

TENNESSEE CITIZENS for WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 187

March 31, 1992



1. Big South Fork: acquisition now possible	p. 3
A. Land Protection Plan approved	C. TNC pre-acquisitions
B. Funding needs	D. Roads & trails plan
2. Obed protection: the GMP and other matters.....	p. 3
A. General Management Plan	C. Capsules
B. Acquisition status	
3. Smokies and nearby.....	p. 4
A. Preempting wilderness?	C. Red Wolf update
B. Air quality	D. A new guide
E. AT completion	
4. The State legislature	p. 6
A. EAF's agenda	C. Tenn. Flora 2001
B. Projects for parks	D. Legal septic tanks
E. Other bills	
5. Around the state	p. 7
A. Pickett Forest Plan	D. Chip mills
B. Cumberland Trail	E. Knox greenways
C. Clinch & Powell Rivers	F. Stripmine "reclamation"
G. Scenic Highways	H. Stones River unit enlarged
6. Environmental issues in the 1992 election	p. 9
A. Presidential profiles	D. Ballot propositions
B. Scorecard for Congress	E. No "E" word in State-of-Union address
C. Financial support for environment	
7. National parks and other public lands	p. 11
A. Dangerous amendment for California desert bill	D. Public land issues on TV
B. Montana wilderness	E. Ancient Forests
C. Land & Water Conservation Fund	
8. Other national issues	p. 12
A. Energy legislation revisited	C. Sen. Gore's book
B. Highway Act: bad & good	
9. International Issues	p. 13
A. Driftnet fishing banned	B. Family planning assistance
10. TCWP recruiting part-time executive director.....	p. 13
11. Other TCWP news	p. 14
A. Issues responsibilities	B. Reminders
C. Volunteers	
12. Job openings, activities; reading matter	p. 14
13. ACTION SUMMARY.....	p. 2

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Star in margin means "Action Needed." Don't be overwhelmed - check the ACTION SUMMARY!

11. ACTION SUMMARY

TNo	Issue	Contact	"Message" or Action
1B	Big S. Fork & Obed funding	Sens. Sasser & Gore; Rep. Cooper	"Acquisition funds are badly needed for FY93; also need operating \$\$"
1D	Big S. Fork trails Plan	TCWP	Offer your assistance.
2A	Obed Management Plan	TCWP	Provide input.
2B	Obed acquisition	Sens. Sasser & Gore; Rep. Cooper	"Urge NPS to proceed with Obed land acquisition!"
3A	Smokies wilderness	GSMNP Superintendent	"Do not construct bike trail in the Thomas Divide area!"
4B	State parks	State Senator	"Support SB891, SB892!"
4E	Tennessee forests	State Sen. and Rep.	"Support SB2560/HB2448!"
5A	Pickett Plan	Tenn. Div. of Forestry	Send your comments, suggestions.
5B	Cumberland Trail (CT)	Your Anderson Co. Commissioner	Express support for the CT
5D	Chip mills	Civic & other groups Newspapers TVA	Suggest a program on this subject. Send a letter to the editor Request to be sent the Draft EIS.
5G	Transportation enhancement	Tenn. Dept. of Transportation	"How do you plan to spend STEA enhancement funds?"
7A	Hunting in Park System	US Senator	"Support S.21 <u>without</u> provisions for hunting or further compromises!"
7B	Montana Wilderness	Reps. Miller and Vento	"Do not allow release of 4 million acres of prime wilderness!"
9B	Intl. family planning	Sen. Sasser	"Support Sen. Lautenberg's amendment!"
10	TCWP exec. director	TCWP	Suggest candidates.
11	TCWP dues Rivers assessment Newsletter assembly	TCWP TCWP NL 186 TCWP	Send prompt payment. Fill out and mail questionnaire. Volunteer your help.

Senator John Doe
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. John Doe
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Governor Ned McWherter
State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37219

Dear Senator Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Congressman/woman Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Gov. McWherter
Respectfully yours,

To call a Representative or Senator, dial Congressional switchboard, (202) 224-3121
To find out about the status of federal bills, call (202) 225-1772

1. BIG SOUTH FORK: ACQUISITIONS NOW POSSIBLE

A. The Land Protection Plan is approved

On January 16, the Draft Land Protection Plan (LPP) for the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area was officially approved. Only 3 written comments had been received -- two from state agencies in Kentucky, the third from TCWP. Because no major revisions had been suggested for the Draft LPP, minor changes were made on the local level, and the document was approved by the SE Regional Director of the National Park Service (NPS), without having to be signed in Washington. The LPP will be routinely updated every 2 years; should any major revisions be proposed in the future, opportunities will be provided for public comments.

The statutory acreage ceiling for the BSFNRR is 125,000 acres, of which NPS plans to acquire about 123,000. There are currently about 104,000 surface acres in NPS ownership, and 3,186 in State ownership (Scott State Forest, near the Bandy Creek campground). About 16,000 acres (in 49 tracts) need to be acquired from private owners. It would also be a very good thing if NPS could acquire mineral rights under about 4,000 acres of the surface it already owns, and mineral leases under about 15,000 additional acres. Money is all that's needed!

B. Acquisition funds

With the LPP now approved, NPS will at last be able to begin land acquisition with the funds it has in hand. These amount to \$2,969,000 (about \$1 and \$2 million appropriated in FY91 and FY92, respectively). The purchase of all remaining tracts -- excluding mineral rights -- is estimated to cost \$13 million. In general, tracts will be acquired according to the priority order listed in the approved LPP (there are 16 priority classes). Acquisition priority #1 encompasses the 15 tracts (11,329 acres) needed for protection of the North White Oak Creek and its Laurel Fork. Obviously, the money on hand is insufficient to acquire more than a few of these top-priority tracts.

The Administration's proposed budget for parklands acquisition (see §7C, this NL) sadly contains no money for the BSFNRR (or for the Obed WSR). The only way funds can be obtained is through Congressional action. Our Congressional delegation, and others in the Congress, must be convinced of the need to acquire the additional acreage with all dispatch in order to protect highly scenic -- and very fragile -- lands against imminently threatening damaging developments.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Write to Sens. Sasser and Gore and to Rep. Cooper (addresses are on p.2), and thank them for helping secure FY 1992 land-acquisition funds, which can now finally be used

since the LPP has been approved. Point out that this funding will, however, buy only a fraction of the land that is still threatened, and urge them to appropriate additional funds for FY 1993, specifically \$6 million for the BSFNRR and \$0.6 million for the Obed Wild & Scenic River (these sums are also in the annual LWCF briefing document for Congress that is prepared jointly by the major national conservation groups). -- Additionally, both the BSFNRR and the Obed WSR are very badly in need of operating funds, and even a relatively small increase in the FY 1993 operating budget could do a lot of good.

C. The Nature Conservancy aids in acquisition

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the National Park Service have executed a Letter of Intent to formalize cooperative acquisitions of property in the BSFNRR and the Obed WSR. TNC can often acquire a tract more expeditiously, and with added financial (e.g., tax) benefits to the land owner, than NPS can. Subsequently, NPS will purchase such tracts from TNC. Last Fall, the Conservancy purchased an option on 1,200 critical acres encompassing the headwaters of North Laurel Fork. TNC is also negotiating for other BSF and Obed tracts.

