

# TENNESSEE CITIZENS for WILDERNESS PLANNING

Newsletter No. 228

June 21, 1999



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Editor: Liane B. Russell, 130 Tabor Road, Oak Ridge, TN 37830. Phone, 423-482-2153

Shaded box or star means "Action Needed." Don't be overwhelmed -- check the ACTION SUMMARY on p.2!

## 12. ACTION SUMMARY

No	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or Action
2A	Big S. Fork GMP	NPS planning team	"Keep large portions of Adjacent Area off-limits to ATVs!"
2B	EA on proposed roads and trail	BSFNRR -- <u>by 7/13/99</u>	"Don't jump the gun on GMP and Roads & Trails Plan!"
3	State bills in session just ended	Various legislators (see #3)	"Thanks for what you did! Try again next year!"
4A	Fall Creek Falls LUMP	V.P.Gore; US sens. and rep.	"All stripmining in Park's watershed must be banned!"
4C	Frozen Head addition	Gov.Sundquist; Walter Butler	"Acquire badly needed land surrounding Park!"
5A	State's land-acquisition process	Walter Butler, TDEC	"Thanks for improving process; add conservationist to panel!"
5E	Smith Bend WMA	Foothills Conservancy	"Send me information!"
7A	Peter Kirby's Wilderness Walk	TCWP	Attend talk. Join hike on A.T.
8C	TVA's agricultural licenses	Ruben Hernandez	"Allow land to return to climax forest!"
9A	Pending federal legislation	US senators & reps	"Support Redrock Wilderness, ANWR Wilderness, ESA!"
10B	North Ridge Trail stewardship	TCWP	Volunteer for trailstewardship
10D	TCWP slide show	TCWP	Arrange for showing to your civic club, church, school, etc.
10F	TCWP e-mail network	TCWP	Send us your e-mail address

Senator John Doe  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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

Pres. Bill Clinton  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500  
202-456-1111; Fax 456-2461  
president@whitehouse.gov

Governor Don Sundquist  
State Capitol  
Nashville, TN 37243-9872  
615-741-2001; Fax 532-9711

Dear Senator Doe  
Sincerely yours,

Dear Congressman Doe  
Sincerely yours,

Dear Mr. President  
Respectfully yours,

Dear Gov. Sundquist  
Respectfully yours,

Sen. Bill Frist:  
Ph: 202-224-3344; FAX: 202-228-1264  
e-mail: senator\_frist@frist.senate.gov  
Local: 423-602-7977

Sen. Fred Thompson:  
Ph: 202-224-4944; FAX: 202-228-3679  
e-mail: senator\_tibompsen@tibompsen.senate.gov  
Local: 423-545-4253

Rep. Zach Wamp:  
Phone: 202-225-3271  
Local: 423-483-3366

To call any Rep or Senator, dial Congressional switchboard, 202-224-3121. To find out about the status of bills, call 202-225-1772.

## WHAT IS TCWP?

TCWP (Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning) is dedicated to achieving and perpetuating protection of natural lands and waters by means of public ownership, legislation, or cooperation of the private sector. While our first focus is on the Cumberland and Appalachian regions of East Tennessee, our efforts may extend to the rest of the state and the nation. TCWP's strength lies in researching information pertinent to an issue, informing and educating our membership and the public, interacting with groups having similar objectives, and working through the legislative, administrative, and judicial branches of government on the federal, state, and local levels.

Contact information on p.15

## 1. OBED: DNRW DESIGNATION AT LAST ? !

The reason there is a question mark before the joyous exclamation point is that this event is anticipated for the morning after this Newsletter goes to the printer. However, the prospect seems so near certain that we are daring to print this article.

All the letters and communications you all sent to the Water Quality Control Board (WQCB) in response to alerts mailed to TCWP, to our FoTO (Friends of the Obed) network, and to NPCA helped tremendously. TDEC Commissioner Hamilton, after becoming fully apprised of the situation (described in NL226 ¶1A, 1B; NL227 ¶1A) and of the strong support there was for the Obed, took the initiative of promoting a compromise solution, which there is every reason to expect will be accepted by the WQCB.

The compromise is to give immediate ONRW (Tier-3) designation to the entire federal portion of the Obed; but if the Cumberland Plateau Regional Water Authority (recently created by the legislature) determines that it is necessary to use the River as a source of drinking water, such a permit would be considered under the requirements for Tier 2 (instead of Tier 3). Fortunately, the multitude of alternative water-supply options for the Cumberland Plateau that have recently been identified, and which provide more economical, secure, and environmentally sensitive means for obtaining water for the region (NL226 ¶1A), make it highly unlikely that this exception would come into play.

A couple of months ago, it became clear to NPCA and TCWP that there was not going to be any Tier-3 designation of this river until local concerns for water-supply were addressed, and we proposed a compromise. The designation that will now, hopefully, be made on June 22 decrees that there can be no new sources of water pollution (consistent with the National Park Service's mandate to preserve our national parks unimpaired for future generations); and, as noted above, the probability of a water-withdrawal challenge has become much more remote.

The outlook for as alternative regional water supply may be improved by a bill pending bill Congress. The Water Resources Development Act (probably soon to be passed) authorizes a \$500,000

study by the Corps of Engineers on how best to improve regional water supply for Cumberland County. This would continue the process started with the initial Corps study (NL226 ¶1A) by determining which of the several innovative alternatives identified in the Preliminary Engineering Report is most favorable for a long-term solution.

## 2. BIG SOUTH FORK: TWO BAD PROPOSALS

### A. GMP draft does not restrict ATV use anywhere outside Gorge Area

Although the new draft of the General Management Plan (NL227 ¶2A) is in some ways an improvement over the original one (NL225, special insert), it is much worse in one respect: none of the proposed management units, except for the Primitive Unit -- which is identical to the Gorge Area -- excludes ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles). Neat trick: they were excluded from the Gorge Area anyway (GMP or not) because of the language of the authorizing legislation! The draft GMP doesn't provide any protection for those users of the extensive Adjacent Area (i.e., those parts of the BSNRRA that are not contained within the gorges) who would like to enjoy outings undisturbed by the noise, exhaust fumes, and terrain destruction associated with ATVs.

