

# TENNESSEE CITIZENS for WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 192

March 19, 1993



- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Big South Fork and Obed .....                    | p. 3                         |
| A. Support acquisition funds!                       | C. Black bears for BSF-NRRA? |
| B. Clear Creek dam proposal                         | D. Friends of Obed network   |
| 2. Bills before the Tennessee General Assembly..... | p. 4                         |
| A. Clear-cut ban needs support                      | C. EAF's initiatives         |
| B. Harmful golf-course bills                        | D. Other bills               |
| 3. Other state issues.....                          | p. 6                         |
| A. Pickett additions                                | B. Fiery Gizzard             |
|   | C. Center Hill Marina        |
| 4. Cherokee National Forest.....                    | p. 7                         |
| A. French Broad corridor                            | C. Lawsuit                   |
| B. Nolichucky W & S River?                          | E. Guide to the Cherokee     |
|   | D. Ecosystems study          |
| 5. Smokies.....                                     | p. 8                         |
| A. Road bill introduced                             | C. AQ and Tenn. Eastman      |
| B. Cabin leases end                                 | D. Ecosystems study          |

---

*North Ridge Trail*  
*March 27*  
*See ¶10A1*

---

*March for Parks, BSF*  
*May 1*  
*See ¶10A2*

---

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 6. Chip mills and related news .....               | p. 9                               |
| A. TVA's EIS recommends denial                     | C. Chipmills and Cumberland R.     |
| B. More political input                            | D. South Cumberland timber         |
| 7. Stripmine depredations .....                    | p. 10                              |
| A. Skyline failed to obey law                      | B. Fall Creek Falls "522" petition |
| 8. National Park issues.....                       | p. 11                              |
| A. California Desert                               | C. Park water imperiled            |
| B. Effectiveness of NPS                            | D. Dirty air                       |
|  | E. Dirty dealings                  |
|  | F. A breath of fresh air           |
| 9. Other national news .....                       | p. 12                              |
| A. Office of Environmental Policy                  | C. Population policy reversed      |
| B. The Wildlands Project                           |                                    |
| 10. TCWP news .....                                | p. 13                              |
| A. Upcoming events                                 | C. Worthington cemetery            |
| B. Whites Creek report                             | E. Volunteers                      |
|  | D. Miscellany                      |
| 11. Job openings; activities; reading matter ..... | p. 14                              |
| 12. ACTION SUMMARY.....                            | p. 2                               |

# 11 . ACTION SUMMARY

| No.  | Issue                               | Contact   | "Message!" or Action   |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1A   | Obed & Big S. Fork                  | Reps. Lloyd, Cooper,<br>your own Rep.<br>Sens. Sasser, Mathews  | "Support land acquisition funds!"                                |
| 1B   | Clear Creek dam                     | FmHA (copies to Reps &<br>Sens.) EPA                            | "Abandon dam proposal!"  |
| 1D   | Friends of Obed                     | TCWP  | Join the network   |
| 2A   | Catoosa clear-cutting<br>moratorium | State Rep. & Sen. ;<br>Sen. O'Brien                             | "Support HB155/SB 247!"  |
| 2B   | Golf courses in state parks         | State Rep. & Sen.   | "Oppose golf-course bills!"                                      |
| 2C   | Citizens' suits                     | State Rep. & Sen.   | "Support SB 1496/HB 1381!"                                       |
| 3A   | Pickett protection                  | Gov. McWherter<br>(copies to State Rep. &<br>Sen; Sen. O'Brien) | "Acquire Stearns lands W. of Pickett!"                           |
| 3B   | Big Flery Gizzard Creek             | Gov. McWherter; EPA   | "Oppose permit for dam!"   |
| 4A   | French Broad corridor               | Rep. Guillen; Sens.<br>Sasser & Mathews                         | "Support LWCF appropriation!"                                    |
| 4B   | Nolichucky                          | Sen. Mathews (copies<br>to Rep. Guillen &<br>your own Rep.)     | "Support Wild & Scenic River status!"                            |
| 5A   | Smokies                             | Sens. Mathews &<br>Sasser                                       | "Oppose Helms' road bill!"                                       |
| 7A   | Skyline mine                        | Rep. Lloyd  | "Hear the other side!"   |
| 8A   | California Desert                   | Sen. Mathews<br>Rep. Durvan                                     | "Co-sponsor S.21! Resist hunting in parks!"<br>"Support HR 518!" |
| 9C   | Population policy                   | Pres. Clinton   | "Thanks for repealing Mexico City Policy!"                       |
| 10A1 | North Ridge Trail                   | TCWP  | Participate, March 27  |
| 10A2 | March for Parks                     | TCWP  | Participate, May 1   |
| 10D  | Workplace giving                    | TCWP (Joan Burns)   | Inform us of agency used in workplace                            |

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 AND OBED

### A. *Your support needed for protecting Obed and Big S. Fork lands*

Land acquisition for the Obed National Wild & Scenic River (OWSR) corridor is less than half complete: and over 16,000 acres remain to be acquired for the Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area (BSF-NRRA). While these lands within the authorized boundaries remain in private ownership, they are highly vulnerable to harmful developments, such as logging, mining and road building, and such activities have, in fact, occurred. It is very important that the vulnerable acreage be brought under protection of public ownership. With the new Congress in session and working rapidly on numerous bills, it is necessary for us to act early enough to secure land-acquisition appropriations for OWSR and BSF-NRRA: last year, we failed on both of these quests (within Tennessee, only Stones River National Battlefield received funds, see NL190 ¶2A) -- we must not go empty-handed again.

Funding for acquisition of authorized National Park System and National Forest lands is appropriated by the Congress from the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which is tied -- at the rate of \$900 million annually -- by revenues from offshore oil-drilling revenues. Despite this rate of growth of the Fund, Congress has appropriated an average of just \$253 million annually. A report by numerous environmental groups annually advises Congressional committees of consensus priorities by the environmental community. This year's consensus recommendations by 36 groups include \$3 million for the BSF-NRRA and \$785,000 for the OWSR (also \$1 million for the Cherokee NF -- see ¶4A, this NL). (The sum of recommendations nationwide amounts to \$1,058 million).

One reason appropriations have been so much lower than the LWCF monies actually available is that members of Congress are not hearing from their constituents. LET THEM HEAR FROM YOU ABOUT OWSR AND BSF-NRRA!

WHAT YOU CAN DO: One reason we failed to get funds last year was that OWSR and BSF-NRRA funding was included only in the Senate bill, not in the House bill. So, without neglecting our Senators, let us concentrate on our Representatives. Congresswoman Lloyd has the Obed (and part of the BSF-NRRA) in her district. Congressman Cooper has the part of the BSF-NRRA where acquisition needs are greatest. When contacting these people, explain briefly why the completion of these units is so important. (Simply put: highly destructive developments threaten unless the lands in question are protected by acquisition.) Urge the Representatives and Senators to support adequate FY'94 LWCF appropriation in general, and the BSF-NRRA and OWSR appropriations in particular.

Ask them whether they are willing to do this; and if they don't respond, or respond inadequately, write again. [Oak Ridge: visit Marilyn Lloyd's office in person and ask to speak to Martha Wallis. Make it clear we are asking for acquisition funds; Obed got development funds last year.]