In addition, TNC has been a strong voice for additional Congressional appropriations for both projects. To that end, they have generated beautiful, full-color proposals that are presented to key members of Congress.

D. Roads and Trails Management Plan

As mentioned in NL186 §1C, TCWP members who are familiar with BSFNRR trails and/or roads can help us have a meaningful input into the Roads and Trail management plan currently being drafted by NPS. The plan will address location, type of use, and level of maintenance. We hope very much that you will contact Lee Russell (482-2153 or 574-0860; or address on p.1) to offer your assistance, which can range from a short phone conversation to attendance at a 2-hour meeting with NPS personnel. Let us hear from you!

2. OBED PROTECTION: THE GMP AND OTHER MATTERS

A. General Management Plan: blast-off in June

The workshop at Obed HO in Warburg that will initiate generation of the General Management Plan (GMP) for the Obed Wild & Scenic River has been postponed from early March (NL186 §2A) until June to accommodate the schedule of NPS' Southeast Regional Director, James Coleman. That Mr. Coleman wants to be personally involved is indeed a good sign. Subsequent to the workshop, the total process is expected to take 18-24 months. Obed

Site Manager, Don Forester, will be the local coordinator for the studies, many of which will be carried out by the NPS' Denver Service Center.

The workshop will include NPS personnel from the BSFNRRA, Obed, SE Regional Office, and Denver Service Center, as well as representatives of the Tenn Dept of Environment and Conservation and the Tenn Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA). In addition, half a dozen private individuals are being invited, including Lee Russell, who will represent TCWP.

The major significance of the workshop is that it will define the scope of the GMP. It is thus most important to identify all possible issues. One of these clearly is the need for local boundary rectifications. Additionally, it will be desirable to add river segments that are currently not included. Can NPS accept any land donations that Catoosa WMA might wish to make? What resource management issues (water quality, endangered species, etc) are among the most pressing? How should recreation use be managed, and what can be done to protect against recreation overload? How can NPS work with adjacent land owners to improve the resource? If you have any ideas or other input on these issues, get in touch with Lee Russell (482-2153 or 574-0860) well before the June workshop.

B. Land acquisition status

According to a strange provision in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, land within a Wild & Scenic River boundary cannot be condemned after 50% of the total authorized fee acreage has been acquired. Worried about being close to losing condemnation authority, NPS has put its acquisition process on hold. This delay is unjustified for two reasons: (a) Nothing prevents the acquisition of easement properties; (b) As regards fee acquisition, an amendment in the law changed the definition of the acreage on which the condemnation right is based; in the case of the Obed, this has made available an additional 327 acres that could be purchased in fee right now. While only four relatively small tracts (all uninhabited) may require condemnation (NL186 ¶2B), virtually all of the remaining owners are willing sellers. The NPS should therefore speedily proceed with the land acquisition process for the 327 acres in fee, and for scenic easements. Funds for this are "in the bank."

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Sens. Sasser and Gore and to Rep. Cooper (addresses are on p.2), and ask them to urge NPS to proceed with the Obed land acquisition process.

D. Obed capoles

* Superintendent Bill Dickinson and Obed Site Manager Don Forester recently visited the NPS' SE Regional Office in Atlanta to present a large body of

Obed data and to make staff aware of the resource the Obed represents.

- The new ranger position funded by federal drug-eradication money (NL186 ¶2C) has been filled as of March. This brings the Obed staff to 5. We believe that several additional people are needed to protect and manage the resource -- a good reason to request additional operating funds (see WHAT YOU CAN DO under ¶1B, this NL).
- Various sources of money are being used to fund modest developments at access points. These include flood-control money to build a small gravelled parking area at Nemo (keeping the car off the beach), and TVA money to design the access areas at Jett and Lilly Bridges (the latter will require sensitive planning).
- A volunteer, Tricia Miller, is working to identify endangered-species habitats within the Obed WSR. These habitats will subsequently be monitored by NPS field personnel.
- A grant has been obtained to make an audio and a video tape about the history of the area. NPS also plans to record the political history of the project.

3. SMOKIES AND NEARBY

A. Yet another attempt to diminish potential Park wilderness

On the North Carolina side of the Smokies, there has been some agitation by the local congressman and by a newspaper columnist in favor of making a mountain-bike trail along the route of a once-proposed, but abandoned, Motor Nature Trail. This bike route starts and finishes at Deep Creek Campground, running up Indian Creek, up Georges Branch, then down Thomas Divide. Since the Wilderness Act provides that there shall be no form of mechanical transport within a wilderness area, these mountain bikes would preempt wilderness designation. Bicycles can now use the Indian Creek road (which is gravelled for access to cemeteries and is not proposed for inclusion within the wilderness boundary) as well as numerous trails in the nearby national forests.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The Park Service is under considerable pressure to construct the mountain bike trail; they should also hear from those who advocate wilderness designation, which the trail would preempt. Write to Supt. Randall Pope, Great Smoky Mtns National Park Gatlinburg, TN 37738.

B. A further threat to the Smokies' already deteriorated air quality

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is probably the most biologically diverse region in all of North America, especially with regard to its trees,

shrubs, and other plants. These plants are now in increasing jeopardy from the major rise in low-level ozone (O_3), which is mediated by chemical interactions involving nitrates (NO_x). Symptoms of ozone damage can already be seen in 95 plant species in the Park, some of them rare or endangered. About 80% of the Park is at high to moderate risk from O_3 . In addition, the smog created by O_3 has greatly decreased visibility and diminished visitor experience; at least 10% of the time, the visibility is less than 3 miles.

Nitrates are emitted by automobile tailpipes, and belched out by numerous industries that surround the Smokies in ever-growing numbers. The recent amendments to the Clean Air Act have given NPS new power to challenge air-pollution-permit applications in the vicinity of certain parks. NPS has requested that air-quality agencies in the states bordering the GSMNP, a Class-I area, not issue permits for proposed new sources within 125 miles of the Park unless offsets (i.e., corresponding pollution reductions) are made from existing sources.

The State of Tennessee has not been sympathetic to the concerns of the Smokies and is clearly on the side of industrial development within the critical buffer zone surrounding the Park. Harold Hodges, Director of the Tenn. Air Pollution Control Div., arranged that a February 25 permit hearing for a proposed Tennessee Eastman power-generating boiler be held at Kingsport, right in the heart of project sentiment, and stated that the expression of public opinion would weigh heavily in his decision. This boiler could generate 1,542 tons of NO_x annually, and would thus greatly add to the O_3 problem in the Park. NPS Southeast Regional Director James Coleman has asked the State to deny the permit; TCWP submitted written testimony supporting this request. The company states that the boiler would add 115 jobs. A recent *Oak Ridge* editorial called this a lose-lose situation, but concluded: "if we do not protect the environment, the jobs will eventually be meaningless."

C. How are the Red Wolves doing?

The family of red wolves that was released from their Cades Cove area acclimation pen in November has been closely followed via signals from radio collars, sightings, and examination of scat. All are in good condition. Their food has included rodents, grouse, rabbits, and deer (possibly already dead). The several hundred cattle in Cades Cove and the wolves have generally ignored each other, but in a few cases the cattle have vigorously chased the wolves. The wolves' territory is generally limited to the Cove and surrounding wooded land, but individual wolves have, on a few occasions ventured up to two miles from the park, only to return to their home.

