



September 22, 2001

Our 35<sup>th</sup> birthday this year!

Taking Care of Wild Places

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# 12. ACTION SUMMARY

¶No	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or Action
1	Forest Legacy Program	FLP Coordinator	"Designate northern Cumberlands as Forest Legacy Area!"
2A	Land acquisition for Obod	US Rep. and Sens: NPS	"Urgently need to complete land acquisition!"
3	Big South Fork NRR	National Park Service	"Mandate clearly displayed permits for OHVs!"
4A	State Park closures	State legislators; governor	"Come up with revenue source; keep parks open!"
5	Gt. Smoky Mtns. National Park	Sens. Frist and Thompson	"Stop any efforts to facilitate or fund North Shore Road!"
6B	Oil & gas in national forests (NFs)	US senators	"Stop energy developments in pristine NF areas!"
8A	North Ridge Trail, Oak Ridge	TCWP	Contribute to cost of signs banning OHVs etc.
8B	Pine Ridge, Oak Ridge	City Council	"Re-acquire Ridge and make it into a vista park!"
8D	Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge/Park	Knox Co. Parks Dept.	"I support land acquisition for this park!"
9A	Arctic Refuge drilling	Your US senators <b>URGENT ALERT</b> Reps. Ford, Clement, Gordon	"ANWR drilling won't give us energy independence!" "Thanks for your vote opposing drilling!"
9B	LWCF (for land acquisitions)	Rep. and Sens	"Co-sponsor & support CARA (HR.701, S. 1328)!"

Senator John Doe  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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

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Dear Senator Doe  
Sincerely yours,

Dear Congressman Doe  
Sincerely yours,

Dear Mr President  
Respectfully yours,

Dear Gov. Sundquist  
Respectfully yours,

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To call any Rep or Senator, dial Congressional switchboard, 202-224-3121. To find out about the status of bills, call 202-225-1772  
URLs: <http://www.house.gov/lastname/> and <http://lastname.senate.gov/> General contact info: <http://www.tcv.org>

## 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.

TCWP: 130 Tabor Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

President: Jimmy Groton, 865-483-5799 (evening).

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### Editorial comment

The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 strengthen our resolve to protect our country (including its incomparable lands and waters) and to keep American democracy strong. Just as we need to defend innocent people from attacks by terrorists, we must defend innocent ecosystems from attacks by those who would exploit the crisis as an excuse to rape them, claiming national security needs (see 19A, this NL). As stated well by Paul Krugman in *The New York Times*, "This tragedy will only be magnified if it is exploited for political gain. Politicians who wrap themselves in the flag while relentlessly pursuing their usual partisan agenda are not true patriots, and history will not forgive them."

public comments to back up the committee's request. This is where YOU come in.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Contact FLP Coordinator Paul Ensminger (contact information below), and point out the values of the northern Cumberland Plateau around BSF, Pickett, Obed, Frozen Head, etc., and how this area is threatened by development, unsustainable forestry, and the conversion of native forests to non-native pine plantations. Urge that it be designated a "Forest Legacy Area."

Contact information:

Mr. Paul Ensminger, Coordinator, FLP TN Dept. of Agriculture, Forestry Division, P.O. Box 59, Delano, TN 37325, [Pensminger@mail.state.tn.us](mailto:Pensminger@mail.state.tn.us), Ph. 423-263-1626, FAX 423-263-9822

## 1. FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM CAN HELP PROTECT LAND

At the very time when public and private acquisition funds are woefully scarce, several outstandingly scenic, ecologically important, and fragile areas in the northern Cumberlands are just crying out for protection against escalating development pressures. But there may be a source of assistance that we have overlooked so far -- and YOU can help us access it.

The US Forest Service's Forest Legacy Program (FLP) was designed to encourage the protection of privately-owned forest lands. It complements private, federal, and state programs by either directly supporting property acquisitions (that serve public purposes identified by participating states and agreed upon by the landowner), or by supporting efforts to acquire donated conservation easements. The FLP may fund up to 75% of the cost, with at least 25% coming from private, state, or local sources. Landowners benefit from the gains of sale and/or from reduced taxes (associated with limits placed on land use).

To be eligible for FLP funding, a tract must fall within a predetermined "Forest Legacy Area." Currently, the northern Cumberland Plateau (including unprotected lands around Big South Fork, Pickett, Obed, etc.) is not designated as such an Area. A first step in that direction was taken on April 5, when the multi-agency Forest Legacy Committee, which serves as the state's liaison to the US Dept of Agriculture (Forest Service), supported a request to designate the northern Cumberland Plateau as a "Forest Legacy Area." This area extends north of I-40 to the Kentucky border, and eastward from US 127 through Campbell and Anderson Counties. HOWEVER, the FLP has not received enough

## 2. OBED NEWS

### A. Land acquisition needs are becoming acute

Although the Obed National Wild & Scenic River is now 25 years old (see 12C, below), just over 3,100 acres are so far under federal jurisdiction; and, for about 1/3 of this already purvey acreage, the government does not even own fee title but only easements that are far from fully protective. An early Obed Land Protection Plan generated during the Reagan (James Watt) years authorized a total of 5,084 acres (out of 14,464 acres that the law would have allowed). To reach even this anemic total, about 2000 acres are still needed.