### B. *Status of the Clear Creek Dam proposal*

It's unbelievable that anyone should have the gall to propose a dam for the Clear Creek, one of the two major tributaries of the Obed River: but this has, in fact, happened (NL191 ¶1B). Downstream from the Fentress County line, the Clear Creek is included in the Obed National Wild & Scenic River. The proposed dam would impound an upstream Clear Creek segment west of US127, creating a 100-acre water-supply reservoir, and robbing a good deal of water from the Obed system.

On Oct. 13, 1992, the Catoosa Utility District submitted a Project Notification Form for this dam to the State Clearing House (in the Tennessee State Planning Office); the State Clearing House forwarded this to 9 agencies and set November 20 as the cut-off date for comments. The National Park Service heard nothing about the proposal until December, and then not through official channels.

The Project Notification Form names the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) as the federal agency that would fund the project to the tune of \$3,370,000 -- half grant and half loan. To the question "Will a Federal agency from whom you are asking funding assistance for this activity require that an Environmental Impact Statement be prepared on the activity?" the applicant responds with "No."

FmHA has now heard from the National Park Service, from TCWP, from NPCA (Natl. Parks & Conservation Assn), and from one or two other organizations and individuals. TCWP's letter pointed out that the proposed dam project appears unnecessary, would create a water supply that is considerably more expensive than the presently available one (see NL191 ¶1B), and -- above all -- would have direct and adverse impacts on the National Wild & Scenic River. We stated that if the project is not abandoned outright, at the very least a full Environmental Impact Statement must be generated. Copies of our letter were sent to Vice President Gore, our Senators and Representatives, State officials, the EPA, and others.

In their response to us FmHA writes: "While the tone of your letter is one of alarm [italics theirs] I believe that you will find that FmHA will allow and foster public participation." They go on to say that the agency "has not begun its [sic] environmental assessment of this proposed development." A mere EA would, in our opinion, be totally inadequate.

This view is shared by EPA. In a recent detailed letter to FmHA, EPA states "... we feel that the FmHA should prepare an Environmental Impact Statement that fully explores a range of realistic alternatives for the project, investigates the level of environmental impacts associated with each alternative, involves full public disclosure of information, and allows for both government agency and public review and comment of the document and the decision process."

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** (1) Write to Mary Sue Brent (Environmental Coordinator for Tennessee, Farmers Home Administration, USDA, 3322 West End Avenue, Suite 300, Nashville, TN 37203-1071) and protest the damming of Clear Creek, one of the two main stems of the Obed WSR. At the bottom of your letter, indicate where you are sending copies (see 2. and 3., below). (2) Send copies to your US Representative and Senators and to Gov. McWherter (addresses on p.2). (3) Send a copy to Heinz J. Mueller, Chief, Environmental Policy Section, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV, 345 Courtland Street, NE, Atlanta, GA 30365.

**C. Black Bear reintroduction being considered for Big S. Fork NRRRA**

The Tennessee and Kentucky wildlife agencies, National Park Service (NPS) and US Forest Service are considering the feasibility of reintroducing black bears into the Big South Fork NRRRA. Preliminary studies by the Univ. of Tennessee have concluded that the BSF-NNRA could support a black bear population. The agencies involved will, however, not proceed with the feasibility study until they have tested public opinion and feel that there is support for the project.

What is proposed is an experimental release: six bears during the summer of 1993 and another six during the winter of 1993/94, with a final evaluation by December 1995. Only bears with no prior history of nuisance behavior will be used.

TCWP has received a copy of the *Experimental Black Bear Reintroduction* proposal, as well as a 9-page list of questions and answers. If you would like copies of these materials, contact TWRA, Wildlife Division, PO Box 40747, Nashville, TN 37204. If you have comments, let us know.

**D. TCWP organizing Friends of the Obed network**

For several reasons, these are critical times for the Obed, both in terms of crises and in terms of opportunities.

- Water is being robbed from the Obed system. A dam has been proposed for the upper Clear Creek (NL 191 §1B; §1B, this NL) only one year after we lost a battle to stop another one on Otter Creek, a major Obed tributary.

- Because of weak language, several tracts on which the National Park Service (NPS) has purchased easements are having roads developed on them.
- The land acquisition process has just about stalled.
- There is a tremendous shortage of NPS personnel, making it almost impossible to protect the resource, leave alone carry out such functions as interpretation, education, and research (NL 189 §3C).
- The Obed General Management Plan is being generated (NL 191 §1C), giving us an opportunity for positive input.
- There are many good reasons for trying to enlarge the boundaries of the Wild & Scenic River -- upstream, downstream, and on tributaries -- but this will take a concerted political effort.

For these and other reasons, we have decided the times are ripe for forming a Friends of the Obed Network. We recently approached other organizations and individuals we believe would be interested in participating in such an information and advocacy network. Naturally, we hope TCWP members will respond to Obed "action calls" in the Newsletter. However, some critical situations may arise in the intervals between Newsletters; and some Obed issues may have to be addressed in greater depth than can be done in the Newsletter. For this reason, we hope some of you will join the Friends of the Obed network as a separate activity. To do so, fill out and return the simple form on the bottom of page 15 of this Newsletter. If you belong to any organizations besides TCWP, you may want to get them involved also (see the form).

## 2. BILLS BEFORE THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**A. Bills to ban clear-cutting badly need your support**

Below, we ask for your strong support for a bill that would place a moratorium on clear-cutting in the Catoosa Wildlife Management Area. [Altogether four bills were introduced that would legislate clear-cutting prohibitions for various areas: SB 247 (O'Brien)/HB 155 (Windle) for the Catoosa Wildlife Management Area (WMA); SB 293 (O'Brien)/HB 770 (Hillis) for wildlife management areas owned or leased by the state; SB 215 (Springer)/HB 912 (McDaniel) for state forests; and SB 130 (Springer)/HB 911 (McDaniel) for state property. Another forestry-related bill is SB 214 (Springer)/HB 913 (McDaniel), which requires that the revenue from state-forest timber be spent for adjacent parks.]

Of all these bills, HB 155/SB 247 is the only one with a chance of being enacted this year. On March 9, Windle's HB 155 passed out of the House Environment subcommittee with an amendment that limits the Catoosa WMA clearcutting prohibition to one year. The bill was scheduled to go before the full Conservation Committee on March 17, but has been re-scheduled for March 24 because of blizzard-related delays.

Local residents (including the Morgan County Commission) have strongly opposed the Catoosa WMA clearcuts which, they feel, are unsightly, poor forestry management, and detrimental to game enhancement. To this we could add the esthetic impacts on views from the Obed's north rim, and potential water-quality degradation. The bill is, however, opposed by the Division of Forestry, by TWRA, by the forest-products industry, and by those hunters who believe that clearcutting increases available game. It is clearly necessary for us to give strong support to the bill, and several TCVP members are calling Conservation Committee members during the week of March 15.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** If the House Conservation Committee passes this bill (and this NL will presumably reach you after House Committee action has occurred) it'll still be necessary for us to (a) support the bill on the House floor, and (b) support the Senate companion bill. Please consult your Political Guide and make calls, (a) to your own State Representative and Senator, and (b) to Sen. Anna Bell Clement O'Brien (741-3854).

#### B. *Harmful golf course bills pop up all over*

A number of bills have been introduced that use bond issues for constructing golf courses in parks all over the state, including Cumberland Mountain, Chickasaw, Rock Island, and Panther Creek SPs. There are a number of reasons why we oppose these bills.