The adult male has turned out to be too tame, having spent 7 years of his prior life in zoos. He has followed horseback riders, entered areas of human habitation, showing little fear, and on one occasion taken two domestic turkeys from a farm. This wolf has been returned to the acclimation pen. Biologists believe that his mate will continue to behave as a pair-bonded female and defend the territory against coyotes, rather than mating with them. Since only one coyote in the park has an active radio collar, wolf-coyote encounters are difficult to monitor, but those that have been observed have been hostile.

An indemnity fund has been created for reimbursing owners of poultry and livestock for any losses due to red wolf predation. The National Parks & Conservation Assn. is donating \$7,500 to the fund, and this will be matched by a challenge grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, for a total of \$15,000. Few such losses are expected to occur; however, the presence of the fund should help reassure Park neighbors. For Yellowstone, where a similar fund has been established for possible gray wolf predation, less than \$11,000 has had to be disbursed to only 10 ranchers over the past 5 years, even though the gray wolf is much more likely than the red to prey on livestock. The \$15,000 in the red-wolf indemnity fund is likely to last for decades; should it ever be exhausted, though, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has earmarked an additional \$10,000.

Project biologists have already demonstrated their ability to quickly recapture any of the wolves that wander from the park. In situations where it appears that an immediate hazard exists to the wolves or to livestock outside the Park, the following numbers should be called: 448-6835 (Chris Lucash, Cades Cove); 436-1230 (GSMNP Communication Center, Gatlinburg); 436-1207 (Bob Miller, Park HQ).

Teachers note: A 30-minute video cassette about the red-wolf recovery efforts, a poster, and a teacher packet are available to schools. Requests should be made on school stationery to: Front Runner, WBIR-TV, 1513 Hutchinson Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917.

D. A new guide to the Smoky Mountains

With most other guides to the park now out of date or out of print, the publication of a new guide to the Smokies is good news. *The Best of the Great Smoky Mountains. A Hiker's Guide to Trails and Attractions* was authored by Russ Manning and Sandra Jamieson as part of their Tag-Along series, which also includes a guide to the Big South Fork and one to the South Cumberland and Fall Creek Falls. The 256-page Smokies guide, replete with maps and photos, describes 65 hikes on 84 trails, as well as shorter walks on 19 trails. It also has sections on park history, geology, plants, animals, and the need for

wilderness protection. The book should be available in area bookstores (\$10.95 + tax); or call Mountain Laurel Place in Norris, 615-494-8121.

E. 1994 target date set for completion of AT in the South

The US Forest Service has been criticized for its slow pace in acquiring lands needed for the Appalachian Trail (AT). Considerably less than the appropriated amounts have been spent in many recent years, and there has been a strong resistance to the use of eminent domain. In the first 10 years after passage of the 1968 National Trails System Act, over 5 times as many AT miles were acquired as in the last 14 years.

Supervisor John Alcock of the USFS's Southern Region recently projected a 1994 completion date for acquiring land to protect the AT within the boundaries of 8 national forests. While eminent domain would be used only as a last resort, it would not be ruled out, and the full appropriation would be spent each year.

4. THE STATE LEGISLATURE

A. EAF's 1992 legislative agenda

The Environmental Action Fund (EAF), a coalition of 12 groups (TCWP among them), supports a lobbyist to work for a limited number of bills agreed upon by EAF member organizations. This year, Pam Wolfe (who last year lobbied for TEC) has replaced John Williams as EAF lobbyist, but John is graciously helping with the transition and will also work on the Hill as an individual. The General Assembly's focus on tax reform and education delayed action on bills EAF had identified as 1992 priority items. These are as follows: (a) bills to generate revenues for capital maintenance within existing parks, (b) a bill to fund a comprehensive atlas of Tennessee plants ("Tennessee Flora 2001"), and (c) a bill to ensure that each septic-tank owner has a valid permit for subsurface sewage. The status of these is summarized below, and other bills worthy of your support are also listed. The cut-off date for introduction of new bills was February 26, and the General Assembly is expected to adjourn by the end of April.

B. Capital projects for parks (SB 892, SB 891)

House Bills 558 and 559 (both sponsored by Rep. McAffee) passed the House in 1991, and the effort this year is on passing their Senate companion bills. HB 558 authorizes a bond sale, the revenues of which must go for purchase of lands or easements needed to make state park boundaries defensible, and for capital projects within the parks. HB 559 raises the fee for motor vehicle certificates of title from \$3.50 to \$5.00. The ca. \$2.3 million/year generated by this change in fee must be spent directly on capital

projects in parks, or must be used to pay for the bonds sold under the provisions of HB 558.

SB 891 and SB 892, both sponsored by Sen. Crutchfield, are the companion bills for HB 559 and HB 558, respectively. Both of these bills are on the Senate Finance Ways & Means calendar for March 31. The following senators constitute this committee:

Doug Henry, Nashville, chair
Leonard Dunavant, Millington
Bob Rochelle, Lebanon
Ben Atchley, Knoxville
Riley Daniell, Clarksville
John Ford, Memphis
Milton Hamilton, Union City
Joe Haynes, Goodlettsville
Randy McNally, Oak Ridge.

✱
If committee action has not yet taken place by the time you read this, and if your senator is on the committee, be sure to call him (if he's not, call Sen. Henry). In any case, call your senator in anticipation of floor action. Remind him that a car tire is replaced only once every few years, and that a \$150 increase for these rare occasions won't really hurt anyone. Tell him that the park budget has been cut to the bone for the past several years and badly needs this new source of revenue.

C. Tennessee Flora 2001 (SB 2416/HB 2385)

This bill, an initiative of the Tennessee Native Plant Society, last year proposed to provide 3 publications on Tennessee's flora by the year 2001. Owing to budgetary constraints, funding for only one of these publications is being requested this year. This is an atlas of the state's 2700 species of vascular plants, in a computerized comprehensive county-by-county inventory format, to be completed in time for the state's bicentennial celebration in 1996. The annual \$12,000 appropriation needed for completing the atlas would come from the interest derived from the Natural Resources Trust Fund, established in 1986.

SB 2416 (Cohen) was passed unanimously by the Senate during the week of March 16. The companion bill, HB 2385 (Curlee, Rhinehart) was passed by the House Agriculture Committee on March 24, also unanimously. It is expected to come to the House floor this week.

D. Legal septic tanks (SB 940/HB 653)

This bill by Sen. Greer and Rep. Jimmy Kyle Davis seeks to ensure compliance with sewage regulations by requiring that State electrical inspectors inspect subsurface-sewage permits before authorizing new electric service. An almost identical law has been very successful in North Carolina. When the bill came up in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee on March 24, Sen.

McNally and two others voted "pass;" thus, the bill failed to get out of committee (it needed 5 "yes" votes, but got only 4). Hopefully, we can get Sen. McNally to support this bill if it comes up again next year.

E. Other bills that need your support

• SB 2560 (Crutchfield)/HB 2448 (Odom) seeks to introduce best management practices (BMPs) into forestry. Forestry is currently exempt from the state's water-quality control law, and the bill would in future limit this exemption to only those forestry activities that used BMPs. Contact your state legislators in support of these bills. If chip mills are indeed coming to Tennessee, enforcement of BMPs is truly essential.