This acreage translates into major critical segments of river gorges where the land is privately owned and potentially open to all kinds of adverse developments. Development pressures are increasing rapidly due to the recent growth of the Crossville area. The good news is that some of the current Obed land owners want to see the land remain unspoiled and are more than willing to sell to the National Park Service (NPS). The bad news is that these owners often have younger family members as co-owners or heirs who do not live in the area, and whose objective is to make maximum profits by selling to developers. And the really bad news is that the Obed unit of the NPS has no money for responding to the willing (and often eager) sellers, an aging population. In recent years, our Congressional delegation has not been concerned enough to request acquisition funds through the appropriations process; neither has it done any lobbying on behalf of the Obed with

NPS's Southeast Regional Office (which has numerous parks under its jurisdiction and some leeway in how funding is assigned).

TCWP, on behalf of several organizations, recently requested a meeting with Rep. Wamp, when he next visits Oak Ridge, in order to present him with some of the facts, explain the problems, and discuss possible remedies. Because Wamp serves on the House Interior Appropriations Committee, he is in a potentially excellent position to provide help for this very special resource in his district. We will approach our two senators, too. But it is also important that you take individual actions.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** The following need to hear of your strong support of the Obed National Wild and Scenic River (which will be 25 years old next month), and about the real need for completing land acquisition for this wonderful resource. (1) Representative Zach Wamp and Senators Frist and Thompson (addresses on p.2). (2) Jerry Belsen, Regional Director, NPS-SE Region (Atlanta Federal Center, 1924 Bldg., 100 Alabama Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303).

### **B. Increase in operating funds**

While the Obed WSR is broke with respect to acquisition funds, it is looking forward to an increase in operating funds for FY2002. This will hopefully permit the addition of two full-time staff positions - one in resource management, the other in law enforcement, as well as increased capability for water-quality and water-quantity monitoring (see ¶2D, below). This is good news indeed!

Partly as an outcome of the focus-group sessions held for the Climbing Plan (¶2E, below), the Obed WSR also received \$30,000 for a resource study. This is designed, in part, to identify ecologically and/or geologically fragile areas that should be protected against excessive use.

### **C. 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration**

October 12 is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary - to the day - when the bill that added the Obed to the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System passed the Congress. The long and arduous trail that led to that victory is summarized on the TCWP website (<http://www.kornet.org/tcwp/>) under the link "How the Obed got saved (from being turned into a reservoir and became a National Wild & Scenic River)."

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration being organized by the NPS will be held at 3 p.m. Eastern Time at the Nemo picnic area. Shuttle-bus transportation from the Obed WSR Visitor Center at Wartburg down to Nemo will be provided between 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. For further details, contact Ranger Arthur (Butch) McDade, 423-346-6294.

### **D. Added river gauges will gather important water-quantity data**

The number of gauging stations on the Obed system has now doubled again, to four. It started with one (the longstanding Oakdale gauge on the Emory) and then grew to two in 1997 (the sophisticated Lilly Bridge gauge on Clear Creek, the operation and maintenance of which was in large part funded from money collected through a TCWP-organized March-for-Parks). The two new gauges are on the Obed and on Daddys Creek, locations that, in conjunction with the existing ones, serve to cover all major components of the watershed.

The new gauging stations are part of a cooperative project with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to provide on-line stream-flow information sought by recreationists. Perhaps more important, such data are of great importance for resource management purposes, and they provide the historical water-quantity information that is needed for opposing the incremental water theft from dam projects on the Plateau. Indeed, USGS is currently initiating a monitoring project (funded by NPS) on two streams, one with, and the other without, an impoundment on it, in the hope of extrapolating to the watershed.

### **E. Climbing Plan closer to completion**

Based on deliberations of the focus group sessions held earlier this year (NL237 ¶1B; NL238 ¶4), the National Park Service is in the final stages of developing a Draft Climbing Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Obed WSR. This will be available to public review in the early fall.

### **F. Emory River Watershed Association involved in water clean-up**

The Emory River Watershed Association (ERWA) aims to involve local citizens in caring for the well-being of the Emory/Obed watershed. Past and present TCWP Board members, Joni Lovegrove and Mark Peterson, respectively, have provided liaisons with ERWA. In July, Mark guided a casual float of ERWA members down the Emory, and, as an outgrowth of this event, ERWA is sponsoring a canoe float/river clean-up of the

Emory River on Saturday, September 29, starting 9 a.m. Two sections of river will be cleaned up: Camp Austin (Deerment) to Oakdale, and Oakdale to Clifty Creek. There will also be an on-the-ground cleanup in the Oakdale area for those who don't want to canoe. TVA will provide trash bags. If you'd like to participate but don't have a canoe, contact Mark Peterson at 483-1291.

