help; Clean air bill; Wetlands update; Land & Water Fund).	p. 9
8. Publications of interest.	p. 10
9. Calendar.	p. 12

1. OBED: HEARINGS SUCCESSFUL; SENATE BILL INTRODUCED; YOUR EFFORT STILL NEEDED

Congresswoman Lloyd's office was informed June 9 that House subcommittee hearings on Obed Wild & Scenic Rivers legislation would be held just 12 days hence, June 21. The Staff immediately informed TCWP and other friends of the legislation, as well as its chief opponents. (Curiously, the latter have since been quoted in the paper as complaining that they were "told about this meeting 'over the fence-post.'"). TCWP prepared an extensively documented written testimony (11 pages plus 16 exhibits) as well as a shortened summary version (available on receipt of self-addressed, stamped envelope). We also spent our time stimulating testimony by others (see below).

Congr. Roy Taylor, chairman of the Subcommittee on Parks & Recreation, presided at the hearings, except during a brief period. Other committee members attending part of the time were Congressmen Sebelius and de Lugo. Following Congresswoman Lloyd's lead-off testimony on behalf of her bill, the subcommittee heard from Bureau of Outdoor Recreation Director John Crutcher, who urged legislation in line with BOR study recommendations (100 river miles to be included; TVA + State management). There followed 13 oral testimonies that all supported Mrs. Lloyd's bill with amendments arrived at by earlier consensus (see NL 74 ¶1). These amendments would (a) change the language concerning ownership and management of Catoosa lands within the Area so as to protect the interests of the Tenn. Wildlife Resources Agency and keep these lands primitive; (b) include river portions more nearly corresponding to those recommended by the BOR study, rather than only those lying in the 3rd Congressional District; and (c) add White's Creek, a tributary of Clear Creek, to the study category. Mrs. Lloyd's office had been kept informed some weeks earlier that these amendments would be proposed in conservationists' testimonies, and had expressed itself quite agreeable to the idea that the committee would subsequently make the corresponding changes during the markup of her bill, in view of the fact that she herself was unable to propose them. In particular, she understandably felt that she lacked the prerogative to sponsor legislation that affected land outside her own District. During the hearings, the "consensus" amendments were proposed by the following organizations and people (in order of appearance): Tenn. Wildlife Resources Agency and TCL; Izaak Walton League; Amer. Rivers Conservation Council; Wilderness Soc.; Morgan County Court Judge, J. D. McCartt; TSRA; TCWP (Lee Russell); Sierra Club, Tenn. Chapt.; Obed River Council, Cumberland and Morgan County Chapters; Morgan County Parks & Recr. Council (Don Todd); Bill Russell; Mary Ann Gibbons. We also know of a number of written testimonies with a similar message.

The opposition testimonies -- Cumberland County Squire Sweeney, Dave and Jane Johnson -- brought a big surprise in that they endorsed Obed Wild & Scenic River status, as long as that didn't include Cumberland County private lands; i.e., they supported Mrs. Lloyd's bill without changes. Jane Johnson's testimony was rather dramatic in that her arm movements resulted in knocking to the floor and breaking the glass on a huge framed picture! Anyway, the committee was left with unanimous support for part of the Obed and tributaries; and with controversy over whether or not to include the remainder, as recommended by the BOR study and by the overwhelming majority

testimony, but not positively endorsed by that District's Congressman (Evins).

By virtue of visits prior to the start of the hearings in the morning, and after their completion in the afternoon, we managed to accomplish great things as far as the Senate was concerned. Judge McCartt and Don Todd saw Sen. Brock's Obed people; and McCartt, Todd, and the Russells had a lengthy personal talk with Sen. Baker. Immediately after our return to Tennessee, we received calls from both Senators' offices to inform us that a Senate bill was being introduced by them. This actually occurred three days later, June 24 (copy available on request from TCWP). As a result of our talks with the Senators, the Senate bill (S. 3613) includes considerably more river mileage than the House bill (H.R. 13067), namely an additional nine miles of Clear Creek upstream from the Morgan County line. In the interest of saving time, markup will be done only in the House; and the Senators will move to accept the House bill which, hopefully, will contain the changes advocated by us. -- The TCWP team also spent part of the afternoon visiting offices of several members of the Tennessee Congressional delegation (Quillen; Beard, in person; Evins) and of members of the Subcommittee to encourage their support; and other conservationists who had testified visited some of these, as well as other Congressmen's and Senators' offices. Mrs. Lloyd's bill is now co-sponsored by Congr. Clifford Allen (5th Distr., Tenn.) as well as by Congr. Duncan.