• SB 2264 (Atchley)/HB 2371 (Bittle) directs the Water Quality Control Board to establish and set criteria for an "Outstanding Natural Resource Water" classification.

• SB 2062 (Montgomery)/HB 1918 (Nuber) would stop the cutting of public trees on public road rights-of-way, such as is presently done by private companies to make billboards visible.

- (3) Defensible boundaries need to be established, both for the perimeter of Pickett Forest and for internal segments.
- (4) Pickett SF should be managed for research into silvicultural practices and the response of ecosystems to such practices, more so than for timber yield.
- (5) If timber is harvested in Pickett SF, there should be no clear-cutting (with its resultant regrowth in pine). Any logging should use selective harvesting and long rotation times, and should adhere to Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- (6) Pickett is an ideal place for research, demonstration and education. Its proximity to the BSNRRA offers opportunities to integrate these activities with those of the National Park Service.
- (7) TCWP considers Pickett to be one of the most valuable and unique areas among the state-owned lands in Tennessee, and urges TDF to manage it creatively.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** If you feel Pickett is a State Forest in need of sensitive management, send your comments to Roy Ashley, Division of Forestry, Tenn. Dept. of Agriculture, Nashville, TN 37243-0444.

B. Cumberland Trail: one step forward, two steps back

[Background: In mid-February, a coalition of environmental groups (chiefly TCWP, SOCM, and Sierra Club) asked for Anderson County's help in seeking state funding needed to protect the 200-mile Cumberland Trail.]

The following account was contributed by Bob Luxmoore, TCWP representative in the coalition.

The majority of landowners of the Cumberland Trail (CT) in Anderson County submitted a declaration to the Anderson County Commissioners on March 16, 1992 stating that they have closed access to the CT across their land. The landowners did not have to give any reasons for their action but they stated two. One was the perceived threat of their land being taken by eminent domain as a result of the Anderson County Commissioners' support for the recommendation by the environmental coalition [see Background, above]. The second reason was the misuse of the Trail for hunting and motorized vehicles, and the deterioration of the Trail with trash, damage to vegetation, and the growth of drug plants. These reasons make sense from the owners' point of view.

The Anderson County Commissioners took action to alleviate the first reason by voting not to provide funds for purchasing trail-lands against the landowners' wishes. Since this decision was made after the landowners had decided to close the trail there is some basis for hoping that the landowners

5. AROUND THE STATE

A. TCWP recommendations for Pickett Forest Plan

In 1984, the Tennessee Division of Forestry (TDF) prepared a State Forest System Plan that addressed the collective role of all State Forests. Since then, plans specific to certain Forests (e.g., Prentice Cooper) have been generated to provide management direction within the broad guidelines of the general System Plan. Now it's the turn for Pickett State Forest (SF).

TDF held an information meeting at Jamestown on February 5, and provided an information document entitled "Assessment of Pickett State Forest" (to obtain a copy, call Laura Craft at TDF, 615-742-6617). Subsequently, TCWP sent written comments, making a number of recommendations.

- (1) TDF should purchase (or accept donation of) mineral rights that were retained by the Stearns Coal and Lumber Company at the time it donated the surface of Pickett to the State of Tennessee.
- (2) The Flint Fork Valley should be designated a State Natural Area and protected as such. This highly scenic valley contains large tracts of undisturbed deciduous forest and possesses wilderness qualities.

may reconsider their closure of the CT; however, this is probably wishful thinking at the present time.

We are now in the third decade of the Tennessee Trails Act of 1971 that authorized the establishment of the Cumberland Trail as a State Scenic Trail. The State Department of Conservation established some sections of the 200-mile trail with "verbal easements" (an oxymoron) from some of the landowners. These agreements have not been renewed with change of land ownership, and the Trail has been maintained in some cases on the basis of presumption!

The recommendation by the coalition of citizens' groups to seek legal protection for the CT was prompted by the closure of a 3-mile trail section through the site of a proposed landfill near Oliver Springs. This first closure event showed the vulnerability of the CT. The subsequent action of 35 landowners in closing the Walden Ridge section has reinforced the need to establish a legal basis for the CT that protects both the landowners' rights and enjoyment of their land, and the trail users' access to the trail.

There are several ways of achieving this goal. The most appealing way is for trail users to engage in a dialogue with landowners when the climate for such a dialogue is favorable. We have been through a series of actions and reactions on this issue and, hopefully, it will all lead to a sound basis for the CT from the landowners' and trail users' perspectives at some point in the future.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: It would be useful for Anderson County residents to express support for the CT by contacting their Anderson County Commissioner (call 457-5400 to get his/her name and phone number). The TCWP Board, in cooperation with the other citizens groups that are seeking protection of the Cumberland Trail, will be developing a response to the State on this issue.

C. *Focus on the Clinch and Powell Rivers*

The Clinch and Powell Rivers rise in Virginia and wind through the mountains of NE Tennessee to converge in Norris Reservoir. These scenic rivers provide refuge to one of North America's most unique assemblages of rare plants and animals (more than 190 of the animal species are listed as threatened or endangered), and they support a variety of rural and recreational activities.

Virginia and Tennessee will hold a bi-state Clinch and Powell River Basins conference May 28-30 at Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, TN (near Cumberland Gap). Sponsors include several agencies of both states, 3 federal agencies, and two conservation groups--the Izaak Walton League and the Nature Conservancy. The first day will be

devoted to scientific/technical issues, such as water quality and endangered species. The second day will keynote community river protection, enhancement, and recreational development, and will end in an evening celebration. The final day will be devoted to workshops and field trips. We have been invited to set up a TCWP booth, but would need some of you to volunteer to make this possible (see bottom of p.1). For further info, contact Ray Norris, Nashville, 615-665-2324.

D. *Educating people about chip mills*

The companies (including a Korean one) that have applied to TVA for permits for barge-loading facilities and land for chip mills near Nickajack would consume so much hardwood that forests in an area twice the size of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park would be clearcut within 20 years (NL181 ¶2A; NL182 ¶6B; NL183 ¶4B; NL185 ¶5; NL186 ¶5A). There is also the prospect that unsustainable harvesting on private lands will lead to increased pressure for timber from public lands, such as national and state forests. Lots of people in East Tennessee would be very concerned about this, if only they knew of the threats. Several organizations are now trying to get this information before the public.

In February, TAGER (Tennesseans/Alabamans/Georgians for Environmental Responsibility) presented a slide show and discussion at U.T. on environmental and economic effects. One economic consequence of chip mills moving into the area would be the demise of the hardwood industry (e.g., furniture making, construction of pallets). A slide show about the chip mill issue is also available from the Rhea County chapter of SOCM.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: (1) If you belong to any civic groups or other organizations looking for programs, suggest they get the slide show and one of the TAGER or SOCM speakers (for TAGER, write POBox 764, South Pittsburg, TN 37380; for SOCM, POBox 479, Lake City, TN 37769). (2) Write letters to the editor of your paper, describing the issue. (3) If you have not already done so, request to be put on the mailing list for TVA's upcoming draft EIS (write Paul Schmierbach, Environmental Quality Staff, TVA, 400 West Summit Hill Dr, Knoxville, TN 37902).