In the original draft, the Primitive Management Unit included considerable acreage in addition to that of the Gorge Area, particularly on the western side of the BSF, roughly around the No Business Creek watershed. This Primitive Unit was largest under the Rustic Alternative of the original draft. It seems unconscionable that the ATV restriction has now been abandoned everywhere.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** We need to send a loud and clear, yet simple, message before the draft GMP gets cast in stone: the GMP must designate a portion of the Adjacent Area that is kept off-limits to All Terrain Vehicles. Send a short letter, postcard, or e-mail as soon as you can to Acting Superintendent Mary Collier, BSNRRA, (4564 Leatherwood Rd., Oneida, TN 37841; 423-569-9778; e-mail [BISO\\_Superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:BISO_Superintendent@nps.gov)). Or e-mail to [john\\_fischer@nps.gov](mailto:john_fischer@nps.gov).

## B. BSNRRA jumping the gun on road and trail development

We haven't got a GMP yet, leave alone a Roads & Trails Plan, which must follow, and be consistent with, the GMP. But, rather than awaiting these important, successive, planning steps, the BSNRRA administration has just proposed development of a major multipurpose (horse) trail. Specifically disturbing is the plan to make this trail accessible by roads being extended from the eastern boundary for several miles into the Park. Altogether 8.8 miles of horse trail would be completed, along with 2.75 miles of access roads, at least one of which extends into the gorge. An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared, with a deadline of July 13 for comments.

Quite apart from the merits or faults of the specific proposal, it appears to violate sound Park Service Planning practices to push a particular project -- and a fairly major one at that -- before a total plan has been formulated and scrutinized from all angles. This project was promoted under one superintendent (Lee Davis) and, according to the EA, was "halted during a change in park administration" (namely, during the tenure of Rolland Swain, when it was properly considered that the general Roads & Trails Plan should come first, Ed.). Presently, no permanent superintendent is in place.

The problem is compounded by the manner in which horse trails have been constructed in the BSNRRA (NL 226 ¶ 28). Many were laid out as steep roads, instead of as true trails, which have switchbacks, water-bars, etc. Moreover, they were covered with "gravel," usually crushed limestone, which the maintenance staff claims diminishes needed upkeep. (The horse riders don't like this, and neither do the occasional hikers, either). This gravel does not compact (as it would if it were to receive vehicular use), but erodes down the slopes into the streams. Creek beds that should be bare sandstone, are now covered with crushed limestone and mud, undoubtedly affecting the aquatic biota. Horse trails also ford streams after steep descents that further churn up the ground. Until fairly recently, horse trails were built bulldozer-wide. During Rolland Swain's tenure, smaller equipment was procured, and the trails are now not quite so wide. However, the administrative roads that are being proposed in the EA would bring in large truck-loads of gravel to be dispersed to the smaller trail-building

equipment. Such roads further degrade the resource. It is questionable that even administrative roads are permissible in the Gorge Area under the authorizing legislation, especially if their major use is for such motorized vehicles as gravel trucks and bulldozers.

The Roads & Trails Plan should, and hopefully will, contain not only a plan for locating trails but also a policy on trail construction. Such a Plan should be able to review the newest environmentally sensitive techniques that are being developed, will have public input and critical review, and, above all should put a priority on preserving the natural resource, rather than on constructing trails in a way that saves work for the maintenance crews. To proceed with a major road and trail development prior to adoption of a Roads & Trails Plan appears to violate every National Park Service principle.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** This is important! Before July 13, comment on the EA for the proposed administrative roads associated with an extensive horse trail. The simple message is: do not proceed prior to adoption of an overall Roads & Trails Plan that examines not only road and trail locations but also construction methods. Contact Acting Superintendent Mary Collier, BSNRRA, 4564 Leatherwood Rd., Oneida, TN 37841; 423-569-9778; or e-mail [BJSO\\_Superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:BJSO_Superintendent@nps.gov).

## C. Changes in Park administration

Following the retirement of former Superintendent Rolland Swain, Mary Collier was named Acting Superintendent for the BSNRRA. Ms. Collier is Superintendent at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park and must share her time between the two units. Judy Iberg, who was Assistant Superintendent under Rolland Swain, has remained in this position. Sue Jennings is the new Chief of Resource Management.

## D. New River tributary impoundment

The Huntsville Utility District is proposing to enlarge an impoundment on Flat Creek, a tributary of New River Mile 14.5R, north of Huntsville. This tributary enters the New River about 7 river miles upstream of the BSNRRA boundary. The utility currently uses a water intake at New River Mile 14.5 to augment water supply from its existing reservoir (1.3 MGD max). This intake would remain in place, even after the reservoir is enlarged, to be available if "future watersupply needs dictate."

### 3. WHAT HAPPENED TO BILLS IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE?

#### A. Forestry-related bills – a little encouragement

Our EAF lobbyist, Erin Kelly, reports that the issue of what is happening to our forests was clearly the biggest environmental issue on the hill this session. We persuaded several key legislators that there is a serious need for legislation and we need to pick up only a few more to make the bills a reality. There was much press coverage about what is happening to our forests, and many letters and calls were received by legislators.

The four forestry-related bills that were up in this session are described in some detail in NL227 §3A. Their fate, in a nutshell: one was "taken off notice" (postponed for later consideration), one was defeated (but not overwhelmingly) in committee; one *almost* made it out of committee; and one is well on its way.

- SB 1584 (Fowler)/HB 427 (Stulce), SOCM's Comprehensive Bill, was "taken off notice," i.e., not considered. For strategic reasons, SOCM decided to attempt moving this bill next year, instead of this.
- SB 798 (Cohen)/HB 1185 (Odom), EAF's Bad Actor Bill, which addressed the water-quality impacts of bad forestry and, importantly, required notification of impending logging, was defeated 4:6 in committee, despite an amendment weakening the notification provision. The bill was lobbied against by 2 state agencies and 4 other lobby groups including the Farm Bureau, and the Forestry Association. Representatives voting in favor of the bill were Odom, Kernell, Brown, and Stulce. The state has put a Bad Actors policy into operation (NL226 §4D) but this has no provisions for prior notification of logging, nor does it include the power to shut down operations that are breaking water-quality laws.

- SB 804 (Cohen)/HB 1389 (Odom), the Sierra Club's State Forests Bill, *almost* made it. The committee voted a 5:5 tie, but the chairman, Don Ridgeway broke the tie with a "no" vote, stating that we had a Forest Management Advisory Panel to deal with this issue (very wrong: state forests were not even in FMAP's domain). Voting "yes" were Odom, Brown, Kernell, Scroggs, and Stulce.

- SB 1754 (Kyle)/HB 1570 (Curtiss), SOCM's Economic Incentives Bill, passed the full Senate on a 21:3 vote. This measure requires the State to undertake a forest-resource assessment prior to granting economic incentives for wood-products industries. Sen. Kyle was a great spokesperson for the bill and worked hard for its passage. In the House, it passed the Conservation & Environment Committee by voice vote, but is still in the Budget Subcommittee. Next year will pick up from there.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Representatives Odom, Brown, Kernell, Scroggs, and Stulce, and Sen. Kyle deserve our thanks, and we hope you'll drop them a note – whether you are in their district or not (addresses in Political Guide).