- (1) Most of the bills rely primarily on the bond issues authorized last year that were intended to support land acquisition for state-park boundary protection and for needed maintenance and improvement of existing state park facilities. Even one golf course could absorb this entire fund.
- (2) Sensitive lands (such as prime woodlands on the riverbank in the case of Rock Creek) are likely to be selected as sites for the golf courses.
- (3) Water resources would be very negatively impacted because of the quantities of chemicals used as pesticides and herbicides, and because of the large amounts of water used for golf-course irrigation.

One omnibus golf-course bill, SB 1539 (Wilder)/HB 1500 (Walley) has cleared the Senate

Energy Committee, but will be reviewed by the Finance Committee because of the potential financial infeasibility of developing more than one of the golf courses.

**\* WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Call your State Representative and Senator (see Political Guide) to oppose the golf-course bills for some or all of the reasons summarized above.

#### C. *EAR's legislative initiatives*

The following initiatives are being supported by the Environmental Action Fund (the lobbying arm of the Tennessee environmental movement) (NL191 13F).

- (1) The Citizens' Suit bill, SB 1496 (Cohen)/HB 1381 (Clark), would give citizens the right to bring a lawsuit against industries that violate Tennessee's environmental laws. It mirrors similar provisions in the federal clean-water, air, and hazardous-waste laws. The bill allows the courts to award citizens attorney fees and expert witness fees (if the citizens are successful). Before filing a lawsuit, citizens must first send a letter to the state and to the industry, telling them of intent to sue unless the violation(s) are stopped. If neither the state nor the industry take actions to stop the violation within 60 days, then the lawsuit can be filed in chancery court.

Two earlier bills addressing this subject [SB 1124 (Cohen) and SB 1247 (Cohen)] were without a House sponsor and will be withdrawn, but SB 1496/HB 1381 needs our support. Contact your state senator and representative as soon as possible.

- (2) The Septic Tank bill should eliminate "bootleg" subsurface sewage disposal systems that are installed without the approval of DoEC and have the potential of polluting ground water. Last year's version of this bill would have made electrical services for a new house or mobile home contingent on a valid sewer permit being presented to the electrical inspector; this version was strenuously opposed by the Tennessee Electric Co-ops.

This year's bill, SB 491 (Greer)/HB 540 (Odom) started with what was thought to be an acceptable compromise but was further amended in committee. A homeowner wishing to install a septic tank would need to purchase a subsurface sewage permit from the local office of the Tenn. Dept. of Health. The sewage-permit number (but no record of inspection) would have to be given to the electrical inspector prior to the latter's granting access to electrical service. If the septic tank subsequently installed by the homeowner did not comply with the permit, DoEC, on

inspection, would enforce the requirement for inspection a legally complying system.

HB 540 was approved by the House Conservation Committee. The Senate companion, SB 491, was to come to a floor vote during the week of March 15 [we don't know whether the blizzard caused any delay in this schedule].

- (3) Because of opposing views among member organizations, EAF decided not to support a bill that would require forest operators to use Best Management Practices (BMPs) (see NL191 §3B for problems with such a bill). [Such a bill, SB 942 (Crutchfield)/HB 597 (Odom) has actually been introduced.] Instead, EAF is supporting a resolution that calls for a study committee to investigate the topic of sustainable forestry, and to recommend legislation to provide incentives for private land owners to use sustainable forestry management practices.
- (4) EAF will support this year's portion of funds from the Natural Resources Trust Fund to pay for continuing work on the Flora Atlas, which will show the distribution of Tennessee's flora on a county-by-county basis.

#### D. Other bills of interest to TCWP

In addition to the bills discussed in preceding paragraphs, there are several others of potential interest to TCWP. Two bills -- SB 53 (Cohen)/HB 154 (Hillis) and SB 1255 (O'Brien)/HB 644 (Purcell) provide for non-profit organizations to "adopt" or support parks; SB 1255 was passed by the Senate on March 10. SB 821 (Atchley)/HB 1098 (Billie) establishes an "outstanding natural resource water" classification. SB 1162 (Burks)/HB 494 (Buck) authorizes a \$5 million bond issue for Short Mountain Natural Area.

### 3. OTHER STATE ISSUES

#### A. Scenic lands near Pickett need protection

We have a chance to protect a large area of highly scenic lands that are currently up for grabs on the western boundary of Pickett State Forest. These lands belong to the Stearns Coal & Lumber Co., which has gone into receivership and is selling off all of its holdings as fast as it can. The land is characterized by fingerlike ridges and dramatic bluffs fronting the Wolf River valley. Unfortunately, some has already been sold to developers, subdivided, and cleared. However, about 8,000 acres remain unsold -- a perfect opportunity for the State to protect and enhance Pickett at a relatively low cost.

In the spring of 1991, with the support of TCWP and other environmental groups, the General Assembly established a parklands acquisition fund,

which comes from a 4¢ per \$100 increase in the recordation tax on the transfer of real property. Of the 4¢, 1.5¢ goes to the state and is dedicated to land acquisition and trail development for state parks, forests and natural areas, and for boundary areas or scenic rivers and trails. We have heard that the fund is currently growing at the rate of \$150,000 - \$250,000 per month, but that (because of apathy and red tape) the state is yet to buy a single acre. It is estimated that the available Stearns acreage west of Pickett, including mineral rights, could be purchased for \$1.2 million.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** On March 1, TCWP's executive director, Joan Burns, attended an information meeting at Jamestown on the issue of adding the Stearns acreage to Pickett. What is needed now is public support. Our individual members should write to Gov. McWhorter (address on p.2) and convince him that this would be an excellent use of the rapidly accumulating state-land acquisition fund. Send a copy of your letter to the following, and ask that they also to contact the Governor to second our request: (a) your state senator; (b) your state rep; (c) Sen. Anna Bell O'Brien; (d) Rep. John Mark Windfe. (For addresses, see the 1993 Political Guide we recently sent you.)

#### B. Status of the proposed Big Fierly Gizzard Creek dam

The proposal to construct a 95-acre water-supply reservoir for Tracy City by damming Big Fierly Gizzard Creek (NL189 §4A; NL191 §3C) is still in limbo. We are concerned with the effects of this dam on two areas: (a) the area of the proposed impoundment itself, and (b) the spectacular Fierly Gizzard gorge just a short distance downstream. The former is an unspoiled creek valley that contains pink lady slippers and rock outcroppings covered with unusual lichens. The latter, part of the South Cumberland Recreation Area, is a spectacular deep, shady gorge that contains a scientifically valuable ecosystem (a unique remnant forest) and the scenically and recreationally significant Fierly Gizzard Trail.

The project justification invalidly assumes that the town of Tracy City must fully replace its current water system instead of merely supplementing what it presently relies on. Our research into the matter has uncovered a number of possible alternatives to the dam that are less costly, less damaging to the environment, and more efficient in meeting regional needs (NL191 §3C). Such alternatives would have to be addressed in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), but the funding agency -- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) -- has so far refused to generate one.

The state of Tennessee, through its Division of Water Pollution Control (Dept. of Environment &

Conservation) must issue a permit (Permit Application 91-092) before the dam can be built. They have so far held off, but we don't know how long they'll continue to do so.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** The following should hear from you on this subject: (a) Governor McWhorter (address on p.2), who should be urged to deny the state permit; and (b) Heinz Mueller, EPA-Region IV (345 Courtland St, NE, Atlanta, GA 30365), who should be urged to require FmHA to generate a full EIS.

**C. No new Center Hill marina for now**

Over a year ago, the Corps of Engineers (CoE) proposed to construct a large marina and associated developments in the Florida Branch/Little Hurricane Creek area of Center Hill Reservoir, involving over 100 acres plus several access roads. As a result of protests by local groups and by TCWP, CoE agreed last June to prepare a full Environmental Impact Statement.