E. *Knox Greenways Coalition*

This recently created coalition (of which TCWP is a member) has been mighty active, carrying out studies and holding field trips to identify greenway potential in the city and county. They have put together a slide show that has been presented to several civic and other groups, and have recruited individual and organizational memberships.

Mayor Victor Ashe, who promised to emphasize parks and greenways in his second term, created the Knoxville Greenways and Community Trails

Commission, chaired by Will Skelton. In February, Knoxville City Council adopted the Commission's report. The concept plan envisions a system of 14 linear parks connecting neighborhoods, existing parks, schools, etc. The Coalition is asking its members to urge Mayor Ashe to hire a full-time staff person to be in charge of implementing the Commission's report (address: 6th Floor, City/County Bldg, Main Ave., Knoxville 37902).

The Knox County executive, Dwight Kessel, has expressed support of the greenways concept, and his assistant for parks has already been working on a greenways plan for the county (and beyond). In January, the County Commission allocated \$140,000 toward Knox County Greenways.

F. Stripmine "reclamation" in Tennessee

Annetta Watson, testifying at a recent House subcommittee hearing on the Office of Surface Mining (OSM), reported that stripmine sites all over Tennessee produce polluted and/or acidwater, even after OSM has declared them to be reclaimed. Of 12 sites surveyed in Tennessee, over 50% were found to have offsite water-quality problems, such as excess iron or manganese and/or acidic pH. OSM's poor enforcement practices are also evident in other areas. Thus, a SOCM study has shown that OSM collects only 14% of all the fines it issues; and OSM often takes years to get mine sites reclaimed, even when a bond is available.

G. State-designated scenic highways

The Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (STEPA, also known as the Federal Highway Act), signed December 1991, bans construction of new billboards on state-designated scenic highways that are part of the Federal Aid system, and requires that all illegal billboards be removed by March 17, 1992. In addition, STEPA requires states to spend 10% of the federal Surface Transportation Program, matched by the states in a ratio of 1:4, on enhancement activities, such as billboard removal in scenic areas, landscaping, wildflower planting, scenic easements, rail-to-trail projects, control of road-pollution run-off, etc. Tennessee is expected to receive \$66.3 million for such activities between 1992 and 1997. If you are interested in such matters, contact the Tennessee commissioner of Transportation (3700 James K. Polk Bldg, Nashville TN 37243, Ph 615-741-2331) and ask him how the state plans to spend the enhancement funds.

H. Stones River National Battlefield expanded

Near Murfreesboro lies the site of one of the hardest-fought battles of the Civil War. About 440 acres have been preserved for some time as a National Park System unit. Recently, Sen. Sasser and Congressman Gordon got the Congress to add another 300 acres. Unfortunately, the most historically significant portion of that addition, a 24-

acre tract, was bought by the New Vision Baptist Church shortly before the bill was signed. So far, the church has not been willing to sell, but since it has not yet started construction, hope remains.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE 1992 ELECTION

A. Presidential profiles

In February, the League of Conservation Voters published profiles on Bush, Buchanan, and the 5 Democratic candidates that were in the running at that time. The profiles analyzed each person's environmental record and commitments, and (for those who cooperated) their responses to a questionnaire and an extensive interview. If you want a copy of the profile for any specific candidate(s), send a self-addressed, stamped (29¢) envelope to the TCWP address.

Neither of the Republican candidates responded to the questionnaire or agreed to an interview. The Bush record was summarized by LCV with regard to the following: (a) global warming (refuses to set limits on greenhouse gas emissions, supports greater use of fossil fuels); (b) Clean Air Act (positive contribution, though he later pushed for weakening of bill); (c) endangered species (opposed logging halts -- via spotted-owl listing -- in ancient forests of the NW); (d) forests (originally for phasing out "below-cost" timber sales, but caved in to industry pressure); (e) wetlands (revised the definition, thus dropping from protection 20-40% of wetlands remaining in lower 48 states); (f) energy strategy (proposes incentives for oil production -- including drilling in ANWR -- instead of conservation); (g) population (vetoed U.S. contribution to U.N. Population Fund).

The Buchanan position is epitomized by these excerpts from a letter in which he declined to answer the LCV questionnaire. "...these goals [clean air, clean water, etc.] are useless if they are not compatible with growth, private-property rights, development, and progress. ... God gave nature to man to use and man has a responsibility to act as good steward of the environment. ... But elevating the preservation of nature above the well-being of man, as some environmental extremists seek to do, is never justified."

Among the Democratic candidates, the ones who have dropped out had better records than the ones who are still in the running: Tsongas, in particular, was outstanding. Brown, while governor of California, convinced people that there were limits to growth, got some utilities to institute pricing strategies that were conducive to energy conservation, supported development of solar and

wind energy, and required auto makers to utilize pollution-control technologies. His record is, however, flawed on two major issues. (a) Instead of championing water-conservation measures, he favored construction of a major canal (ultimately defeated in a state referendum) to bring water from northern to southern California. This canal would have had major detrimental effects on the environment. (b) He capitulated to federal pressure to allow oil drilling off the California coast.

Arkansas environmentalists classify Clinton as a "late comer" to the environmental movement. In over a decade of his governorship, relatively little headway was made in developing environmentally sound policies; however, Clinton has recently promoted an ambitious pro-environment legislative package for the state. Most complaints about Gov. Clinton's environmental record involve his appointees to commissions (heavy on industrialists and agribusiness people, light on environmentalists), and his performance on issues like clearcutting, hazardous waste incineration, and water quality (few restraints on obvious polluters). Clinton's strongest record is in land conservation. During his tenure, 24 areas have been added to the state's Natural Areas System, 3 state parks and 2 wildlife management areas have been established, over 30 tracts have been added to the state park system, and a permanent fund for land preservation was enacted.

B. Environmental Scorecard for Congress

Last month, the League of Conservation Voters (LCV) released its *National Environmental Scorecard*, an assessment of how well the 102nd Congress did on environmental issues during its first session. Senators and House members were rated by their votes on 15 and 13 issues, respectively. Among these issues were global warming, energy efficiency and conservation, wild and scenic rivers, biodiversity and endangered species, ANWR, wetlands, natural resources, pollution and human health, national park integrity, ancient forests, population, and several others. This is how the Tennessee delegation scored in 1991; prior scores are also shown.

	1991	'89/'90	'87/'88
SENATE			
Sasser (D)	53	68	50
Gore (D)	73	95	50
HOUSE			
Oxillen (R)	0	6	19
Duncan (R)	8	28	—
Lloyd (D)	38	50	25
Cooper (D)	77	78	75
Clement (D)	54	61	50
Gordon (D)	54	83	63
Sundquist (R)	8	28	19
Tanner (D)	31	56	—
Ford (D)	77	72	50

All of our House members will be running in the 1992 election. If your Representative is a high scorer, and you plan to vote for him, we hope you will let him know his environmental record is a major factor in your decision; ditto for a low scorer you plan to vote against.