#### B. Attacks on the State's land-acquisition capabilities fizzled

- SB 1778 (Henry)/HB 1857 (McDaniel, S.Ford) would have allocated the money raised through the real-estate transfer tax to the General Fund, instead of earmarking it for the local parks, wetlands, and state lands funds. This was amended to apply only to certain housing programs. Sen. Henry stated that he never intended to touch these funds in his more general effort to address state budget woes.
- HB 1304 (Walker)/SB 1518 (Cooper, Elsea) would have required time-consuming procedures to be followed before the State could purchase tracts of wetlands or bottomland hardwoods. Failed in House committee.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Thank Sen. Henry for the amendment. Also, thank Sen. McNally (who was contacted by TCWP members) for his support. Addresses in Political Guide.

#### C. Natural Areas

A number of new State Natural Areas were designated, and additions were made to existing Natural Areas (see §5B, this NL).

#### D. Budget Impacts

After the Legislature defeated Gov. Sundquist's tax proposals that would have raised needed revenues, it attempted to grapple with the resulting ~\$300 million shortfall by cutting programs. Agencies were asked to take a 20% cut in their budgets, and the House and Senate Finance Committees proposed some specific amendments for this purpose. This wasn't always bad; one cut for the Tenn. Dept. of Environment &

Conservation (TDEC) that we considered good news was the elimination of funding for 4 golf courses (this one carried). Among bad news were proposed \$\$ reductions for State Natural Areas, Clean Water revolving fund, and a specific \$279,500 to be cut from Cumberland Trail State Park (CTSP, see ¶14B, this NL). In the end, none of these were implemented.

The proposed cut for the CTSP raised a particularly strong storm of opposition from individuals and organizations, especially so since an additional \$100,000 of a matching foundation grant would also be lost, essentially killing the entire project. TCWP informed key legislators that the CTSP was being generated through a private/public partnership, that 18,000 hours of volunteer time had already been expended, that not only the main trail would be affected but also connecting links to community greenways (including one to Oak Ridge), etc. Within an hour, Sen. Randy McNally responded to say that the proposal had been amended to be a non-specific cut from TDEC's budget, and that the CTSP would survive. We don't yet know what programs these non-specific reductions will come from.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Thank Sen. McNally (see Political Guide) and Gov. Sundquist (address on p.2) for their support of the CTSP. Urge all your legislators to support an effective and fair revenue-generating proposal so valuable programs won't continue to be cut.

awaited, but may not be made until late fall. The third public comment period on the LUMP (Land Unsuitable for Mining Petition) closed April 26, and the State, after outlining its position last July, recently concluded a series of meetings with the federal Office of Surface Mining (OSM). These discussions have also included the clean-up of existing abandoned (and polluting) mined lands in the watershed. Conservationists have expressed concern that such a "clean-up" might involve re-mining, a dangerous process that is likely to disturb the highly toxic Sewanee coal seam and is under even less regulatory control than is original mining.

The ultimate outcome will undoubtedly be made at high governmental levels, and your opinions and comments should be directed there (see box, below). Your message can be very short - "Support the Fall Creek Falls LUMP!" - but, if you need more background, see NL223 ¶1, NL225 ¶3, or NL226 ¶3C).

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** First and foremost, call or e-mail Vice President Gore (202/456-1111, or 202-456-2326, or [vice.president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:vice.president@whitehouse.gov)). It will also help to contact your US senators and congressmen (see p.2). No stripmining of any kind must be allowed in the Park's watershed.

## **B. Attacks on Cumberland Trail State Park (CTSP)**

Our newest state park has just weathered one attack: it nearly lost almost all of its funding (see ¶3D, this NL). But an ongoing war on development of the CTSP (Tennessee's first linear state park, NL223 ¶2) is being waged by users of OHVs (Off-Highway Vehicles). Over the past 10 years, OHV have had essentially unrestricted access to existing portions of the trail, and riders are concerned about losing this access once the trail becomes a state park. Some of them are exploring the possibility of pursuing legal action.

Initial acquisition for the CTSP is underway. Several rail-to-trail conversion opportunities are being considered, with small adjacent areas being developed for rest and litter disposal in order to avoid damage to private property that is traversed by the RR right-of-way. The state still plans to assign two rangers to the CTSP this summer. Their duties will include developing community and landowner relations.

## **E. Litter study/container deposits**

Senate Joint Resolutions SJR-092 (Crowe) and SJR-088 (Davis), which call for establishing a joint (Senate/House) committee for the study of recycling, litter, and "related issues" (NL227 ¶3C), went to the 3-member Delayed Bills Committee - routine procedure for any bill that proposes to create a study commission. To move this bill from Delayed Bills Committee and refer it to the Government Operations Committee will require the unanimous consent of all three members.

## **4. TENNESSEE STATE PARKS ISSUES**

### **A. Fall Creek Falls LUMP: still waiting**

An official decision on the SOCM/TCWP petition to designate the Fall Creek Falls watershed unsuitable for mining is still being

### C. Frozen Head addition -- still hoping

The Forestland Group, which purchased the land adjacent to Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area in November 1997, are apparently still interested in selling about 3200 acres to the state of Tennessee, but the company was awaiting the fate of the state budget (§3D, this NL) before deciding how to approach the transaction. There is ever-increasing competition for ever-shrinking state acquisition funds. We must therefore continue encouraging policy makers to add the badly needed acreage to Frozen Head.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Contact Governor Sundquist (address p.2), with a copy to Walter Butler, Asst. Commissioner, Tenn. Dept. of Environment and Conservation, 401 Church Street, L&C Tower, Nashville, TN 37243-0435.

### D. State Parks Forum, August 28

[Contributed by Marcy Reed]

TCPW will host the 3rd Annual Citizens' State Parks Forum, to be held August 28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Sevierville Civic Center. The agenda (still tentative) includes:

- An update on the State Parks' Master Plan
- Discussion on golf courses and resort parks. (The proposed new golf courses were cut from the budget for this year (§3D, this NL), but the administration is hard at work trying to sell the idea to the public.)
- Discussion on land acquisition reform
- Development of an action plan.

If you are concerned about our state parks, this is your opportunity to get involved, find out what's going on and what you can do. Cost of attending the forum is \$10, which includes lunch. Please put this date on your calendar and plan on being there!