Write!!! What you can do: We must try very hard to get desirable legislation this year, for we are faced with several possible drawbacks for next year. To do this, we must overcome two obstacles: (a) any reluctance that may exist in the House committee to add the desired river miles; (b) the possibility that time may run out on us (in view of election-year Congressional recesses, etc.). Please help by doing the following.

- (1) Write to Congressman Roy Taylor (chairman, Subcommittee on Parks & Recreation, House Interior Committee, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515) and ask him to expedite action on the Obed Wild & Scenic River bill, H.R. 13067. Urge him to act favorably on the amendments proposed by the conservationists' consensus, pointing out that inclusion of upstream portions of the Obed and tributaries is important to the proper protection of the downstream ones.
- (2) Thank Congresswoman Lloyd for her fine efforts without which we could never have got to where we are. Urge her to do all she can to speed Committee action (The Hon. Marilyn Lloyd, U.S. House of Representatives, 1017 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515; or call her Oak Ridge or Chattanooga office.)
- (3) Thank Senators Baker and Brock (U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510) for introducing companion bill S. 3613, and urge them to do everything in their power to complete action on this measure this year. Enclose a copy of the letter you wrote to Congr. Taylor (see 1, above).

Postscript: Anatomy of an Effort. Our NEWSLETTER accounts can usually chronicle only the final, visible step in a series of events. We thought it might be of interest to give you occasional glimpses of intervening efforts. -- In anticipation of Obed hearings, TCWP had in April developed several sets of Obed materials for purposes of providing information to people and of facilitating their communication with Congresspersons. Lee Russell then approached many organizations to ask for their help in getting this material distributed to their membership. (You wouldn't believe the number of trips to the printer, phone calls, and delivery missions that were required for the complicated logistics of meeting more than a dozen different newsletter deadlines!). We should like to express our sincere thanks to the following groups who cooperated in this endeavor: Sierra Club (Tenn. Chapt.); Greater Knoxville Audubon; Smoky Mtns. Hiking Club; Tenn. Valley, Chota, and Bluff City Canoe Clubs; East Tenn. Whitewater Club; Environmental Action Council of Memphis; Upper Cumberland Wilderness

over

Soc.; Biology and Environment Clubs of MTSU. We also distributed materials directly to various selected but large mailing lists that we had developed.

As soon as we heard that the hearing had been scheduled (only 12 days ahead of time), we wrote to and/or phoned about 50 key people (mostly organization representatives) to inform them of recent developments and to urge them to submit testimony. We stimulated 8 of the 14 oral + written pro testimonies that were eventually given; and we know of at least 5 written organization testimonies that were sent in as a result of our effort. -- One other major area of endeavor was that of repeated communication (by mail, phone, and in person) with all Tennessee Congresspersons to encourage their support of our Obed bill in committee. Let's hope it doesn't all go for naught. [Such efforts cost money as well as time: so please keep your dues payments up to date and send extra contributions, if you can.]

Coordinating the Washington end of Obed (and other river) efforts is Bill Painter for the American Rivers Conservation Council (ARCC). His actions will be particularly crucial during subcommittee and committee markup of the bill. ARCC is badly in need of funds and must be helped to continue its successful efforts. Please do your bit with a contribution sent to ARCC, 317 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Washington, D.C. 20003.

2. NEWS ABOUT OTHER RIVERS IN TENNESSEE AND NEARBY

A. Big South Fork: increased funding authorization is in committee

In our last NEWSLETTER, we summarized amendments being proposed by the Corps of Engineers in the statute that 2½ years ago created the Big S. Fork National River & Recreation Area (BSFNRRRA). TCWP and other member organizations of the BSF Preservation coalition endorse, or at least do not oppose, all but one of these amendments. Most urgently needed is the one that would increase the authorization limit from the present \$33 million to about \$100 million. The initiation of land acquisition -- badly needed in view of rapidly increasing threats to the Area (see NL 74, ¶2) -- is tied to this requested increase in authorization. The amendments will be part of the Water Resource Development Act (formerly called the Omnibus Act). Senate Public Works Committee markup of the bill is about to begin, but there may be time strictures on achieving passage this year. If passed, sponsors are hopeful of immediate funding, as part of the Supplemental Appropriation. You may want to express your continued interest in rapid implementation of the BSFNRRRA to Sen. Jennings Randolph, chmn., Public Works Committee, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510, with a copy to Sen. Howard H. Baker, Jr.