It may be of interest that the average 1991 House score for the Tennessee delegation (39%) exactly equals the South East average, which is 3rd from the bottom among 7 regions. On the other hand, the average Senate score for Tennesseans (63%) is almost twice the regional Senate average (34%). Nationally, Republicans (20 and 29% for House and Senate, respectively), average considerably lower than Democrats (63 and 65%).

C. How to make financial support of candidates count for the environment

Many of us send financial contributions to campaign committees that work for certain Congressional or Presidential candidates. When we do this, our dollars don't speak on behalf of specific issues. If you want to show that the environment weighs heavily in your decision to support a candidate, make your check out to him/her -- but send it to the League of Conservation Voters. LCV will "bundle" all the checks received for the same donee and transmit them to the candidate, conveying the message "here is money for your campaign from people who want you to protect the environment." LCV's address: 1707 L Street NW, Suite 550, Washington, DC 20036. Call them at 202-765-6663 if you have questions.

D. "Conservation ballot" propositions

After the defeat of California's "Big Green" ballot proposition in 1990, many columnists and political pundits glibly declared environmental initiatives to be dead. Even the 1990 record proves them wrong. Of 31 major environmental ballot propositions in 12 states, 61% were successful that year. By comparison, only 38% of all initiatives (regardless of topic) on state ballots have passed in this century.

In 1992, there will be at least 28 environmental initiatives on the ballots of 14 states. AMERICANS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT has produced a *Guidebook to 1992 Conservation Ballot Propositions* (at the state and local level), which is being distributed to the media in the hope of avoiding some of the unjust pronouncements that were made in 1990. You can order a copy (\$5, including postage) by writing to 1400 Sixteenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20036-6665.

E. "E" word not heard in the State-of-the-Union address

The "Environmental President" failed to mention any environmental issues in the State-of-the-Union address. Instead, a 90-day moratorium on federal

regulations was instituted which, at best, will be of negligible benefit to the economy, but will delay implementation of crucial coal mining, recycling, and pollution regulations. Additionally, the White House Competitiveness Council, headed by Vice President Quayle, seems to have been created for the sole purpose of delaying or derailing regulations required by law to address such issues as clean air, clean water, and wetlands.

7. NATIONAL PARKS AND OTHER PUBLIC LANDS

A. California Desert bill: a dangerous amendment threatens Park System

Ever since 1986, legislative proposals have been before Congress to expand protection for the California desert, a place of harsh climate but great beauty, variety, and ecological significance. Last November, the House passed overwhelmingly (297-136) Rep. Mel Levine's bill, HR 2929, that would protect 7.1 million acres of federal land in southeastern California -- the largest wilderness measure ever approved by the House for the lower 48 states. The bill expands Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments by 1.3 and 0.2 million acres, respectively, and redesignates both of them as national parks. About 4.1 million acres of BLM land, in 73 separate areas, would receive wilderness designation, and BLM's 1.5-million-acre East Mojave Scenic Area would become a national monument.

There was only one hitch: an amendment was added that would permit sport hunting and trapping in the new Mojave National Monument. The amendment was part of the continuing campaign by the National Rifle Association (NRA) and its allies to open national parklands to recreational hunting. National parks and national monuments are currently the only areas of public land that are off-limits to sport hunting and trapping; the NRA amendment -- if it stays in the bill -- would thus constitute a disastrous precedent for parks yet to be authorized (and perhaps even for existing ones). Hunting has always been permitted on BLM lands, and would continue to be under the provisions of HR 2929. The Mojave National Monument (surrounded by BLM lands) should fulfill the function of providing sanctuary for the area's wildlife.

It will be essential to keep the hunting amendment out of the Senate companion bill, S.21 (Cranston, D-CA). S.21 would designate the Mojave area a national park (rather than monument), and is stronger, in other ways too, than the House bill; e.g., it establishes 250,000 additional acres of wilderness on BLM land, and it makes slightly larger additions to Death Valley and Joshua Tree. On the other hand, several compromises have also been made; e.g.,

boundaries were drawn to leave almost all existing ORV areas open, and current grazing allotments would be allowed to continue for 25 years. Despite the compromises, and apart from the hunting amendment, the battle for S.21 will be a tough one. This is because the state's other Senator, John Seymour (R-CA), who is up for re-election this November, is in opposition to the measure as written; he would designate a radically reduced acreage. S.21 has been referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Urge your senators to co-sponsor and support S.21, without any provision(s) allowing hunting, and without any further compromises. Address on p. 2. [A new 5-minute video on the area, "The Vanishing Desert," maybe borrowed from the National Parks and Conservation Assn. (NPCA Grassroots Dept., 1776 Mass. Ave., NW, Wash., DC 20036)].

B. Montana Wilderness bill in jeopardy

S.1696, titled the Montana Wilderness Act by its sponsor, Max Baucus, should more properly be called "Montana Wilderness Axe," according to informed groups. The bill would protect less than 2 million acres of roadless Forest Service lands (mostly at high elevations) while releasing more than 4 million acres of lower-elevation forests to logging, mining, and road construction. Included among the released tracts are ancient forests in NW Montana, and habitat for grizzly, elk, and moose. The Senate recently passed this disastrous bill, but it may yet be stopped in the House.

✱ **WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Ask two House committee chairmen for help in stopping this disastrous legislation. They are Rep. George Miller (D-CA) and Rep. Bruce Vento (D-MN). Send a copy to your own Representative and ask him/her to strongly oppose this bill.

C. Land & Water Conservation Fund

Appropriations under the LWCF provide the money for land acquisition for 4 federal agencies, as well as for the states. Although about \$900 million is available to be appropriated each year, recent appropriations have been only about one-third this amount. This year, the Administration is requesting a slight increase in the LWCF, as shown in the table below [Source: Common Ground].

	FY91	FY92	Bush 93
NPS (excl. states)	\$104.4	68.1	87.9
State grants	29.8	19.7	56.5
FWS	98.7	99.9	79.5
Forest Service	88.7	68.3	100.0
BLM	15.1	25.5	42.1
TOTAL	336.7	321.4	366.0

Big winners are state grants, and BLM. Fish & Wildlife Service is a loser. A look at the list of projects indicates that no money has been proposed by the Administration for either the Big South Fork or Obed (see also 11B, this NL). For the Park Service's Rivers and Trails Technical Assistance (to the states), \$8 million is requested for FY'93 -- up from \$5 million last year.

D. Public-land issues on TV

The "World of Audubon" is a series of TV specials, each about a different environmental issue. A few months ago, "The New Range Wars" examined (in a very fair and mild manner) the problem of private grazing on public lands. [Having just returned from a short hiking vacation in Great Basin National Park, I can attest to the pervasive damage grazing causes in fragile -- and not so fragile -- lands.] The National Inholders Association (see NL 186 ¶9E) organized a letter-writing campaign against the Audubon Specials, and many sponsors withdrew their support when threatened with boycotts, the most recent being GE (who attributed its decision to the recession). Is this the demise of issue-oriented programming on TV?

E. The spotted owl and Ancient Forest protection

The "God Squad's" ruling on whether or not to exempt the spotted owl from the protection of the Endangered Species Act (NL 186 ¶9A) will not be published until April and will be covered in our next Newsletter. The final ruling on critical habitat, written by the US Fish & Wildlife Service, has, however, been published (1/15/92). It takes up about 50 pages in the Federal Register. Dick Ambrose has a copy of it, which he'll gladly make available to interested TCWP members. Call him at 482-9229.