### E. State Park planning

The TDEC (Dept. of Env't and Conservation) 4-Year Strategic Plan (NL225 §4D) became available for distribution in mid-May, and implementation will start July 1. The Plan can be viewed on the web ([www.state.tn.us/environment/tdecplan.htm](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/tdecplan.htm)). The Master Plan for State Parks, into which TCPW had input (NL226 §3A; NL227 §4A) is a component of the TDEC planning process and will become available by June 30. A state Parks Constituency Work Group will be invited to review planning documents and to assist in the identification of issues.

## 5. OTHER STATE PUBLIC LANDS ISSUES

### A. State's land-acquisition process improved

[Contributed by Erin Kelly]

Possibly as a result of pressure from a pending bill (Odom/Kyle) that would direct a change in the State's land-acquisition process, TDEC (Tenn. Dept. of Env't & Conservation) announced that it is overhauling the process to add flexibility and citizen involvement. Regular meetings are scheduled, with the agenda posted in advance on the internet, and a facilitator was added to run the proceedings. Citizens are now allowed to testify before the lands committee regarding particular acquisitions, and can submit lands for consideration by the committee. In the past, there was no notification of meetings, and the committee often met without even taking minutes of their decisions.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Contact Walter Butler, Asst. Commissioner, Tenn. Dept. of Environment and Conservation, 401 Church Street, L&C Tower, Nashville, TN 37243-0435 and applaud TDEC on the overhaul of its land-acquisition process. However, stress the need for inclusion of a citizen representative (preferably from the conservation community) on the panel.

### B. We now have

#### 58 State Natural Areas

A bill that passed both Houses near the end of May (SB 1801/HB 1879) adds four new State Natural Areas and expands two existing ones. Newly designated areas are the North Chickamauga Creek Gorge (3,700 acres, Hamilton and Sequatchie Counties), the Chimneys (33 acres, Marion Co.), Fate Sanders Barrens (230 acres, Rutherford Co.), and Flat Rock Cedar Glade (576 acres, near Murfreesboro). Enlargements are Falling Water Falls (36 acres added to an existing 100 acres in Hamilton County) and Sunk Lake (350 acres added to an existing 1,333 acres, Lauderdale County).

For Chickamauga Creek, 3,700 acres, valued at \$2.5 million, are being purchased by the North Chickamauga Creek Conservancy and the Conservation Fund, with a \$750,000 contribution from the State Lands Acquisition Fund. The 33-acre Chimneys area was a gift from Marathon Ashland Petroleum Co. Flat Rock Cedar Glades has been acquired in fee. Tennessee's new total of

36 designated State Natural Areas includes 17 added during the Sundquist administration, which has also made add-ons to existing areas.

#### **C. Scotts Gulf celebration on July 17**

On September 3, 1998, Bridgestone/Firestone donated 4,000 of its ~15,000 acres in and around Scotts Gulf to the State of Tennessee (NL224 ¶2A, NL225 ¶4C). A dedication ceremony and celebration will be held in a barn on the property on July 17, 11 a.m. CDT, hosted by the Tenn. Wildlife Resources Agency (which now administers the land), the Friends of Scotts Gulf, the Conservation Fund (which facilitated the gift), and others. There will be opportunities to view the gorge from Buzzard's Roost overlook, and to get down to the river. Take US 70 west of Crossville to DeRossett; then Mowberry Rd, south of town, for 6-7 miles. Scotts Gulf road is on the right. For more info, call Brenda Cardwell, 931-836-3552.

#### **D. Pressure from OHV users**

During public meetings held in March 1998 on the TN Greenways and Trails Plan, about 1/3 of the ~400 participants represented motorized trail (Off Highway Vehicle) users. That lobby is a strong one and has been heard from since. They complain that restrictions on both private and public lands curtail their riding opportunities, and they claim rights of access to public lands. State parks and natural areas ban them (see ¶4B, this NL); state forests permit them; and TWRA permits them on specified wildlife areas under special rules. They want a state OHV trail program, and state dollars to manage or maintain OHV recreation, arguing that motorized recreation provides economic/tourist benefits, and that lack of a managed and controlled OHV program may increase environmental impacts of current practices. OHV solutions and strategies will be included in the upcoming TN Greenways and Trails Plan. It will be very important for us to study the proposals carefully and comment on the draft Plan. Please let us know if you would be willing to help (contact info on p.15). Environmental groups need to do a better job to have input on this issue.

#### **E. Significant Wildlife Refuge/WMA in the making**

A 2,500-acre peninsula on the west side of the Tennessee River, 4 miles down from Watts Bar Dam, provides habitat for sandhill cranes that winter in Tennessee, eagles, waterfowl, song birds, and many species of mammals. With 3

miles of shoreline, about 1,000 acres of wetlands (one of the largest wetland areas in East Tennessee), and steep uplands, the peninsula provides a large variety of habitats. The property has had several corporate owners, most recently the Mead Corp., which was planning to build a paper mill. The area is currently being leased as a private hunting preserve. Mead decided to locate the plant in Alabama and to sell Smith Bend.

In a deal negotiated by the Conservation Fund, Mead will sell for \$6.9 million (that's still about \$2,800/acre) to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), which will commit spending the equivalent of 2 years' of State Wetland Acquisition Fund money (altogether about \$5 million). The Foothills Conservancy has offered to pitch in the remaining \$1.9 million, to be raised over 2 years. TWRA plans to manage the area both as a refuge and as a wildlife management area, with programs for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, education, research, hiking and photography.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** To learn more about the project, or to make a donation, contact the Foothills Land Conservancy, 614 Sevierville Rd., Maryville, TN 37804; 423-681-8326

#### **F. Will Moccasin Bend be added to National Park System?**

Addition of the 1,400-acre Moccasin Bend (in the Tennessee River) to the Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park was authorized 50 years ago. However, the tract was acquired by state and local governments and is the location of a state mental-health hospital. The state has not agreed to donate the area to NPS at this time, but says it will reexamine the issue when the hospital is no longer functional. Rep. Zach Wamp has introduced legislation to turn over the Bend to NPS, with the stipulation that the hospital would not be removed until the year 2009.