B. Tellico Dam: Duck R. history is repeated as court victory comes to naught

Following Judge Taylor's refusal to grant an injunction to stop Tellico Dam (NL 74, ¶9), the case went to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. On July 28, that Court issued a temporary injunction, pending a hearing in October to examine arguments concerning threats to the endangered Snail Darter. The good news was, however, very short-lived. As they had done in the case of the Duck River injunction (NL 61, ¶13; NL 62, ¶12), TVA lawyers immediately went to the Court to get the order changed. Media statements appeared about how many men (700) would be laid off as a result of the injunction, how critical the present stage in construction was, how many millions of \$\$ the delay would cost the taxpayer! Only a day after the injunction was pronounced, the Court suspended it temporarily. Then, on August 3, the Court modified its ruling to apply only to the actual closing of the dam, and allowing construction, timber cutting, etc. to proceed. TVA, of course, knows full well that the closer they get to actual completion of the dam, the harder it will be for citizens to stop them. So, as in the case of the Duck R., TVA rushes ahead with the project, trampling underfoot the goodwill and respect that once existed for the agency.

C. Duck River dams; huge cost increase revealed

Do you remember that, even by TVA's own calculations (later shown to be far from valid), the benefit/cost ratio for the Duck River dams was only 1.3/1.0? Well, the denominator of that fraction has now grown quite considerably. A revised project authorization document, approved by the TVA Board in late July, includes new estimates for the Columbia Dam. This dam is now expected to cost \$142 million -- or 2½ times what it was estimated to cost at the time the b/c ratio was calculated. The new estimate for Columbia alone is about twice the original estimate for Normandy and Columbia Dams combined! -- TVA has been filling cracks in the ground near the Columbia Dam site before beginning construction. In view of the recent Teton Dam disaster, it might be prudent to re-examine the safety of the chosen site.

D. New River (North Carolina) bill passes big hurdle

In its complicated path toward final legislative protection from a huge pumped storage project (NL 73, ¶6D; NL 74, ¶12A), the beautiful New River won a major victory August 5: the Rules Committee voted 10:6 to send the bill to the House floor. On a prior occasion, it was the House Rules Committee that killed the bill. Prospects on the House floor look good, and chances are the bill will already have passed by the time you get this. More effort will be required in the Senate, where the bill is expected to come to a vote in late August or early September. Please urge Senators Baker and Brock to vote for preservation. (While the bill was still in Interior Committee, TCWP [Bill Chandler] wrote to all Committee members urging positive action.)

3. STRIPMINE NEWS

A. AMAX hearings delayed

The huge AMAX Corporation's plans to stripmine many thousands of acres in Tennessee were stalled early this year when the Tennessee Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) denied the permit application on the grounds that AMAX's intention to "blanket-mine" through a number of streams conflicted with Tennessee's Water Quality Law (NL 72, ¶3D; NL 73, ¶12; NL 74, ¶13). AMAX appealed the permit denial, and hearings were scheduled before the Water Quality Board for July 5-7. TCWP was one of six organizations that had petitioned to intervene as friends of WQCD.

AMAX's plans are for a 20-year period. However, the hearing examiner ruled that the hearings were to be concerned only with the first eight years, which do not include later projected stripping in the watersheds feeding Fall Creek Falls State Park, i.e., do not make the operation seem as harmful as it really is. As a result, WQCD charged the hearing examiner with abuse of his discretionary powers; and the controversy has now moved into Davidson County Chancery Court, which will decide whether the Board should hear testimony on the 8-year, or the full 20-year plan. The hearing has thus been postponed, perhaps until September or later. It is possible that the delays may make the project less economically attractive to the company.