6. OTHER NATIONAL ISSUES

A. Energy legislation revisited

Though last year's Senate energy bill was defeated primarily because it included provisions to drill for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, there were many other reasons for wanting the bill dead (NL 184 ¶1A). But, as a recent letter from NRDC states (perhaps too pessimistically), in defending the environment, there are no victories, only stays of execution. ANWR drilling is not part of the new Johnston/Vallop energy bill, S.2166, but is likely to be attached to the President's "Jobs Bill." In regard to other provisions, S.2166 is said to be only marginally better than last year's S.1220.

S.2166, which passed the Senate 94:4 on February 19, promotes energy production and downplays energy conservation. Despite a preamble on the need to reduce greenhouse gases, the bill in several ways promotes the production and burning of fossil fuels, e.g., by partially deregulating the electric

utility industry. The most serious flaw of all: it has no provisions for increasing fuel-efficiency standards for automobiles. The bill also fails to encourage production of alternative fuels (such as methanol), weakens the regulation of hydroelectric dams, and restricts citizen participation in the licensing of pipelines and nuclear power plants.

On the plus side: new efficiency standards for electric appliances and buildings; a requirement that, by the year 2000, 90% of the government vehicle fleet use alternative fuels; and higher efficiency standards for light bulbs and electric motors (an amendment by Sen. Tim Wirth).

S.2166 also includes a moratorium on oil drilling off several shores (most of New England, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington), but not off all. Senator Bob Graham sought to restrict drilling in offshore areas around Florida and in other environmentally sensitive areas, but the amendment was fought tooth and nail by the American Petroleum Institute and lost 51:47. Senator Gore voted in favor of restricting off-shore oil exploration and deserves our thanks; Sen. Sasser voted against this restriction.

A House bill is currently in the Energy and Commerce Committee, and may reach the floor by Easter.

A recent *New York Times* editorial discusses the fact that many people, including White House advisers, seem convinced that energy efficiency is the sworn enemy of economic growth. Experience shows this to be untrue. "Between 1973 and 1986, total U.S. energy consumption remained level, and CO₂ emissions actually dropped, even as the economy expanded by 40%. And the benefits of, say, cleaner air are not measured in conventional gross national product figures."

B. The Highway Act: bad and good features

Despite pressure from environmental and hiking groups (NL 184 ¶8A), the 1991 Federal Highway Act retained Sen. Symms' language on the National Recreational Trails Fund, which is generated by taxes paid on the sale of gasoline for non-highway recreational vehicles. Only 30% of any state's share are earmarked for trails that bar motorized use. Another 30% are earmarked for motor trails, and the remaining 40% are up for grabs; thus, conceivably, 70% might go for the construction and/or maintenance of trails used by motorized vehicles. This could lead to more ORV use and access to presently unspoiled federal lands in the west.

The US Dept of Transportation (rather than USDOT) will make annual allocations of the Fund to governor-appointed state administrators. This is another feature that may skew the program in favor of motorized trail users. It will be important for interested

groups to make sure the unassigned 40% is used for non-motorized trails.

The Highway Act also authorized a total of \$80 million for the creation of scenic byways, subject to authorized "corridor protection plans." It includes funds for mitigating wetland losses and air-quality impacts, encourages construction of walk- and bikeways, and requires states to develop comprehensive transportation plans. For other features, see §5G, this NL.

C. Gore's "Earth in Balance" - a book you must read

After three years of work, Sen. Al Gore, Jr., has produced an outstanding book, *Earth in Balance*, strong in its science, and inspiring in its values. While lots of politicians still insist the threat isn't real, Gore uses the latest research results to demonstrate that the quality of our air, water, and soil is at grave risk. Such alarming issues as rising CO₂ levels, the deteriorating ozone layer, and the rapid destruction of rain forests must now be considered from a strategic point of view: Gore believes that these threats exceed the fading potential of nuclear war. "No one can afford to assume that the world will somehow solve its problems. We must all become partners in a bold effort to change the very foundation of our civilization."

While the roots of the crisis reach into every aspect of society, a sizeable portion of the blame must be assigned to our political leaders, many of whom ignore the long-term consequences of timid policy choices. In a comprehensive plan for action that requires world-wide mobilization, Gore addresses numerous issues, including population trends, appropriate technology, and environmental education.

If any of you heard Sen. Gore discuss his book on BOOKBEAT (C-Span) you must have been impressed by his intelligence, knowledge, and humanity. So sad to think he is not running for President!

[The book is published by Houghton Mifflin Co. and is available for \$22.95 at local bookstores.]

9. INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

A. Ban on driftnet fishing enacted

The slaughter of marine life due to driftnet fishing has been on an unbelievable scale. E.g., the Japanese squid fleet -- only one of five driftnet fisheries in the North Pacific -- in 1990 killed (in addition to squid) over 700,000 blue sharks, 39,000,000 other fish, 270,000 seabirds, 26,000 marine mammals, and 405 sea turtles.

Responding to world outcry, the United Nations voted in December to ban driftnet fishing worldwide by the end of this year. The U.N. resolution was sponsored by the US government, which had been under pressure from environmental activists.

B. International Family Planning

We are faced with an increase in world population that will cripple the planet. Ignoring this threat, the Reagan Administration enacted the "Mexico City Policy" which disqualifies private voluntary organizations (e.g., Planned Parenthood) from receiving US population assistance funds if they use these funds to support private family planning agencies overseas that provide information about abortion. This policy applies EVEN if the services are paid for by private and/or non-US funds! The "Mexico City Policy" has essentially defunded family-planning services in developing countries.

Sen. Lautenberg (D-NJ) is offering an amendment to the Foreign Aid Appropriations Bill to reverse the "Mexico City Policy."



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Without delay, contact Sen. Sasser and urge him to support Sen. Lautenberg's amendment. Address on p.2 -- or call.

10. TCWP RECRUITING PART-TIME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Several months ago, Jenny Freeman, who has long served TCWP as part-time executive director, found the demands of a full-time job and a 3-year old to be too great and asked to resign. (Fortunately, however, she is now serving on the Board as elected Secretary.) We badly miss the many major things she was able to achieve while working as exec director, and have decided that we must mount a formal search for a replacement.



The following announcement goes first to you, our members, in the hope that some of you may apply for the position yourselves, or else know the person who would be perfect for the job. Subsequently, we'll advertise in newsletters of other organizations and in area newspapers.

This is obviously not a job for someone who has no other sources of income. It also requires someone with flexible time and adjustable work habits. For the truly motivated person, though, this can be an exciting and highly rewarding job.

ANNOUNCEMENT

TCWP is seeking a part-time executive director to assist the Board in carrying out its program of local, regional, and national advocacy for wilderness and the

environment, to build membership, and to improve the organization's financial base.

Many of the organization's activities are carried out by Board members and other volunteers. The new director's precise responsibilities will depend on the successful candidate's personal skills, experience, and interest, and upon the organization's changing needs.

TCWP has budgeted funds for about 10 hours per week for this position, at a salary of \$7.00 per hour. Some weeks will require less time; others will require more.