Two months ago, CoE informed us of their decision to postpone any further consideration of the new marina. It seems that, during the EIS process, it became apparent that the 120-slip marina at Edgar Evans State Park will satisfy the demand for additional boat slips on the lake. The Edgar Evans marina is only partially filled at this time, and the concessionaire has agreed to expand it should the demand ever exceed the current capacity. CoE has therefore decided not to complete the EIS process for the proposed new marina.

#### 4. CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST

**A. Opportunity to protect French Broad River corridor within Cherokee NF**

The French Broad River lies partly within the authorized boundaries of the Cherokee National Forest, but very little of the land adjacent to the river is currently in public ownership. Development pressures, particularly from second-home and retirement-home seekers are threatening this still unspoiled river corridor.

We now have a chance to get these lands truly incorporated into the Cherokee NF. A Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) appropriation of \$1 million would go a long way toward purchase of several critical tracts. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is working with the Forest Service (USFS) in this endeavor and is in the position to "pre-acquire" these tracts for the USFS. Currently, TPL has 926 acres under option from a willing seller, including a major portion of Stone Mountain. Additional options are in the works.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Write to Rep. Jimmy Quillen and to Senators Sasser and Mathews, urging them to support a LWCF appropriation of \$1

million to the US Forest Service for FY 1994 acquisitions along the French Broad River in the Cherokee National Forest. Send a copy to your own US Representative. For addresses, see p.2.

**B. The need to advocate Wild & Scenic River status for the Nolichucky**

The Cherokee National Forest staff has for some time been evaluating several of its rivers for eligibility for National Wild & Scenic River (WSR) status. As long as 6 years ago, the recommendation was made that the Nolichucky River be included in the WSR System. It takes Congressional action, however, to accomplish this, and there was not enough concerted citizen support to counteract sporadic opposition by a few river outitters and a county official or two.

Recently, however, Sen. Hartman Mathews has expressed some interest in looking at the matter. His office is currently investigating public sentiment pro and con.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** This is the time to voice your support for the Nolichucky. Contact Sen. Hartman Mathews (attn.: Will Calloway) 505 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20510, Phone 202-224-3345. Send copies of your letter to Rep. Jimmy Quillen and your own US Rep., as well as to Sen. Jim Sasser (address on p.2).

**C. Challenge of Cherokee National Forest Plan is pending trial**

In 1986, the inadequacies of the Cherokee Forest Management Plan were administratively appealed by several organizations, including TCWP. Some of the inadequacies were addressed by the Forest Service (USFS) at the regional level, but several major issues were sent to USFS-HQ for a response. At this national level, our appeal was denied in early 1991 (NL181 ¶2B). Finally, on May 1, 1992, the Southern Environmental Law Center, on behalf of 5 organizations (of which TCWP is one), filed suit in U.S. District Court in Atlanta (NL188 ¶6B).

The suit charges the present Plan with violating the 1976 National Forest Management Act (NFMA) by (a) allowing road building and clearcutting that would degrade 62% of the Cherokee's sensitive resources [among other things, the Plan calls for logging of over one-half of the cove hardwood forests, an ecological treasure trove of the Southern Appalachians]; (b) altering habitats of flora and fauna, despite NFMA's charge to protect biodiversity; (c) adversely affecting the area's recreational value; and (d) providing excessive below-cost timber sales [NFMA requires the USFS to restrict timber harvesting where the economics are unfavorable]. Such below-cost sales subsidize the loggers at the expense of US taxpayers: for the

Cherokee NF, these losses amount to \$1-3 million annually.

The lawsuit, which is currently pending trial, is the first suit involving a Southern Appalachian forest. TC WP has committed funds toward costs of the lawsuit (NL185 ¶7A).

#### D. ***Wilderness study***

The Wilderness Society has launched a two-year project "to study the federal lands of the Southern Appalachians and to prepare a regional plan to protect the area's extraordinary recreational and ecological values." The Southern Appalachian Highlands represent one of the most important centers of biodiversity in the country. This biodiversity is now seriously threatened by loss and fragmentation of forest habitat, and by the replacement of natural forests with monoculture groves. In the face of continued growth in population and in resource demands, the capability of private lands to protect biodiversity is rapidly diminishing. But federal lands are not stepping into save this valuable biodiversity. On the contrary: the U.S. Forest Service proposes to expand its timber-harvest program in the six national forests of the region by more than 350%, and to enlarge the transportation network with nearly 3,300 miles of additional permanent roads.

The objectives of the Wilderness Society study (which is funded by the Woodruff Foundation) is to document the opportunity that federal lands have in protecting the region's biodiversity. The current management plans and policies for national parks and forests in the Southern Appalachians (in Tennessee, those are the Great Smoky Mtns. National Park and the Cherokee National Forest) will be critiqued, and changes in management directions will be recommended in order better to protect biodiversity and other forest resource values.

#### E. ***A comprehensive guide to the Cherokee National Forest***

Late in 1992, the University of Tennessee Press published *Wilderness Trails of Tennessee's Cherokee National Forest*, the first comprehensive guide to the Cherokee, and especially to its trails. Edited by Will Skelton, this informative volume is illustrated by maps and photographs. Over 50 Sierra Club members and others contributed materials for the book, including, in addition to the trail guides, sections on flora, geology, and history. The trails (110 of them, totaling 416 miles) are located in 11 wilderness areas, 7 scenic areas, and 16 primitive areas.

The stated purposes of the book are, (1) to "encourage and help people ... enjoy these natural areas;" and (2) to "encourage the public to insist, to our elected U.S. Representative and Senators and

the U.S. Forest Service, that the trails and natural areas described in this book be kept forever wild and natural." The book is available in area bookstores and outdoor shops.

### **A. *SMOKIES***

#### A. ***Helms' road bill is introduced***

As anticipated (NL191 ¶2A), Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) has introduced a bill that provides for construction of the northshore road, as well as for a \$16 million payment to Swain County (compensation for flooding of the North Shore Road when Fontana Reservoir was created). This bill, entitled the Swain County Settlement Act, S.191, was introduced January 26 and will undoubtedly be fully supported by North Carolina's new senator, Lauch Faircloth, a rightwing conservative.

Fortunately, it is highly unlikely that the North Carolina senators could pass any Smokies legislation that did not also have the support of the Tennessee senators. In the past, Tennessee's Senators Sasser and Gore always strongly supported Smokies wilderness legislation that included the area north of Fontana (for which Helms is proposing the road) and that also provided a monetary settlement for Swain County. It is to be hoped that Tennessee's new senator, Harlan Mathews, will carry on Gore's position on this matter.



**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Write to Sen Harlan Mathews urging him to continue Sen. Gore's position on Smokies wilderness. Write to Sen. Sasser, thanking him for his strong stand in the past, and urging him to stand firm in the future also. Addresses on p. 2.

#### B. ***Termination of private cabin leases***

The leases to all but three of the approximately 50 cabins in the Elkmont area were terminated on December 31, 1992. The private individuals involved are not the original lease holders, and they obtained their leases years -- and often decades -- after the Park was established.