B. Federal Coal Leasing and Stripmine bills

Ever since President Ford, for the second time, vetoed the stripmine bill last summer, there have been attempts to attach the measure to the Coal Leasing bill (NL 70, ¶12; NL 71, ¶3A). The latter bill was supported by some of the very groups that had lobbied against the stripmine bill (e.g., public power interests, rural electric coops), so that using it as a "carrier" for the stripmine bill improved prospects for passage and veto override, if necessary. Furthermore, it was obviously undesirable to re-open coal leasing prior to the enactment of a federal stripmine law. The Senate, in July 1975, had attached part of the stripmine bill, namely the portions pertaining to federal coal lands only, to its version of the Coal Leasing bill. In the House,

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attempts to add on the stripmine bill narrowly failed in Committee last November (NL 72, 13A). Finally, on June 21, the Senate passed the House version of the Coal Leasing bill, thus avoiding a conference. The President then vetoed the Coal Leasing bill, stating that physical and environmental requirements would "inhibit coal production on Federal lands, probably raise prices ... , and ... delay our achievements of energy independence." However, last week the Congress overrode the veto. While it would have been better if this bill had been passed together with, or after, a stripmine bill, it does contain reforms in the Interior Department's coal leasing procedures. The Dept. is beginning to accept industry proposals for leases.

The federal stripmine bill by itself was revived by Congr. Melcher last November, passed the Interior Committee by a large majority in February, only to be killed in March when the small Rules Committee, buckling under Administration pressure, prevented it from coming to the floor for a vote. A slightly revised stripmine bill, H.R. 13950, has now started anew along the committee route. Since Jimmy Carter is a strong supporter of good federal stripmine legislation, it will be interesting to see whether Pres. Ford chooses to veto the bill for the third time, thus making this an obvious campaign issue.

C. Miners (by way of FACT) blame reclamation laws for layoffs. TCWP replies.

Miners who face layoffs when Cumberland Coal Corp. closes down, having lost its contract with Georgia Power, staged a demonstration and press conference July 26 to blame "too stringent reclamation requirements" for their plight. Not too surprisingly, the press conference turned out to have been organized by FACT (the stripmine industry's lobbying arm), with media outlets from near and far invited to attend. FACT, as we know [NL 73, 17.B(3)], was very busy in this year's state legislature to weaken Tennessee's not overly strong reclamation laws; and its political action committee is presently giving financial aid to "friendly" candidates running for the state legislature or for the job of county property assessor, according to FACT staffers quoted in the Knoxville News-Sentinel, 8/8/76. FACT and those who were induced to demonstrate are asking the Conservation Commissioner to waive some of the existing reclamation regulations. It is up to us to ask that the regulations be enforced. Write: Commissioner Buck Allison, 2611 West End Ave., Nashville, TN 37203. FACT has now also appeared on the national scene, visiting Sens. Baker and Brock to claim that Clean Air Act requirements, and EPA's implementation of them, are causing TVA to purchase low-sulfur coal and thus to look outside of Tennessee for its supply. (You may recall that TVA recently lost a suit to EPA over regulations on emissions from 9 of its 12 coal-fired steam plants.) -- Following the July 26 "demonstration," TCWP and SOCM circulated news releases to set the record straight. Bill Chandler, TCWP's new executive director, appeared at the very top of Ch. 26 News to point out that stripmine operators in Ohio and Pennsylvania have dealt with much stricter reclamation laws than Tennessee's since 1973; and that these reclamation requirements have actually created jobs without putting any coal companies out of business. He also cited a study by ORNL's Ed Nephew and Bob Spore that shows that, even under the poorest mining conditions and the maximum reclamation requirements, coal could sell for \$16.70/ton and still bring a 12% profit. Tennessee coal is selling for considerably more than that.

Incidentally, Bill Chandler recently sent a mailing to Tennessee civic groups, offering himself as speaker for an illustrated program on stripmining. He has already received about a dozen invitations, and has had media coverage for the first of the talks he gave (at MTSU).

D. Will Appalachia be exploited AGAIN -- for gas from shale?

We quote from the ERDA WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS for the week ending 6/18/76. "ERDA recently launched a program to stimulate production of natural gas from Devonian shales, including the Appalachian black shales. Devonian shales underlie an area of roughly 150,000 sq. miles between the Appalachian Mountains, the Mississippi River, New York

and Tennessee." The U. S. Geological Survey will help locate areas of high potential for new stimulation techniques being developed and tested by ERDA.

4. STATE MATTERS

A. Schemes to reorganize State's natural resource functions may be detrimental

The management of Tennessee's natural resources and the enforcement of regulatory legislation are currently in the hands of several state agencies, e.g., the Dept. of Conservation, Dept. of Health, and the Wildlife Resources Agency. On the face of it, it would seem neat and efficient to combine the various agencies or portions of agencies into an all-encompassing new Department. Various schemes of this nature are under consideration by the State Attorney General's office and by Governor Blanton.