### **6. STATE WATER ISSUES**

#### **A. Watershed Improvement Workshop series starts July 1**

[Contributed by Tom McDonough]

From identifying water quality problems to securing grant funding, a series of upcoming workshops will give the citizens of East



Tennessee an overview of just what it takes to achieve long-term goals of water resource protection. The focus will be on issues that have been of concern to local watershed groups. Everyone -- from members of lake, watershed, and homeowners associations to individual citizens -- can learn how to get more involved in working together to solve water quality problems. Sponsored by TVA, the University of Tennessee Water Resources Research Center, Knox County Soil Conservation District, Ijam's Nature Center, Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning, and the Tennessee Clean Water Network, the free workshops will be led by experts in the field of watershed improvement and are designed to provide non-technical information to a general audience. Participants will have ample opportunities to ask questions of those representing various resource agencies, will see techniques demonstrated in the field, and will take home hand-outs designed to help them apply what they've learned.

At the first workshop, participants will obtain an overview of state and federal water resource improvement programs, and will learn how they can access these programs and benefit from them. The subsequent three workshops will guide participants through the process of assessing a stream or watershed, selecting and planning a project, and securing funding for the project.

Workshop #1, July 1, 1999, 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Ijam's Nature Center, 2915 Island Home Avenue in Knoxville.

6:30-6:45 Registration and refreshments

6:45-7:00 Introduction: Tom McDonough, TVA

7:00-7:20 The Clean Water Action Plan: Don Becker, TVA. CWAP integrates the efforts of state and federal agencies and will provide increased funding for watershed improvements. Implications for citizens.

7:20-7:40 Tennessee's Water Quality Assessment and Pollution Prevention Program (TMDL): David Duhl, Tenn. Dept. of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Pollution Control. IDEC has adopted a watershed approach to protecting our state's streams and lakes.

7:40-8:00 Unified Watershed Assessment and Restoration Plan: Greg Upham, Tenn. Dept. of Agriculture. How "Priority Watershed" were selected; non-point source control program, a primary source of funding.

8:00-8:20 Source Water Protection Program: Tom Moss, Tenn. Dept. of Environment and

Conservation, Division of Water Supply. A new project designed to identify threats to every water supply in the state.

8:20-8:40 Natural Resources Conservation Service Programs: Chip Ramsey. NRCS programs that address land uses in addition to agricultural improvements.

8:40-9:00 Question and Answer Session: all agency representatives will answer questions.

The following is a brief outline of workshops #2, 3, and 4. (Space is limited for all but workshop #1. To sign up, or learn more about the workshops, contact Tom McDonough, TVA Clean Water Initiative, Phone (423) 632-1424 Fax 632-1628, e-mail: tamcdono@tva.gov)

- #2. Sept. 11, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Brookhaven Farm in Seymour: hands-on water-quality sampling (of Nails Creek) and watershed assessment.
- #3. Late fall, Strategic Planning for Watershed Improvement: how to harness limited resources to chart a path for putting people and money to work. Assessment information collected at the previous workshop will be used to plan an improvement project to be implemented on Nails Creek.
- #4. Spring 2000, Funding: how to research potential funding sources and write successful grants. Participants may develop a strategy for their own watershed.

## **B. Our dwindling water supplies**

The eastern USA, including Tennessee, is now finally becoming aware of what has been a fact of life in the West for a longtime: water supply is finite. Our ongoing story about how the Cumberland County water supply affects Obied designation (#1) is a good example. Several other counties, too, have water-supply proposals featuring somewhat similar dilemmas. The studies performed for Cumberland County, which examine the feasibility of "non-traditional" water supplies (water conservation, piping water from large existing reservoirs, water "harvesting" during high-flow periods, etc.) may serve as models for other counties. Another remedy is consolidation of numerous individual watersheds (such as those provided by utility districts) into regional water authorities.

Not only counties, but states have water disputes and need coordinated planning. The Tennessee River system, which extends into 7 states, is a prime example. The Southeast Water Supply Roundtable, to be held Nov. 8-10 for federal and state agency representatives as well

as experts from academia, will address the region's growing water-supply need.

### C. Status of water quality

The recently released so-called 305(b) report for 1998 finds that 71.9% of Tennessee stream miles and 77.7% of Tennessee lakes are fully supporting their classified uses. This means that about one in four is not. The report identifies the causes of water pollution and the sources of pollutants. For details, access the TDEC web page: [www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/index.html](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/index.html)

### D. Permits under Clean Water Act

The Corps' Nashville District will no longer send out paper notices for proposed projects requiring Corps regulatory permits (mostly under the Clean Water Act). Instead, copies will be placed on the Corps' web page at <http://www.orn.usace.army.mil/cof/>. You can request to receive an e-mail notification on the day a Notice has been listed on the web page. Send your e-mail address to Nashville District, Army Corps of Engineers, ATIN: Regulatory Branch, P.O. Box 1070, Nashville, TN 37202-1070.

## 7. SMOKIES and CHEROKEE.

### A. Southern Appalachian Wilderness Walk

[Contributed by Eric Hirst]

The Appalachian Trail runs a thousand miles through the rugged and beautiful Southern Appalachian mountains, including the Cherokee National Forest and Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee. Unfortunately, the U.S. Forest Service has built roads and allowed logging on steep and scenic wildlands just outside the narrow trail corridor.

On behalf of a coalition of conservation groups, Peter Kirby, a former staffer for the Wilderness Society, is leading a hike along the AT to promote protection of wildlands along this famous trail. At a time when forest-plan revisions are in late stages of preparation by the US Forest Service, it is hoped that the hike will educate and influence the public, federal agencies, local officials, and the media about the need and opportunity to protect these wildlands.

The Sierra Club and Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning are sponsoring an evening

with Peter Kirby, who will present his "Southern Appalachian Wilderness Walk: A Hike to Protect the Wildlands of the Appalachian Trail."

Peter's talk and slide show will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 31 at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville. Complementary copies of the report, *Tennessee's Mountain Treasures*, will be available. Contact Will Skelton (423-523-2272, [Wskelton@bassberry.com](mailto:Wskelton@bassberry.com)) or Eric Hirst (423-483-1289, [Hirstea@esper.com](mailto:Hirstea@esper.com)) for more information about what promises to be a very interesting and informative evening, and also about options for hiking with Peter along the Appalachian Trail in Tennessee. Peter invites people to join him for one or more days of hiking at a pace that will average about 10 miles a day. He will spend much of August hiking along the trail in Tennessee.

### B. Agencies to assess forest resources

The US Forest Service (USFS), in partnership with EPA, US Fish & Wildlife Service, TVA, and southern state forestry agencies, is initiating an assessment of the forest resources of 13 southern states (those that comprise Region 8 of the USFS). The most current information available on the status of the forests will be collected and evaluated, including the productivity (timber, wildlife, recreation, water, range), ecological diversity, and sustainability. The project is expected to take through mid-2001. It may be the type of study we have been wishing for for quite sometime.