In the 1930s, when the Park's lands were being acquired, property owners were given the option of taking full market value and leaving, or taking 50% market value and staying for the remainder of their lifetime. Most of the roughly 6,600 people, many of whom had been farming the land for generations, took the former option; but a few well-to-do summer-cabin owners at Elkmont worked it so the government bought the cabins, and the sellers got leases until 1952. The leases were extended at various intervals (during which times there was a turn-over of lease-holders). The two most recent lease agreements specifically stated that the lease-holders would not seek additional extensions; yet they reneged each time, managing to get extensions through political connections and



pressures. (In 1988, they even offered the National Park Service a \$770,000 "bribe" to extend the leases.)

Although the cabins have not in the past been found to have historical significance, the leaseholders worked political connections to pressure the Park Service (NPS) into yet another historical evaluation. The report by an outside consulting firm (paid for by taxpayers' \$\$) is due 4/1/93. The NPS' subsequent decision -- and its relation to the Park's General Management Plan -- will be of major interest.

## 6. CHIP MILLS AND RELATED NEWS

### A. Denial of chip-mill permits recommended in TVA's EIS

We are almost at the end of the long road leading to a TVA decision on whether to grant or deny permits for three chip-mill operations asking to be located along the Tennessee River shoreline. The road began in the spring of 1991, when EPA finally managed to pressure TVA into generating a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (NL181 ¶2A; NL182 ¶6B). It continued through the stage of the Draft-EIS and our comments on it (NL188 ¶2). In February 1993, TVA published its final EIS with the following conclusion: "After weighing the potential benefits of the pending requests with the likelihood of substantial, cumulative localized impacts and the risk of significant harvesting-related impacts, TVA's preferred alternative is denial of all proposed actions."

The TVA Board of Directors (currently only 2-member strong) will now have to render a "record of decision (ROD)." The Board almost always goes along with staff recommendations; thus it would be really indicative of undue outside influence if they were not to do so in this instance. Watch your newspapers for an announcement of the ROD. You can receive a copy of the document by writing to: M. Paul Schmierbach, Mngr, EQ Staff, TVA, 400 West Summit Hill Dr., WT 88, Knoxville, TN 37902. -- A Corps of Engineers' (CoE) decision on a "404" permit is also pending.

Only two months before publication of the final EIS, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, at the request of TVA and CoE, issued a >200-page Biological Opinion as part of the EIS process. This indicated that the river biota (which includes 17 endangered species) would be jeopardized unless TVA followed rigorous guidelines in permitting, and that "non-discretionary monitoring" of the threatened species would be required, were the permits issued. Such monitoring could prove prohibitively expensive. In view of the numerous other environmental, economic, and political reasons for permit denial, we certainly hope the Endangered Species Act will not be used as a scapegoat.

### B. Additional political pressure to deny chip-mill permits

To the political supporter of permit rejection that we have reported earlier (Senators Sasser and Gore, Rep. Cooper -- NL188 ¶2), now add Congresswoman Lloyd. In a letter sent to Gov. McWherter in early December, she wrote that the environmental and economic "real risks" of hardwood chip mills were too great to chance in the state "before we have a comprehensive forestry management act and the financial resources to enforce that act. ... I respectfully encourage you to give careful

### C. Smokies AG and Tennessee Eastman

We have earlier reported the harmful impact on the Great Smoky Mtns National Park (GSMNP) from major deteriorations in air quality (NL186 ¶3B; NL187 ¶3B). Not only is visibility -- and therefore visitor experience -- greatly diminished, but almost 100 plant species in the park, some of them already rare or endangered, have shown symptoms of damage.

The air-quality issue came to a head last spring when the Tennessee Eastman Co., at Kingsport applied for a permit to construct a 30-megawatt power-generating boiler. The Tennessee Air Pollution Control Division held a hearing at Kingsport, right in the heart of pro-Eastman sentiment, and announced that the expression of public opinion would weigh heavily in the decision. The National Park Service, through its Southeast Regional director, asked the State of Tennessee to deny the permit (TCWP supported this request). But the Park Service was betrayed by its boss, Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan, who prevented NPS from doing a technical follow-up on their "preliminary notice of adverse impact" that had earlier been filed with EPA. Thus, the permit for the boiler was issued in May 1992.

Tennessee Eastman is installing precipitators to recapture fly ash, and scrubbers to limit SO<sub>2</sub> emissions. They have, however, refused to limit NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. Unfortunately for the Smokies, atmospheric interactions between NO<sub>x</sub> and hydrocarbons (some of them natural) create low-level ozone, the agent most damaging to plant species. Insufficient NO<sub>x</sub> controls, further, contribute to acid rain, upset soil nitrogen levels, and result in visibility-impairing pollutants.

### D. Ecosystem study

See ¶4D for a report on this study, which will involve the Great Smoky Mtns. National Park as well as the Cherokee National Forest.

consideration toward any available measures to delay chip-mill operations until the 1998 Forest Service survey comes out."

**C. Chip mills tried to sneak in the backway on the Cumberland River**

The Cumberland River -- as well as the Tennessee River -- would provide cheap barge transport for chip-mill products, most of which would be exported to Japan and elsewhere overseas. The Cumberland River is under the jurisdiction of the Corps of Engineers (CoE), and at least one chip-mill operation recently tried to sneak in by the backway.

The permit was applied for not by the chip mill, but by the Lyon County (Kentucky) Port Authority. The Port Authority asked to construct a covered conveyor, supported on existing (and already permitted) structures. It was only when you read what the conveyor would be used for, that a chip mill entered the picture. In fact, the Parker Towing Co. had entered into an agreement for leasing property to construct a chip mill on adjacent upland property owned by the Port Authority. Timber supply for the mill (primarily hardwood) would be purchased from within a 75-mile radius of the port (an area that extends well into Tennessee).

The US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) provided excellent comments on the proposal, citing a number of federal laws. One of FWS's main points was that the project scope of analysis must not be limited to the loading facility and related structures, but must "include cumulative impacts potentially caused by harvesting within the 75-mile sourcing area." The sourcing area contains numerous wetlands of various types, and habitats of approximately 30 listed or proposed-listed species. FWS recommended that the Corps prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed action, and that the scope of analysis for the EIS contain the harvesting of timber to support the proposed chip mill.

TCWP submitted comments somewhat along the same lines. There must have been others as well, for the Corps decided to hold a public hearing on the matter, near the proposed chip-mill site on March 18. A week before the scheduled hearing, however, the Corps sent out a notice that the Port Authority was withdrawing its permit application. Unless we learn anything to the contrary, we'll chalk this up as a victory for chip-mill opponents! [And we enjoyed erasing the Action Call we had already drafted for this Newsletter.]

**D. Timber rights in the South Cumberlands**

On January 26, the Nashville *Banner* ran a long, front-page article (subsequently reprinted in abbreviated form in other Tennessee newspapers) on the purchase by the Mead Corp. of 12,000 acres of timber rights in the South Cumberlands. The

timber would be used for Mead's saw and paper mill at Stevenson, Alabama. By the terms of contracts signed last June, Mead must exit plateau lands within 52 months, and "side or slope" lands within 138 months -- a quick and "clean" sweep of the area's forests.

According to the *Banner* article, the Fiery Gizzard gorge and surrounding lands were owned by Kerr-McGee Co., which recently sold to a real-estate company, which, in turn, divided the property and sold the timber rights to Mead and the land beneath to individuals. One of these individuals, Jim Prince, who purchased a tract near TVA's Foster Falls overlook, has been waging a heroic and time-consuming campaign to convince Mead to give up its timber rights in that view area. If he succeeds, Jim feels that Mead should be commended for their good faith, and we agree. It could even cause some others to follow suit?