Political scientists who have studied similar "consolidations" in other states find that they usually result in a weakening of environmental regulations. The importance of the checks-and-balances situation that results from having several agencies involved can be illustrated by the experience with stripmining in Tennessee: at a time when the Dept. of Conservation was weak in implementation and enforcement of the law, the strong Dept. of Public Health (Water Quality Control Division) often was able to avert disastrous stripmine operations. At the present, both Departments have strong commissioners (Allison and Fowinkle), so that removal of regulatory functions from these Departments through the creation of a new regulatory agency (one of the schemes) would be to the advantage of the regulated industries and to the detriment of environmental protection. We hope you'll express your views on the subject to Commissioners Allison and Fowinkle (Dept. of Cons., 2611 West End Ave., Nashville 37203; and 344 Cordell Hull Bldg., Nashville, TN 37219).

B. New appointments in the Department of Conservation

Mack Prichard, who moved from the position of State Archeologist to become Acting Director of Educational Services, was recently named Project Administrator for the State's Natural Areas Program. Mack, a long-standing TCWP member, received the "Conservation Educator" of the year award from TCL -- a highly deserved honor. Tim McCall, who formerly administered the Natural Areas Program, has joined the staff of the Nature Conservancy at its Atlanta office.

John Grant, Jr., another TCWP member, was named as the new director of the Conservation Department's Division of Educational Services. He is a former science teacher who holds degrees in natural sciences from the University of Tennessee. -- Jack E. Miller was appointed as new director of the Division of State Parks on April 19. Mr. Miller, a native Tennessean, has been director of the Arkansas parks program and chief of Ohio's Division of Parks & Recreation.

C. Endangered Species expertise available

The Assoc. of Southeastern Biologists (ASB) has issued a list of Tennessee biologists actively interested in and working on Rare, Endangered, and Threatened biota. (For copy write Dr. C. E. Styron, St. Andrews Presb. College, Laurinburg, NC 28352). There are 23 names from 11 locations on the Tennessee portion of the list. The ASB will initiate projects on identification of habitats critical for RE&T biota.

D. Land-use planning

Bob Farmer, on June 24, presented TCWP testimony at a hearing by the Tennessee State Planning Office on Critical Environmental Areas. He noted that while a "critical area" approach is logical if it moves from specific problems to more comprehensive land-use guidance systems, no such aim is detectable in policies of the present administration. Furthermore, some of the key problem areas, e.g., energy facility siting, and the loss of prime agricultural land to unplanned growth, are not included in the list now

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being studied by the TSP0. Anyone interested in the full testimony may write to Bob Farmer, 99 Reservoir Rd, Norris 37828. -- Also of interest to land-use planning problems is a publication, "Untaxing Open Space," described in ¶8, below. You may recall that Tennessee this year passed a law that allows agricultural, forest, and open space land to be assessed on its current use, rather than on its potential for development.

5. TVA MATTERS

A. Testimonies urge rate-structure reform to achieve energy conservation

TCWP submitted written testimony for the TVA hearings on alternative electric rate structures. Our testimony supported (a) "peak-use pricing" which would result in "levelling" electric load over times of day and seasons, and thus reduce the need for environmentally destructive pumped-storage projects; and (b) the "lifeline" concept, which would abolish the present inverted rate structure whereby those who use the greatest amount of electricity (industries) pay the least per kwh, thus encouraging consumption. A report on the hearings by the East. Tenn. Energy Group points out that the sites chosen (Chattanooga; Paducah, Ky.; Florence, Ala.) were towns in which the livelihood of most people depends on TVA or TVA-dependent industry, and that this circumstance resulted in quantities of oral testimony by big business. Interestingly, there was also testimony by the Federal Energy Administration which stated that adoption of a peak-load pricing system by TVA was a much-needed rate reform essential to a comprehensive energy conservation program.

B. General Accounting Office to audit TVA

The GAO has agreed to a request by Rep. Clifford Allen (D., 5th Distr.) to "audit, investigate, review, and evaluate the operations of the TVA, its accounting methods, its use of appropriated funds, its coal purchasing practices, its rate-making policies and their effect."

C. The TVA Board nomination — Your contributions still needed for defense against Hooper suit

On June 16, about four months after the Senate rejection of James Hooper for the TVA Board, Pres. Ford nominated Thomas Longshore, an executive with the Alabama Power Co. The official announcement came two months after Alabama Congressmen were notified of it by the White House. In the interim, much opposition had surfaced, primarily because of Longshore's association with private power, which has traditionally been opposed to TVA. The Longshore nomination will come before the Senate Public Works Comm. for confirmation or rejection.