Job responsibilities

The executive director will be retained as a consultant, responsible for using independent judgement on how to accomplish the goals set by the Board of Directors. Specific duties may include:

- Preparing letters summarizing TCWP's position on local, state, and national environmental issues
- Preparing written testimonies, and making oral presentations before administrative agencies and federal, state, or local legislative bodies
- Coordinating advocacy and educational campaigns among other organizations and environmental leaders
- Bringing the TCWP cause to public attention by contact with the media, civic clubs, schools, etc.
- Monitoring public and private decision-making on issues affecting areas and policies determined to be of interest to TCWP
- Researching the impact of proposed policies or legislative measures
- Promoting communication with members through the Newsletter, telephone, and special mailings
- Helping membership committees to organize annual meetings, Board meetings, and special events
- Assisting membership committees to raise funds and to publicize TCWP positions.

Qualifications

The candidate should have:

- personal initiative, ability to work independently, with goals rather than supervision;
- strong writing skills;
- ability to interact with public or elected officials, and with the media;
- ability to make public presentations;
- ability to organize the required tasks.

11. OTHER TCWP NEWS

A. Board members assume issue responsibilities

At its February meeting, the TCWP Board of Directors decided to distribute responsibility for our major ongoing issues to individual directors or officers. These Board members may either themselves handle the issue, or identify an individual or committee among the membership willing to do so. Not all major issues have been distributed so far, but here is a start.

Obed and Big South Fork: Lee Russell.
Other rivers; rivers assessment: Jenny Freeman.
State legislative and administrative issues: Eric Hirst.
Cherokee National Forest: Dave Adler.
Chip mills; TVA: Maureen Cunningham.
Local issues: Maureen Cunningham.
Election-year activities: Neil McBride.
National issues will be tackled on an ad hoc basis. As of now, Larry Pounds has taken on endangered species, and Maureen wefflands.

We hope that those of you who have an interest in working on the issues already distributed, or on those yet to be distributed (e.g., Smokies), will contact us (p. 1) or one of the Board members named above.

B. Reminders

★ Have you paid your dues? Your prompt payment allows us to make better use of our money, and saves us much effort in re-billing you.

★ Have you filled out and mailed the Rivers Assessment questionnaire that was enclosed with NL 186? It won't take much of your time and does not need an envelope (just fold, and add stamp).

Did you save your POLITICAL GUIDE in an accessible place? And are you using it often to contact legislators, etc?

C. We thank our volunteers

We are grateful to the following who prepared the mailing for our fund-raising appeal, which brought such fine returns (see NL 186 §10B): Brien and Dee Ann Ostby, and Dick Ambrose.

Many thanks also to all those who assembled NL 186 on January 28: Bill Allen, Dick Ambrose, Robert and Margaret Compton, Charlie Klabunde, Ruth Lassiter, Marion Roesel, and Robert and Janet Lowrie.

12. JOB OPENINGS; ACTIVITIES; READING MATTER

[People do read this section of the NL. A TCWP member recently applied for a job he had seen announced in our NEWSLETTER before the opening was advertised elsewhere. His application was successful!]

- **JOB OPENING:** River Network is seeking a Director for its River Leadership Project, a program designed to strengthen the effort of local river protection leaders. Must have leadership experience within a grassroots organization, and must be able to travel. Contact Lindy Walsh, POBox 8787, Portland, OR 97207; Ph.: 503-241-35-6.
- April 5, May 8 & 9, Tuckasegee River clean-up. Contact Timothy Charles Jacobs, Director, A.K. Hinds University Center, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723; Ph.: 704-227-7206.
- April 9-10, Berea College, workshops on Creating Effective Boards and on Fundraising. Call Wendy Johnson, Appalachian Community Fund, 615-523-5783.
- April 10-12, Memphis. 5th National Citizens' Conference on Groundwater, sponsored by Friends of the Earth, 216 D Street, SE, Wash., DC 20003; Ph: 544-2600 ext.211.
- May 1-3, Tennessee Audubon Council Spring Fling, Big South Fork. Contact John Doyal, 200 Hillcrest Ave, Chattanooga, TN 37411.
- May 2-10, Annual Nolichucky River Clean-up (dates coincide with National Rivers Clean-up Week). Contact Melody Urner, Expeditions, Inc., POBox 977, Erwin, TN 37650; Ph.: 615-743-7111.
- May 15-17, Tremont. The Gt. Smoky Mountains Inst. will conduct a Spring Naturalists' Weekend. Call 615-448-6709 about this and numerous other programs offered by the Institute.
- May 16, The Nature Conservancy sponsors a 12.3-mile hike on the Appalachian Trail. Call Nashville, 615-242-1787.
- May 28-30, Clinch-Powell conference at Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, TN. See 15C, this NL; or call Ray Norris, Nashville, 615-665-2324.
- June 6, The Nature Conservancy sponsors a birdwalk in the SE portion of the Cherokee National Forest. Call TNC, Nashville, 615-242-1787.
- *Helping Out in the Outdoors*, prepared by the American Hiking Society (AHS), is a guide to over 2,000 volunteer jobs on public lands, involving field work relating to trails, habitat, recreation, or wildlife. Some of the positions provide housing, offer some reimbursement, or result in academic credit. \$5 from AHS, POBox 20160, Washington, DC 20041-2160.
- *I Love the Earth*, a collection of environmental songs on audio-tape/cassette is available for \$9.95 from the Gt Smoky Mtns Natural History Assn, 115 Park Headquarters Rd, Gatlinburg, TN 37738. The tape was recorded at the Gt Smoky Mtns Inst at Tremont,

and most of the proceeds from the tape will go into the Tremont scholarship fund.

- *Forest Service Planning: Accommodating Uses, Producing Outputs, and Sustaining Ecosystems*, is a highly informative report by the Office of Technology Assessment (Jack Gibbons, Director). The report, OTA-F-505, is available for \$10 from New Orders, Supt. of Documents, POBox 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954.
- *State of Tennessee Water Quality Standards*, rules for implementation of General Water Quality Criteria, and for Use Classifications for Surface Water, Available from the Tenn Dept of Environment and Conservation.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please note the form enclosed with this mailing (for Oak Ridge area members only) that asks you to volunteer for helping to assemble the NEWSLETTER. Publishing the NEWSLETTER is one of TCWP's most important activities, and much volunteer effort goes into the research, writing, and editing. A relatively small contribution of your time (2-3 hours no more than 6 times a year) will help us tremendously in completing the process. And it's fun, too!



!! PLEASE READ !!

We need to make an important decision. Can we continue to assemble and mail the TCWP Newsletter using volunteers?

To make this decision, we have to know our member's interest in this activity. If you wish to make a 12-month commitment to serve on a newsletter production team, please sign and return this form. You will be called no more than four times during the 12 months to spend about 2 hours one evening in Oak Ridge to assemble the newsletter. Or volunteer to help on an as needed basis during the 12-month period.

This is a fun, social activity that provides much needed support for TCWP. Please consider volunteering!

- ☐ Yes, I am willing to serve for 12-months on the newsletter assembly team.
- ☐ Yes, I want to help but cannot commit for the full 12-month period. Call me on an as needed basis.

NAME _____
Phone _____

Mail to: M. Cunningham, 102 Lake Hills Dr., OR, 37830