## 7. STRIPMINING DEPREDATIONS

**A. The Skyline Coal Co. case: a need to let the facts be known**

The Skyline Coal Co., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Amax Coal Industries, Inc., the nation's third-largest coal producer, has operated a highly polluting stripmine in Sequatchie County near Fall Creek Falls State Park. About 2 years ago the regional office of OSM in Knoxville (OSM-K) started citing the mine for generating major amounts of toxic drainage, and required the company to develop a toxic-materials handling plan. This plan was not generated, and OSM-K, after granting numerous extensions, finally ordered the mine shut down in July. Subsequently, OSM-K was ordered by high OSM officials in Washington to issue a Temporary Relief agreement and let the mine continue operating -- without a permit -- pending court action.

Skyline was finally ordered shut in mid-December, both by OSM-K (because the permit had expired) and by Administrative Law Judge Torbett (who ruled against the Temporary Relief agreement). In January, the company again won "temporary relief" to reopen the mine.

In the meantime Skyline Coal Co. and their employees have been bombarding Rep. Marilyn Lloyd with letters stating that there is no reason to shut down the mine and asking her to intercede in their behalf with OSM. It is critical for the environment of the region that Rep. Lloyd hear the other side of the story.



**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Write to Rep. Marilyn Lloyd (address on p 2) to point out the following: (a) The Sewanee coal seam is the most acid-producing seam in Tennessee, and no method has been developed or proposed for handling this seam safely. (b) Skyline Coal Co. mined the site for two

years under an OSM Notice of Violation, thus illegally discharging toxic drainage into Plateau streams. (c) Skyline, like all companies, should have to obey the law. (d) This is not an issue of "jobs versus environment": employees were laid off because the company failed to follow the law. Urge Rep. Lloyd to support OSM's efforts to enforce the federal stripmine law. [Let TCWP know whether you have written to Rep. Lloyd.]

**B. Fate of the petition to protect the Fall Creek Falls watershed**

Fall Creek Falls (FCF) State Park and Natural Area are highly vulnerable to adverse impacts on the watershed upstream. Stripmining in this watershed, which is underlain by the Sewanee coal seam (see ¶7A above) would, with near certainty, produce acid mine drainage that could kill the scenic park streams (which provide habitat for endangered species) as well as the Cane Creek below the park (presently a TWRA-stocked trout stream). Noise from mine-related blasting operations would be audible from FCF.

In July 1992, the South Cumberland chapter of SOCM (Save our Cumberland Mountains) filed a petition, under Sec. 522 of the 1977 federal stripmine law, to have the watershed declared unsuitable for surface mining (NL190 ¶4C). Although the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) is required to rule within 30 days on the completeness of "522" petitions -- prior to any ruling they make on merit -- a completeness ruling was never received. Over 3 months after the petition was submitted, it was rejected by OSM. Instead of making any determination of completeness, OSM wrote a letter disagreeing with the allegations made by the petitioners. This does not qualify as a ruling on the merits either, because such a ruling would have to be preceded (a) by a determination of completeness, and (b) by a study of the points raised by the petition, and by comments from citizens.

With the advent of a new Administration in Washington, and a new OSM director who will, hopefully, follow the law, the petition is being readied for re-filing.

## 8. NATIONAL PARK ISSUES

**A. We can assist with passage of California Desert bill, S.21/HR.518**

Chances for passing the California Desert protection bill have much improved since Sen. Diane Feinstein defeated incumbent John Seymour, who had in past years managed to hold up this legislation, despite its passage in the House and the support of California's other senator, Alan Cranston. Sen. Feinstein is the chief sponsor of S.21.

The California Desert ecosystem, which is home to 2,000 species of plants and 600 species of animals, has been threatened by grazing, off-road-vehicle use, and mining. The bills would upgrade Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments to National Park status. In addition, the Senate bill would create a new Eastern Mojave National Park, while this unit would be a National Monument in the House bill. Considerable areas of Wilderness would be designated on BLM lands: 4.4 million and 4.1 million acres in the Senate and House bill, respectively. The National Rifle Association is pushing to have the new national parks open to sports hunting, an outcome that would not only be disastrous for the area's ecosystems, but would create a dangerous precedent for national parks in general.

One reason Tennesseans can be of particular help in getting this bill passed is that our new senator, Marianne Mathews, is a member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, to whose Public Lands & National Parks Subcommittee S.21 has been referred. In addition, Rep. John Duncan, Jr. (TN 2nd Distr.) is a member of the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands.



**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Write to Sen. Mathews and urge him to become a co-sponsor of S.21. Urge Rep. John Duncan, Jr. to support HR.518. Both men need to be admonished to resist efforts to open the new national parks to sports hunting. Addresses are on p.2.

**B. A bill to restore effectiveness of the National Park Service**

A British observer once called our National Park System "the best idea America ever had." But several recent reports have clearly documented that our national parks are in serious trouble. Among these is NPCA's *Parks in Peril* (summarized in NL190 ¶5A) and a very recent report by the US Dept. of the Interior's Inspector General.

Representative Bruce Vento (D-MN), chairman of the House Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, has introduced the National Parks and Landmarks Conservation Act, which would provide NPS with greater autonomy within the Department of the Interior. The legislation specifies that the director (heretofore sometimes a political appointee) shall be a professional and must be confirmed by the Senate. A direct connection between the Secretary of the Interior and the NPS director would be established.

The bill would require better research and reporting concerning park resources to build a stronger basis for making the right decisions. Currently, the NPS often lacks the scientific knowledge necessary to make professional judgments about what threatens its resources.

Under the Vento bill, NPS would be authorized to develop park conservation plans to deal with threats that originate outside park boundaries. Grant assistance would be made available to government and private owners of lands that surround parks to participate in plan development and implementation.

We will keep you informed on how best to support this bill.

#### C. **'Park Waters in Peril'**

A report by that title, just issued by the National Parks & Conservation Association (NPCA) is a good illustration of threats originating outside parks (§§B above). While water in many forms (rivers, geysers, desert springs, waterfalls) is a central part of the scenery and ecology of most of our national parks, this water is dependent on whole watersheds that transcend park boundaries. The adverse influences can come from outright theft of upstream surface or ground water, industrial or agricultural pollution, extensive logging that causes siltation of streams, mining liberating acid and heavy metals, and other causes.

The report makes extensive recommendations for strengthening legal, institutional, and scientific tools to address the various threats. It urges Congress to re-affirm and ensure the parks' legal right to the water necessary for their ecological health, and it recommends prohibiting any federally-assisted activity (e.g., dams and water diversions) that could harm park waters.

For information on how to secure a copy of the report, call Don Barger, NPCA's Southeast Regional Director, at Norris 494-9786.

#### D. **Dirty air over national parks**

In mid-January, the National Academy of Sciences released the report of a two-year study which concluded that virtually all of the nation's national parks and wilderness lands are victims of air pollution at least part of the year. The study urged a broad range of new pollution controls, stating that any program focusing on individual polluters was doomed to failure. It is noted in the report that Congress in 1977 directed that goals be developed to protect visibility in national parks, but that relatively little progress has been made and the problem, in fact, has become worse.