Almost 90% of the South's forests are privately owned and managed. Input from private landowners and that of a variety of forest users will be sought and utilized throughout the assessment process. For further information, contact Elizabeth Estill, Regional Forester, Southern Region, US Forest Service, 1720 Peachtree Rd., NW, Atlanta, GA 30367.

### C. Air-quality agreement signed

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Tennessee and federal agencies, which was signed in May 1997 (NL217 ¶4A), and was kept alive when North Carolina signed on to it last December (NL226 ¶7A), aims to halt continued deterioration of air quality in the Smokies and adjacent national forests. The MOU facilitates the sharing of information between

the states (which issue permits for potentially polluting new industrial activities) and the affected federal agencies. The agencies can thus identify potential problems early in the permitting process when modification or resolution is still possible.

On April 7, Tennessee's Gov. Sundquist and North Carolina's Gov. Hunt's participated in a North Carolina Summit on Mountain Air Quality and signed the joint permitting-procedures agreement for protection of Class-I areas. EPA believes that the summit may have opened a new chapter in southeastern cooperation on air pollution issues.

On Earth Day, the Clinton Administration announced new regulations that would restore pre-industrial era air quality to national parks, wildernesses and other Class-I areas. Starting with the year 2003, states will have to generate pollution-reduction plans (with methods left up to the states), and will have to demonstrate significant air-quality improvements every 10 years, with a final deadline of 2064.

#### **D. Investigating transportation solutions for the Smokies**

Federal and state officials are investigating regional transportation planning, public transportation, innovative transport (e.g., electric cars and trolleys), and stricter air standards for cars. For more information, contact NPS's Bob Miller (423-436-1208), or TDEC's Melanie Catania (615-532-0739).

#### **E. SAMI and SAMAB**

Starting this spring, Tennessee is the state that is chairing SAMI, the Southern Appalachian Mountain Initiative. An example of SAMI activities was the recent Summit on Mountain Air Quality (¶7B, above).

A Tennessean has also assumed a key role in SAMAB, the Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere program. Robert S. Turner, for 15 years at ORNL and now at the University of Tennessee (Knoxville), was recently named executive director of the program. Established in 1988, SAMAB is a consortium of 11 federal agencies, 6 Biosphere Reserve Units, public and private partners, and the natural resources departments of TN, NC, and GA. In 1996, SAMAB released the comprehensive (5-volume) Southern Appalachian Assessment (SAA). Data are

constantly being updated and will be made available on Web links.

The next phase of SAMAB's work will tackle 3 initiatives: native and exotic species, watershed protection, and sustainable development. For more information contact Robert S. Turner, SAMAB, 314 Conference Center Bldg, U.T., Knoxville 37996-4134, 423-974-4583.

### **8. TVA ISSUES**

#### **A. Shoreline Management Initiative adopted by Board (with change recommended by TCWP)**

Three years have gone by since TVA offered its Shoreline Management Initiative (SMI) and Draft EIS for extensive public review. Following numerous public meetings with much expression of opposition coming from various directions, TVA went back to the drawingboard and, late last year, came out with the new "Blended Alternative" (NLJ25 ¶7B). With only one important change (see below), this was adopted by the TVA Board on April 21.

The Blended Alternative responds to what had been TCWP's major concern about the original proposal, namely a projected reduction in public lands. The Blended Alternative does not allow any increase in the amount of developed shoreline beyond the existing potential 38% system-wide average (actually, only about 13% is currently developed, but 38% might eventually be, under the present ownership pattern). The original SMI would have allowed this percentage to increase to 48% (and even 63% under some alternatives).

Residential owners also got several concessions under the Blended Alternative. Among those was a shrinking of the Shoreline Management Zone (SMZ), i.e., those TVA public lands through which adjoining private property owners have access rights to the water, and within which TVA can control the vegetation. In the original proposal, the SMZ was to have been 100 ft wide; but when the Blended Alternative was presented last December, the width of the SMZ had become only 25 ft. TCWP strongly recommended a SMZ of at least 50 ft.

This recommendation was, in fact, adopted by the TVA Board, and Chairman Crowell actually mentioned us in his remarks, as follows: "Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning specifically

recommended that the greenbelt be increased to 50 feet. I'm confident that the staff has correctly analyzed the merits of a 25-foot zone. However, doubling the size of the greenbelt would further protect the Tennessee River system."

#### **B. TVA forms new Watershed Teams**

TVA has combined the functions of its former Land Management Offices and its River Action Teams. Operating within a new TVA organization called Resource Stewardship are 11 new multi-disciplinary Watershed Teams. The teams will engage in (a) resource protection and improvement, (b) shoreline management and land use, and (c) outreach and education. (a) includes activities such as water-quality (WQ) monitoring, conservation practices for homeowners and farmers, organizing citizens and agency partners for WQ improvements, habitat enhancement projects, streambank and shoreline stabilization, stormwater management, and many others.

The 11 Watershed Teams are organized into 4 Regions (each with a manager); and each Team includes several reservoirs and their watersheds. For example, the Melton Hill Team also covers Watts Bar; and the Little Tennessee Team also covers Fontana, Ft. Loudon, and Tellico. All 4 Regions report to Ruben Hernandez, who heads TVA's resource stewardship program. To get more details, call 423-632-8502.

#### **C. Renewing agricultural licenses:**

*maybe not as good as we thought*

In reporting on TVA's proposal to re-license 74 tracts (1,262 acres) of agricultural land around 5 reservoirs (NL227 ¶6D), our comment was "Sounds good." Board member Mary Lynn Dobson has since pointed out that TVA's statement to the effect that the leasing would enhance the natural resources of the watershed is valid only in comparison with other kinds of development (such as industrial or intensive residential). Allowing the land to return to a climax forest would much more truly enhance the natural resources of the watershed than would cultivation. The land is publicly owned and leasing it for the benefit of private individuals violates the spirit of public land use.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Send any comments to Ruben Hernandez (TVA, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville TN 37902-1499), with a copy to Richard Tuernissen, Environmental Scientist,

(TVA, MidEast Region, 2009 Grubb Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771; 423-988-2440).

#### **D. State's role in Duck River lands**

TVA's recently published Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the use of lands acquired for the Columbia Dam component of the Duck River Project selects a Preferred Alternative, designated D/C. Under this Alternative, described in some detail in NL227 ¶6B, all of the land is transferred to the state of Tennessee, and acreage is assigned as follows:

- 3,900 acres surrounding Fountain Creek, reserved for water-supply use, provided an ongoing study finds this to be justifiable;
- 6,900 acres of river corridor for protection of natural and cultural resources and recreational use;
- 2,000 acres for mixed uses, e.g., county facilities and possibly residential development.