In the meantime, our valiant friends at ETRC who so successfully fought the Hooper nomination -- for the benefit of us all -- are still in financial straits as a result of the Hooper libel suit that has been brought against them. Although it is virtually certain that Hooper cannot win the suit, a great burden is being put on John Williams, Pat Kalmans, and ETRC in terms of legal fees and time they have to invest. A few of you generously responded to our earlier appeal (NL 74, ¶8), but hopefully more of you will. Your donations are tax deductible and may be sent directly to the East Tenn. Research Corp., Jacksboro, TN 37757.

6. TCWP ORGANIZATION NEWS

**** At its May 24 meeting, the Board voted to suggest to the membership the following dues changes to take care of increased mailing costs: (a) Corresponding members, from \$2 to \$3; (b) Student members, from \$1 to \$3. To become effective, this would require an amendment in TCWP by-laws, which needs a majority vote of members balloting at the Annual Meeting. [Part of our increased mailing costs result from re-mailing of NEWS-LETTERS to members who have moved. The Post Office now charges 25¢ per address

correction and the re-mailing, first class, usually costs 24¢, for a total of 49¢! This is one excellent reason why you should inform us of any change of address.]

**** You should have received a separate mailing asking for special contributions to support our fine new executive director, and for your efforts in helping enroll new members. To remain effective, TCWP must broaden its membership base and replenish its coffers, so PLEASE respond to the mailing! By the way, are your own dues paid up-to-date? (Check your address label code: it should have two numbers following the letter M. If not, send \$6 for individual, \$10 for husband and wife, more if you can).

**** Executive Director Bill Chandler and Ken Warren are working on a questionnaire for candidates for the U.S. Congress and the state legislature. We'll give you results in a pre-election mailing, along with League of Conservation Voters' ratings, environmental profiles of Presidential candidates, and other pertinent info. Remember, in order to vote Nov. 2, you must be registered by Oct. 2! In the meantime, keep ears and eyes open on environmental standing of candidates at all levels.

**** For your food and savings enjoyment, we are passing along information from the SOCM Sentinel. Farmers will sell their home-grown, fresh produce every Wednesday 8-4 at St. Mary's parking lot, Oak Ridge; every Tuesday 12-8 at Central Baptist Church parking lot, Knoxville (6300 Deane Hill Rd); and every Friday 12-8 at Broadway Baptist Church, Knoxville. This is a project designed to help area farmers increase their income while saving you money.

7. NATIONAL NEWS

A. National Forest legislation approaching final vote: help needed

Two Senate committees have completed markup of Sen. Humphrey's S. 3091, and the bill will come to a floor vote after August 23. While the bill has been somewhat improved from its original version, it is still badly in need of five amendments that will be offered by Sen. Randolph (D., W.Va.) on the floor. Among these: (a) to encourage the Forest Service (USFS) to practice uneven-age management, especially in eastern hardwood forests; (b) to discourage large-scale replacement of hardwood forests by pulpwood; (c) to urge improved care of wildlife and fisheries in the National Forests.

In the House, several bills are still in Subcommittee, and prospects are very poor for anything but a very pro-industry timber bill to emerge from both Subcommittee and full Agriculture Committee. The floor vote is expected late August or early September. Congressman George Brown (D., Cal.) will be offering the same amendments that Sen. Randolph will offer in the Senate, and, if necessary, additional ones. What you can do:

- (1) Write both Senators Baker and Brock (Senate Office Bldg., D.C. 20510) and ask them to support the Randolph amendments on the floor (list some of them -- see above). Ask them to oppose industry efforts to weaken the bill. Since Sen. Brock is campaigning, you may be able to see him in person.
- (2) Contact your Congressperson when he/she is at home, or write (House Office Bldg., D.C. 20515) and ask him/her to vote for the Brown amendments (again being specific) and to oppose timber industry attacks on the principles of sustained yield, special protection for endangered species, and less timbering on marginal lands. --

Also on the subject of National Forests: Paul Somers and Bob Farmer recently submitted a 6-page review of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Cherokee National Forest's Timber Management Plan, 1976-86, on behalf of TCWP.