#### E. **Dirty dealings during the Bush Administration**

Because the draft Vision document for Yellowstone National Park "was unacceptable to powerful and monied commodity and special interest groups, ... the Department of Interior [under Sec. Lujan] engaged in a politically motivated, underhanded operation to destroy the ... document." This is the conclusion of a Congressional Committee that interviewed 45

witnesses and reviewed over 6,000 documents as part of an investigation into the forced transfer in 1991 of Lorraine Mintzmyer from directorship of the National Park Service's Rocky Mountain Region. The Committee found that the transfer was designed to silence Ms. Mintzmyer and to obstruct responsible scientific planning for Yellowstone National Park. These actions occurred at the direction of former White House Chief of Staff, John Sununu.

Some more USDI dirt: Five minutes before Bill Clinton took the oath of office, outgoing USDI Secretary Manuel Lujan handed out a total of \$170,000 in cash bonuses to 12 senior USDI officials.

#### F. **A breath of fresh air at USDI**

Not only do we have a fine new Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt (NL191 §5A), but the newly appointed Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks (to whom the heads of NPS and FWS will report) is George Frampton, who has for some years served as president of the Wilderness Society.

In February, Babbitt defended the Endangered Species Act (ESA, which his predecessor, Manuel Lujan, had done his best to emasculate) in a speech to the American Mining Congress. He called the ESA "soundly premised" and said that it was needed to "maintain the biodiversity that supports the life systems of the planet, the life systems of the water and land resources and productivity of this country."

### G. **OTHER NATIONAL NEWS**

#### A. **New White House Office of Environmental Policy**

On February 8, President Clinton announced creation of the Office of Environmental Policy within the White House to provide a sharper focus and a coordinating voice for environmental issues. The new Office, under Kathleen McGinty (Special Assistant to the President for the Environment), will plan ahead to deal with environmental problems before they get out of control. Clinton also renewed his pledge to press Congress into making EPA a Cabinet department. EPA Administrator Carol Browner has already been given Cabinet-level status.

Congress will also be asked to abolish the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), which in recent years has lost most of its clout, and whose functions (mostly, oversight of EISs and production of an annual report on environmental conditions) will presumably be assumed by the new Office of Environmental Policy.

**B. The Wildlands Project - a bold new vision**

The idea of the recently announced Wildlands Project is to stem the disappearance of wildlife and wilderness by allowing the recovery of whole ecosystems and landscapes in every region of North America. Allowing these systems to recover requires a long-term master plan. Existing Wildernesses, Parks, and Wildlife Refuges are too small, too isolated, and representative of too few types of ecosystems to perpetuate the biodiversity of the continent. True wilderness and wilderness-dependent species are in precipitous decline.

Building upon existing reserves (parks, etc.), the project will seek to develop a system of large, wild core reserves where biodiversity and ecological processes dominate. Core reserves would be linked by biological corridors to allow for natural dispersal of wide-ranging species, for genetic exchange between populations, and for migration in response to climate change. Buffers would be established around the core reserves and corridors to protect their integrity from disruptive human activities. Implementation of such a system would take place over many decades.

The Wildlands Project, a group of conservation biologists and biodiversity activists, is based in Tucson, AZ. They work in cooperation with grassroots organizations throughout the continent to develop proposals for each bioregion. The project supports networking activities and encourages research. Videos, slideshows, and academic articles will be produced to educate the public.

If you are interested in participating in or supporting these activities, contact The Wildlands Project 1955 W. Grant Road, Suite 148A, Tucson, AZ 85745, Phone 602-894-0875.

**C. Reagan-Bush population policy reversed**

At the 1984 United Nations Conference on Population in Mexico City, the Reagan Administration announced a policy that prohibited US funding for international family-planning organizations that provide information, counseling, or health care related to abortion, even if those activities are supported only by non-US funds. Congress repeatedly voted to to repeal this "Mexico City Policy," but failed to override Bush vetoes.

In one of his first acts as president, Bill Clinton on January 22 signed a presidential memorandum that repeals the Mexico City Policy. This repeal will restore funding to some of the most effective family-planning providers worldwide, including international Planned Parenthood Federation. Access to voluntary family planning is integral to achieving environmentally sustainable development. You may wish to thank President Clinton for this wise and speedy action (The White House, Washington, DC 20500, Phone 202-456-1111).

**10. TCWP NEWS****A. Upcoming TCWP events: we hope you'll participate****1. North Ridge Trail maintenance hike, March 27**

The North Ridge Trail, which runs the length of Oak Ridge's northern greenbelt, was developed by TCWP, has been designated a National as well as State Recreation Trail, and is our responsibility to maintain. It has been a major factor in making Oak Ridge's general familiar with and proud of the values of the City's greenbelts, a popular sentiment that has on several occasions served to protect the greenbelts from intrusions and harmful developments.

A trail-maintenance hike is scheduled for Saturday, March 27, and we urge many of you to participate. Even if you are unable or unwilling to help with the maintenance, come and enjoy the lovely trail. Those willing to work should bring a plastic garbage bag and vegetation clippers or small hand saws. Everyone should wear sturdy shoes and carry some drinking water and a small lunch. This year, we will concentrate on the trail section between Illinois Avenue and the Children's Museum. We will meet at 10 a.m. at Anderson's Hilltop Market at the intersection of Illinois Ave (TN62) and W. Outer Drive. Call Chuck Coutant (483-5976 or 576-6830) if you have any questions.

**2. March for Parks, May 1**

TCWP will participate in the Fourth Annual March for Parks, which is held in conjunction with Earth Day (though not, in our case, on Earth Day itself), and coordinated nationally by the National Parks & Conservation Association (NPCA). The March is designed to raise awareness and funds for America's parks. Participating walkers solicit pledges (so many cents per mile) from family, friends, co-workers, businesses (who will be recognized thru publicity), and the funds raised go to support a parks project.

TCWP's walk will be held in the Big South Fork NRRA, and 100% of the money we raise will be turned over to that park. The Park administration has told us that they badly need additional water-quality monitoring equipment, as well as funds for printed guides to the self-guiding foot trails; they would like to apply our "March" money to these purposes. Three years ago (our first and, so far, only participation in NPCA's March for Parks), we raised over \$2,000, of which \$1,152 went to the BSNRRA (at that time, the remainder had to be turned over to NPCA) for the purchase of four items of badly needed water-quality-monitoring equipment.

We hope many of our members will participate. The hike itself should be a lot of fun (two trails of different lengths -- 1.5 or 6 miles -- in the Twin Arches area will be used), especially at that time of

year. And if you can't walk yourself, you can help by soliciting pledges for another TCWP walker's miles. Pledge forms, posters, and information sheets with detailed directions will be sent to anyone who informs Joan Burns of his/her potential willingness to participate. Call 481-0286 or 482-5735; or write to TCWP, address on p. 1.

3. Annual Meeting, Pickett State Park, November 5-7: Mark your calendar now-- we're bound to have a fine meeting.

**B. Report of Whites Creek hike and work trip**

Sixteen people enjoyed the January 23 hike and work trip in TVA's Whites Creek Small Wild Area, which was established at the urging of TCWP, and with which TCWP has committed to maintaining an attractive, varied trail. The group managed to re-route a section of the trail that runs through the neighboring Bowater's property and which had become impenetrable as a result of heavy blackberry growth in the open stretches of the pine plantation. (Contact with Bowater's was reestablished prior to the hike; they are appreciative of our efforts.)

Our special thanks to Judith Barlow, who organized the event, led the hike, and documented it in writing and through photos. And many thanks to all the participants: Jean Bangham, Chuck Coutant, Don Davis, Mary Lynn Dobson, Grace Foster, Ruth Ann Henry, Fred Holtzclaw, Mike Lain, Dave and Willa Reister, and five people whose name we failed to get. -- TCWP is interested in generating a brochure on the Whites Creek Small Wild Area and distributing it through our membership and elsewhere. Offers of help will be appreciated.