As was anticipated, the State has hired the consulting firm that designed the Bicentennial Mall in Nashville to develop the land-use plan for the Duck River area. The plan will help determine the appropriate nature and degree of recreational development in the 6,900-acre river corridor area, and the appropriate uses for the ~2,000 acres of mixed-use lands. Opportunities for public input will be provided. While the land-use plan is being developed, TWRA (Tenn. Wildlife Resources Agency) is managing the area on an interim basis.

#### **E. TVA to form new Institute**

TVA has announced plans to form the Public Power Institute to generate information of use in reducing environmental impacts of power production. The Institute will research new technologies, environmental policy issues, and environmental damages attributable to power plants.

### **9. NATIONAL CAPSULES**

#### **A. Short-short action calls**

In the interest of time and space, we are repeating two action calls from NL227 that are still very pertinent, and adding a third one.

- **America's Redrock Wilderness** (from NL227 ¶10C)

Some other Utah-wilderness-related legislative and BLM initiatives may be confusing to legislators and may make them think that co-

sponsoring America's Redrock Wilderness Act is no longer important. Definitely no so!

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Urge your senators and congressman (addresses on p.2) to support the Hinchey-Durbin Redrock Wilderness bill for Utah. Stress the importance of these magnificent and very vulnerable areas for the country as a whole, and cite any personal experiences you may have had there. For more info, contact [suwa@suwa.org](mailto:suwa@suwa.org)

• **Endangered species (from NL227 ¶10B)**

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Urge your congressman (address on p.2) to co-sponsor HR.960, an urgently needed bill to protect ecosystems and species. To get more details on the bill, and how to help, contact the SE organizer of the Endangered Species Coalition, Melissa Metcalfe, 727-866-3698; [assilem@mindspring.com](mailto:assilem@mindspring.com), or visit the Coalition's website at <http://www.stopextinction.org>

- **Arctic National Wildlife Wilderness (new)**  
On Earth Day, Sen. William Roth (R, DE) reintroduced his ANWR wilderness bill. So far, there are 11 original cosponsors of both parties, but Tennesseeans are not, so far, among the cosponsors.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Urge your senators (address on p.2) to co-sponsor Sen. Roth's bill to designate the ANWR wilderness.

**B. Get e-mail alerts on national issues**

To participate in a free e-mail service that sends out alerts before environmentally significant votes in the Congress visit the League of Conservation Voters web site at [www.lcv.org](http://www.lcv.org). Or, you can write (LCV Action Fund, 1707 L Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20036), and ask to be added to the LCV-Update list. Be sure to give them your e-mail as well as mailing address (and a contribution if you can afford it).

**10. TCWP NEWS**

**A. Changes in Board and committee**

- Chuck Estes, already a member of the Board, has assumed the job of Board Secretary. This officer position has been vacant since Tom Thornburgh left the Board.

- Jenny Freeman will depart Oak Ridge in August for a year of travel with her family. She will, however, not depart from the Board but stay in close communication through e-mail and telephone.

- Jenny's position as chair of the Parks Committee will, during her absence, be filled by Marcy Reed.

**B. North Ridge Trail needs a new steward**

[Contributed by Eric Hirst]

Few cities have long, secluded, trails with the beautiful wildflowers, startling rock formations, and wonderful hiking enjoyment that Oak Ridge has in its North Ridge Trail system. The trail runs along the north side of Black Oak Ridge and can be reached by five short access trails. TCWP was instrumental in creating this 11-mile system in the late 1960s and has maintained the trail since then.

During the past decade, TCWP members Ken and Helen Warren have done a terrific job of maintaining the system. Each year, they inspect the main trail and its five access trails, paint blazes on trees, clear brush and trash from the trail, and take steps to prevent erosion at key points along the route. Thousands of hikers thank Ken and Helen for helping make an afternoon on the North Ridge Trail the wonderful experience it is.

The Warrens plan to "retire" soon from their responsibilities for the North Ridge Trail. TCWP is looking for a volunteer to be responsible for trail maintenance. The volunteer need not do all the work alone; other TCWP members, the Oak Ridge Recreation Department, Greenways Oak Ridge, and various scout troops are all sources of assistance. In addition, Ken and Helen have agreed to help for the next year or two, so newcomers to trail maintenance are welcome.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Contact Sandra Goss (522-3809, [SKGoss@esper.com](mailto:SKGoss@esper.com)) or Eric Hirst (483-1289, [Hirstea@esper.com](mailto:Hirstea@esper.com)) if you are interested in spending a couple of days every few months hiking the trail and keeping it in its current fine shape.

**C. TCWP will seek**

**Urban Forestry Grant**

[Contributed by Marcy Reed]

TCWP is taking the lead in developing a grant application, jointly with the Oak Ridge Environmental Quality Advisory Board (EQAB)

and Greenways of Oak Ridge. The granting agency is the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, which administers federal funds for urban forestry programs. Our application seeks financial support for developing an urban forestry program in Oak Ridge. The money would be used to develop a volunteer recruitment program, to produce new brochures for the greenbelt and trail areas, and to purchase equipment for use by volunteers. Additionally, public workshops would be sponsored to train volunteers in techniques such as proper pruning of trailside vegetation, control of exotic species, and trail maintenance. The grant application is due June 24, and successful applicants will be notified later this summer.



If you are interested in volunteering for the urban forestry program, contact Marcy Reed at 691-8807, or [marcyreed@aol.com](mailto:marcyreed@aol.com).

#### **D. TCWP slide show is ready**

After several months' effort Lee Russell and Marcy Reed have completed a slide show that is available for presentations to civic clubs, schools, churches, etc. The show, which takes about 30 minutes to present, is a mix of word slides (about TCWP's history, its current activities, its mode of operations, the services it provides to members, etc.) and color slides showing both beautiful scenery and "horror" shots, as appropriate to the narration. There is also a "cheat sheet" that can be consulted (or even read) by any presenter who needs more information on individual slides. Now we need volunteers willing to present this show to their favorite group.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** (1) Volunteer to present the slide show to your favorite group(s). (2) If you feel uneasy about making the presentation yourself, arrange for a showing to your group and ask our Service Committee whether they can find a presenter. In either case, contact Sandra K. Goss, 423-522-3809, [skgoss@esper.com](mailto:skgoss@esper.com); or Marcy Reed, 423-481-0623, [marcyreed@aol.com](mailto:marcyreed@aol.com); or Lee Russell, 423-482-2153, [russelllb@sprynet.com](mailto:russelllb@sprynet.com)

#### **E. Annual Meeting Nov. 13 -- plans take shape**

It'll be close to where the majority of our members live, and it'll have almost all of the components of our usual weekend meetings, but be limited to a day + evening. We hope very much that these two factors will encourage a large attendance for the very fine program we are

planning, focused, this year, on TVA and its new land- and water-stewardship missions, opportunities, and problems.