B. If you want clean air, write today!

House action is imminent on H.R. 10498, the Clean Air Act amendments of 1976. One hugely important provision of this bill concerns "nondegradation." H.R. 10498 designates all National Parks and Wilderness Areas over 25,000 acres in size as mandatory Class I areas (very little additional pollution allowed). National Monuments and

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National Recreation Areas would start out as Class I, but could possibly be downgraded to Class II by state or local governments. Without the provisions of H.R. 10498, many of our National Parks and other federal lands will, without doubt, suffer vast degradation of air quality from emissions of the huge coal-fired power plants now being built. The utility industry and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are violently fighting the non-degradation provisions of H.R. 10498. We must do all we can to counteract their efforts. Time is of the essence. What you can do: Write your Congressperson (The Hon. _____, House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515) and ask him/her to oppose any amendment that would eliminate or weaken the non-degradation provision. Ask also that he/she support the Maguire amendment which requires federal approval before a state can downgrade an initial Class-I area to Class II, and which eliminates the dirtiest category (Class III) altogether. Reps. John Duncan, Marilyn Lloyd, Ed Jones, and Harold Ford are considered "swing" votes, and there is therefore a particular urgency for 2nd, 3rd, 7th, and 8th District TCWP members to write. -- Senate action is in progress as this is being written, and it appears that a good bill will emerge. Sen. Baker has reportedly been supportive of clean air. We hope to bring you a report next time.

C. Wetlands update

Sec. 404 of the 1972 Water Pollution Control Act attempts to protect our remaining wetlands (half of them have already been destroyed over the past 100 years) by requiring permits for dredge and fill operations. The permit system is being administered by the Corps of Engineers which has been doing a good job on this. Phase I of the permit program (tidal waters, waters used for interstate commerce) went into effect in July 1975. Phase II (natural lakes over 5 acres, tributaries to Phase I waters, and nearby wetlands) would have gone into effect July 1, 1976 but was temporarily suspended by a White House directive (to await "a final resolution of the problem by Congress"). In the meantime, the enemies of the program (development interests, who have managed to stir up farmers) have, of course, been working on the Congress for many months (e.g., NL 74, 112B). As a result, the House in June passed a bill that virtually guts the 404 Program (in addition to very seriously weakening a number of other provisions of the 1972 law). The House bill would prevent any federal regulation of discharges of dredged or fill materials into waters not now considered navigable; and there would not even be any protection against the dumping of toxic materials into waterways. -- The Senate Public Works Committee had already reported a bill that would merely extend funding without touching any of the provisions of the 1972 Act, leaving any possible changes until next year, when an overall review is mandated. However, several bills were offered dealing specifically with the 404 Program, and the Senate Public Works Committee held hearings on these July 27, 28. Presumably they will soon be followed by some floor action. Both Senators Baker and Brock should hear from us (Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510) to the effect that we do not want any more of our wetlands destroyed, and that we consequently urge them strongly to oppose any weakening of the 404 Program.

D. Land & Water Conservation Fund

Senate and House conferees recently agreed on ^a compromise bill that would provide for a phased increase in the annual authorization for the Fund to \$900 million by 1980. This Fund is where the money for parkland acquisition comes from: e.g., if the Obed bill passes, implementation will be financed from the L&WF. Letters are needed to Pres. Ford, urging him to sign the bill when it arrives on his desk.

8. PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

- "Fact Sheet: AMAX in Tennessee," an 8-page informative brochure may be ordered from SOCM. In addition "The AMAX Record Elsewhere," compiled by John Gaventa is a report on what AMAX has done in other states with regard to the environment, payment of taxes, compliance with state regulations. Free from SOCM, Box 457, Jacksboro, TN 37757.