**C. Worthington Cemetery tract**

TCWP has offered to clean up an area of the TVA land on Melton Hill Lake that includes the Worthington cemetery, to make it into an urban wildlife sanctuary, and to develop an environmental-education-study program within it that would be available to students of Oak Ridge and Anderson County schools (NL 190 ¶8A). Recently, the City of Oak Ridge rezoned this land from IND-1 (Industrial District) to G (Greenbelt District). In January, the City wrote to TVA encouraging them to reclassify the parcel to a TVA Natural Area.

**D. Miscellany**

- A large number of you have already returned Joan Burns' mini-questionnaire that was mailed out with the Political Guide. This information is very useful to us when we are trying to organize a phone tree, Newsletter-assembly crews, and other functions. We thank all of you who have already responded, and urge others to do so also.
- TCWP is renewing its membership in the Tennessee Environmental Council. One of our

Nashville members, Russ Ward, has agreed to act as TCWP representative at TEC Board meetings.

- TCWP has been looking into the possibility of joining some work-place-giving activity, but we need feedback from members before we can make a decision. We clearly do not qualify for United Way, which is the mode of giving at several of the big work places in this area. Do any of you work for employers that allow donations to be made through Community Shares, or through Earth Shares? We would be most grateful if you could let us know, because it is the easiest way we have of finding out which employers do what. Call Joan Burns at 481-0286 or 482-5735, or drop us a postcard at the address shown at the bottom of p. 1.
- Lee Russell was quoted at some length in the *Nashville Banner* article on timber rights in the South Cumberland area (¶60, this NL).

**E. We thank our volunteers**

We are grateful to the following people who helped assemble Newsletter 191 on January 13: Mary Adler, Dick Ambrose (host), Don DeAngelis, Susan Donnelly, Louise Markel, and James Rochelle

Our gratitude, also to the following who assembled the Political Guide and questionnaire mailing on February 26: Dick Ambrose (host), Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hensley, Miriam and Francois Keresz, and Charlie Klabunde.

The many who helped with the Whites Creek Trail are listed in ¶10B, above.

---

**11. JOB OPENINGS; ACTIVITIES; READING MATTER**

- **JOB OPENING:** SCCM has openings for (1) a full-time fundraiser, and (2) a full- or part-time office manager. Send application and resume to Sheila Hunley, Box 479, Lake City, TN 37769. Phone 615-426-9455.
- **JOB OPENING:** Community Shares, Knoxville, a funding-for-social-change organization, is looking for an assistant director (contact Community Shares, 517 Union Ave., Suite 203, Knoxville, TN 37902). Note that the applications deadline may have passed.
- March 27, 10 a.m., TCWP hike and work trip on North Ridge Trail, Oak Ridge. (See ¶10A1, this NL.)
- May 1, March for Parksevent organized by TCWP. (See ¶10A2, this NL.)
- April 23, 24, East Tennessee Environmental Conference, organized by the Knoxville Junior League. TCWP will have exhibit. Contact Joan Burns, 483-5735, for details.

- May 14-16, Spring Naturalist Weekend, focusing on the natural history of the Smokies (a combination of hikes and lectures). Gt. Smoky Mtn. Inst. at Tremont, Rt. 1, Box 700, Townsend, TN 37682: 615-446-6712.
- Sept. 16-19, Tennessee Environmental Congress, Nashville, sponsored by TEC. Speakers will include S. David Freeman (former TVA Chair) and Barry Commoner. Numerous workshops. Contact Jennifer Walker, TEC (1700 Hayes St., Nashville, TN 37203, Ph: 321-5075).
- Nov. 5-7, TCWP Annual Meeting, Pickett State Park.
- *Naturequest* is a 3-day action-packed training workshop for camp program directors, nature and science counselors, teachers, naturalists, and outdoor educators. Training sessions for 1993 will be held in four locations, including Land Between the Lakes April 16-18. Call Susan L. Johnson, 1-800-245-5484.
- *The Historic Cumberland Plateau: An Explorer's Guide*, by Russ Manning, is one of the first two books published in the U.T. Press Outdoor Tennessee Series (for the other one, see #4E, this NL). The book's 16 chapters range widely over plateau features in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama and include - among numerous others, Big South Fork, Obed, Rugby, Red River Gorge, Sequatchie Valley and Walden Ridge South, Savage Gulf, and Fiery Gizzard. There 16 informative maps, 66 B&W photographs, trail and driving directions, and numerous references. The book is available in local bookstores, from UT Press (615-974-3321), or from Mountain Laurel Place, POBox 3001, Norris, TN 37626 (\$14.95 + \$1.23 tax + \$2 shipping).
- *Helping Out in the Outdoors* is a directory of volunteer jobs and internships for scores of parks, forests, and refuges in all 50 states. Some positions include living expenses. (\$5 from the American Hiking Soc., POBox 20160, Washington, DC 20041.)

(Continued on Page 16)

tear off

Please check the appropriate box(es) and fill out the information.

☐

As a TCWP member, I would like to participate in the Friends of the Obed Network (no charge)

Name .....

Address .....

Phone: Home ..... Work ..... FAX .....

☐

I belong to an organization that would like to participate in the Friends of the Obed Network (\$5 contribution for postage, etc. encouraged, but not essential)

Name of organization .....

Name of representative who should be contacted .....

Representative's address .....

Phone: Home ..... Work ..... FAX .....

- *Earth Work*, a monthly publication by the Student Conservation Association, lists scores of permanent and intern positions in each issue. It also includes general articles on environmental careers. (\$19.95 for 6 months from SCA-Earth Work, Box 550, Charlestown, NH 03603.)
- Eight booklets published by the Sierra Club deal with US public lands and the endangered species that make their homes on them. Individual publications (on National Parks, Forests, Trails, Wild & Scenic Rivers, Wildlife Refuges, Wilderness lands, and BLM lands) are \$2 each; the latest booklet (on endangered species) is \$4. The whole set costs \$15 (\$12 for Sierra Club members). Postage for one or more is \$2. Order from Sierra Club, Dept. SA, PO Box 7959, San Francisco, CA 94120-7959.
- *State of the World* is an annual report that charts global progress toward sustainable development. \$10.95 from Worldwatch Institute, 202-452-1999. Bulk discounts available.
- *The Green Book: Guide to the 103rd Congress*, by the League of Conservation Voters (LCV), profiles new members as well as incumbents (\$15 from LCV, 1707 L St., NW, Suite 550, Washington, DC 20036).
- *Population and Water Resources*, by Patricia Waack and Lianne Nelson, 65pp., examines the growing crisis in global water resources caused by population growth. (\$7.95 from National Audubon Soc. Population Program, 666 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20003.)
- *Environmentalism and Economic Policy*, the report of a study by MIT, finds that environmental regulations do not retard economic growth. States with stronger environmental policies consistently outperformed the weaker environmental states on all matters. (Order from MIT-CIS, Room E38-630, 292 Main St., Cambridge, MA 02139, attn: Gina Meyer, \$6, payable to MIT.)
- Dave Foreman's Books of the Big Outside is a catalog, arranged by topics, of over 400 books, maps, cassettes and CDs. Contact Ned Ludd Books, PO Box 85190, Tucson, AZ 85754-5190.
- World Resources Institute has a 1993 publications catalog that may be ordered by calling 1-800-822-0504.