Headquarters for the meeting will be the lovely secluded Norris leavoon (built by the CCC during the Roosevelt era) that has a deck overlooking a wooded cove of the reservoir. The TCWP committee organizing the program is currently planning a continental breakfast from 8-9, followed by a session of speakers (both from within and outside TVA) addressing TVA resource issues. After a brief TCWP business meeting, box lunches will be available for afternoon outdoor activities, which will include one or more hikes, bicycle rides, and boat trips. TVA and State Park naturalists will be available to lead these activities. Evening schedules are still under discussion, but would include social activities and/or slide shows. For people coming from farther away and wanting overnight accommodations, the Park has cabins (with fully equipped kitchen) that sleep six and rent for \$90 a night.

Resure to put Saturday, November 13, on your calendar.

#### **F. Help us construct e-mail network**

To achieve quick communication among members, when needed, or to send out urgent alerts, we would like to supplement our phone tree (under construction) with e-mail listserves. If you have an e-mail address, kindly send it to the TCWP e-mail address, [TCWP@kornnet.org](mailto:TCWP@kornnet.org), and/or to Marcy Reed, [MarcyRReed@aol.com](mailto:MarcyRReed@aol.com)



#### **G. TCWP to organize Public Land's Day activity, Sept. 25**

[Contributed by Marcy Reed]

The first National Public Land's Day was held in 1994. That year, 700 volunteers worked at three sites. By 1998, the number of sites had grown to 82, distributed among 36 states.

This year, TCWP is participating in Public Lands Day in conjunction with TVA. On September 25, we will gather at the Worthington Cemetery ecological study area at the east end of Oak Ridge. Participants will begin by working on a couple of projects: eliminating exotic species from the land, and construction of a small footbridge across a low-lying area. Afterwards, we will have a picnic and party for all volunteers. Put this date on your calendar NOW. If you have questions, contact Marcy Reed at 691-8807, or [marcyreed@aol.com](mailto:marcyreed@aol.com).

## H. Report on March for Parks

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

We had gorgeous weather for our March-for-Parksevent on April 24 and raised \$2044 for the Big South Fork NRRRA (exceeding earlier March-for-Parks "takes," except for the Obed one in 1996). Many thanks to the event leaders (there were three hikes and one float), Frank Hensley, Charlie Klabunde, Eric Hirst, Chuck Estes, Philip Young, Bill Busing and Jean Bangham. Sandra Goss arranged for all the refreshments at Bandy Creek after the outings, and oversaw the roasting of banana boats. Many thanks to the contributing businesses: *The Oak Ridger*, Johnston Coca Cola Bottling, Cinemark Tinseltown, Mickey's Produce Company, CDM Federal, Dagger Canoe, Health Components, Marcyay Dickens, and Oak Ridge Bicycle Center.

The subcommittee that planned the March for Parks included Marion Burger and Don Davis, who would like to have members' comments regarding the event, particularly with a view toward increasing attendance next time. Did you like the activities that were offered? Would you like to be reminded more often? Was the date good or bad? (Send your comments or ideas for next year's March for Parks to Sandra K. Goss, 423-522-3809 or skgoss@esper.com)

## 11. CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES; RESOURCES

Events calendar. (For details, check the referenced NL item; or contact Sandra K. Goss, 423-522-3809, skgoss@esper.com; or Marcy Reed, 423-481-0623, marcyreed@aol.com)

- July 1, 6:30 p.m., Watershed Improvement Workshop #1, IJAM's Nature Center, Knoxville (76A)
- July 8, 7 p.m., TCWP Water Issues Committee, at Chuck Estes', 114 Baypath Drive, Oak Ridge (482-7374)
- July 8-11, Saint Louis, MO, "Preserving a Healthy River System," conference sponsored by the Mississippi River Basin Alliance (612-870-3441; mrbaoffice@mrba.org)
- July 12-17, Naturalist Week, Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont (inquire 423-448-6709; gsmi@smokiesnha.org)
- July 13, deadline for submitting comments on EA that proposes new roads in the BSFNNRA (72B)
- August 28, 9-5, State Parks Forum, Sevierville Civic Center (74D)

- August 31, 7:30 p.m., Southern Appalachian Wilderness Walk talk and slideshow by Peter Kirby, Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, Knoxville (77A)
- September 11, Watershed Improvement Workshop #2, Brookhaven Farm, Seymour (76A)
- September 25, TCWP's Public Lands Day celebration at Worthington Cemetery, time TBA (710G)
- November 13, TCWP Annual Meeting Norris State Park (710E)

### Resources

- *The Status of Water Quality in Tennessee, 1998 305(b) Report* (see 76C, this NL) may be accessed on the Web at [www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/index.html](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/index.html). For printed copies, call 615-532-0699.
- The League of Conservation Voters Education Fund has published the environmental profiles of the freshman class of the 106th Congress (202-785-0730; or on the web, [www.lcvfund.org](http://www.lcvfund.org)). LCV, in addition to annually compiling the *National Environmental Scorecard* for the entire Congress, has this year initiated the Accountability Project, which tracks debate, watches key committees, and monitors the Congressional Record. Contact LCV at 202-785-8683 or [lcv@lcv.org](mailto:lcv@lcv.org)
- The Audubon Expedition Institute offers B.S. and M.S. programs in Environmental Studies and Environmental Education through travel and experiential learning. Special scholarships are available. (AEI, 243 High Street, Belfast, ME 04915; 207-338-5859 or [AEI@audubon.org](mailto:AEI@audubon.org)).

### TCWP contact information (continued from p.2)

TCWP, 130 Tabor Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830.  
 Exec Director: Marcy Reed, 423-691-8807 or 481-0286  
[MarcyRReed@aol.com](mailto:MarcyRReed@aol.com)  
 Membership-Development Directors:  
 Sandra Goss, 423-522-3809; [SKGoss@esper.com](mailto:SKGoss@esper.com)  
 Marcy Reed, 691-8807; [MarcyRReed@aol.com](mailto:MarcyRReed@aol.com)  
 President: Jimmy Groton, 423-483-5299 (evening)  
 e-mail: [TCWP@kornet.org](mailto:TCWP@kornet.org)  
 On the web: <http://www.kornet.org/tcwp/>