- The bursting of the Teton Dam has resulted in two interesting publications, available at 50¢ each from the Env'tl Policy Center (317 Penn. Ave. SE, Washington, D.C. 20003): (1) Press release of 6/9/76, pointing out the need for investigation of incompetent planning by water development agencies; (2) Testimony by Brent Blackwelder, 6/14/76, urging major oversight hearings by Public Works Committees determining justification and safety of controversial dam projects.
- "Untaxing Open Space: an Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Differential Assessment of Farms and Open Space." A CEQ-financed study by the U. of Pennsylvania shows that differential tax laws, if combined with other effective land-use mechanisms, can contribute to long-term preservation of open lands. (Order from Supt. of Documents, Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. The 416-page full study, No. 041-011-00031-9 is \$5.40; the 20-page summary, No. 041-011-00032-7 is \$0.45).
- "The Monongahela debate: Who should make the logging rules for America's national forests?" is a 32-page section of the April/June issue of THE LIVING WILDERNESS, in which six spokesmen on the Forest Service-industry side and seven on the conservation side express their thoughts (order from The Wilderness Soc., 1901 Penn. Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20006).
- The Sierra Club's National Wildlife Committee now publishes a monthly newsletter on wildlife and habitat issues (\$2 for 1976, \$4 for 1977 from Rebecca Finnell, Sierra Club, 50 W. 40th, New York, NY 10018).
- Environmental Action Reprint Service (EARS) offers a catalogue of available energy-related material: from short articles to long books (\$0.50 from EARS, 2239 East Colfax, Denver, CO 80206).
- "Wetlands and the Water Cycle," explains how mechanics and geology of wetlands relate to water supply, flooding, etc. Single copy for 13¢ in stamps from Massachusetts Audubon Soc., Lincoln, MA 01773.
- "Losing Ground: Environmental Stress and World Food Prospects," by Erik P. Eckholm (W. W. Norton & Co., \$3.95) documents how land abuses (reckless deforestation, overgrazing, farming for short-term expansion) have come to undermine the earth's capacity to provide sustenance for its inhabitants. The book examines the political and cultural factors responsible for degradation and makes suggestions for improvement.
- "Guide to State Programs for the Reclamation of Surface Mined Areas," compiled by U. S. Geological Survey, 33 pp. (free from USGS, 1200 S. Eads Street, Arlington VA 22202).
- "America 200: The Legacy of our Lands," USDI's 1976 Conservation Yearbook, traces connections between public-land policies and socio-political developments. (\$5.55 from Manager, Public Documents, Distr. Center, Pueblo Industrial Park, Pueblo, Colo. 81009).
- "Study Guide for Environmental Education," containing 15 articles by experts. Free to teachers and other qualified persons. Or, purchase for 75¢ from Conservation Comm., Garden Clubs of America, New York, NY 10022.

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9. CALENDAR

- Aug. 14-15, 22,28; Sept. 4-6, 18-19, Oct. 2, 10 - Hikes sponsored by the Smoky Mtns Hiking Club (Box 1454, Knoxville, TN 37901; or call Ken Warren, Oak Ridge 482-2145)
- Aug. 18 - Public hearing on Draft Environmental Impact/Sec.-4(f) Statement for Interstate 40, Memphis (Overton Park), 9:00 a.m., Council Chamber, City Hall, 125 N. Main St.
- Aug. 21, 22 - TVCC float Nolichucky River, Class III-IV (Don Bodley, TVCC, P. O. Box 11125, Chattanooga 37401).
- Aug. 21, 22 - TVCC canoe camping Ocoee-Hiwassee Rivers, easy (Call John Alden, 615, 892-1534).
- Aug. 21, Aug. 28 - Hikes sponsored by TERC (Call Kingsport 247-3718, or 239-6237).
- Aug. 23 - Public Hearing on proposed wastewater transportation and treatment facilities for Oak Ridge. 7:30 p.m. Municipal Building Courtroom. Anyone may present oral and/or written testimony. Contact the City Manager for further info.
- Aug. 28 - TTA hike, Narrows of the Harpeth (Call Mack Prichard, Nashville, 741-1016).
- Sept. 1 - TCWP Letter-Writing Social, Oak Ridge (see p. 1)
- Sept. 3-6 - Milticlub Meeting for Southern Appalachian Trail Clubs, Dilley Mills, W. Va. (Call Ray Payne, Knoxville 693-6944).
- Sept. 4,5 - Annual Hiwassee River Canoe and Kayak Competition (Write TVCC, P.O. Box 11125, Chattanooga 37401).
- Sept. 11 - TTA hike, Trail of the Lonesome Pine (Call Gordon Newland, Kingsport 246-8845).
- Oct. 2 - Last day to register if you wish to vote in the Nov. 2 election.
- Oct. 2- Oct. 11 - Appalachian Trail hike, 102 miles, from Allen to Eckville, Pa. For info, call Don Nelson, Kingsport 239-9534.
- Oct. 22-24 - TCWP Annual Meeting, Cumberland Mtn State Park. Look for our special mailing.
- Oct. 28-31 - Southeastern Trails Conference, Paris Landing (Write TTA, P. O. Box 4913, Chattanooga, TN 37405).

*Write some
letters: look
for stars in the
margin*