### 3. BIG SOUTH FORK:

#### **revised proposal for Mt. Helen Trail**

Based on comments by TCWP and others on the proposed Mt. Helen Prototype Trail (NL240 11C), the National Park Service (NPS) has issued a revised Environmental Assessment. As originally proposed, this ~9-mile loop, with its trailhead just inside the park boundary SE of Zenith, was to be for multiple use -- OHVs (off-highway vehicles) in the non-Gorge stretches, horses, and pedestrians.

The revised EA now includes, in addition to the original proposal and the no-action alternative, a third alternative (alternative C), identified as "preferred" by NPS. Under Alternative C, the trail is designated as a horse trail, rather than as a multi-use trail, and OHVs are barred from the entire trail (and not just the Gorge stretches). However, OHVs needed for access to oil & gas wells would still be permitted.

We consider the preferred alternative to be a considerable improvement, although we still would have preferred this major new trail initiative in the BSNRRA to have followed -- and be based on -- the General Management Plan (GMP) and the Roads & Trails Management Plan. As before, we commend NPS for proposing the resource-protection activities associated with constructing a "prototype" trail. However, the exception made for OHVs needed for access to oil & gas wells presents a definite loophole. We strongly urge that such OHVs be required to obtain permits from NPS for specific dates of access, and that these permits and be clearly displayed on the vehicles.

#### **WHAT YOU CAN DO:**

The revised proposal may be viewed at <http://www.nps.gov/biso/mthelen.pdf> (it takes a minute to load because there are some big map files). A hardcopy can also be requested from NPS by calling Chris Stubbs at 423-569-2404, ext.231. Deadline for comments is Oct. 5.

## 4. STATE NEWS

### A. State Park closures

[You have surely read about this in the papers, but we may have additional information for you.] On August 30, Gov. Don Sundquist announced #6 in a series of spending cuts necessitated by insufficient revenues having been voted by the General Assembly: the budget of the Division of State Parks will be reduced by \$3.2 million, as follows (figures are approximate):

- Close parks or all of 14 parks (some as of Nov. 30), \$1.4M
- Close remaining non-resort state parks on Mondays and Tuesdays, \$1.4M
- Suspend inn, restaurant and gift shop operations during the winter season at two parks, \$0.2M
- Reduce central office staff, \$0.1M
- Release seasonal staff two weeks ahead of schedule \$0.3M

Among the parks that will close (in our area) are Frozen Head, Norris (except for the marina), Big Ridge, Panther Creek, Indian Mountain (Campbell County), and Burgess Falls. House Mountain will be leased to Knox County, as previously planned.

During the 2000 session, the General Assembly arbitrarily reduced appropriations for State Parks by \$2.5 million. By the end of the last fiscal year, the Division of State Parks had an estimated shortfall of \$3.5 million. Since 1996, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has cut expenditures by over \$23 million, by returning extra equipment, reserving and eliminating positions, decreasing travel, etc. A TDEC plan to reduce appropriation needs by another \$10 million within five years was not adopted by the Legislature.

In addition to the very obvious damages associated with the closure of state parks, there are a number of more hidden dangers.

- 124 FTEs (full-time-equivalent positions), 108 of which are currently filled, will be eliminated. Some of these people have been residing in the parks. If they cannot find jobs within state government, they will be terminated. We'll lose valuable, experienced park personnel, most of them forever.
- Without a staff on location, the parks are very likely to be vandalized and plundered (notably buildings, but trees and other plants).
- The longer the parks remain unused, the greater will be the temptation to label them "locked

up," unproductive, lands that need to be sold to raise revenue.

- The loss of tourist revenues could be horrendous. Further, the costs of reopening parks, identifying and hiring replacements for the experienced personnel we are losing, and repairing damages that result from lack of attention and vandalism are likely to far exceed any short-term operational savings achieved by the park closures.
- The mass-closing sends the wrong message from state government to its citizens. It says that long-term protection of our natural environment is not important; it says that providing opportunities for our citizens to come together for outdoor recreation, or simply for enjoying our plants, animals, scenic wonders, and each other, is unimportant.
- Tennessee ranks seventh in the nation in loss of open space: we lose 85,000 acres each year to development. We should be looking for ways to increase our public protected lands, instead of dumping the ones we already have!
- Our gasoline-tax dollars fund unneeded and unwanted roads, being built by the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). Could not some of this money be diverted to save our state parks?

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- (1) Contact your state legislators (see Political Guide, or call us for information) and urge them to come up with tax-revenue sources that will pay, for services that Tennessee citizens need and want. Tell them (and Gov. Sundquist - see p.2) that closing state parks is a penny-wise-and-pound-foolish idea that should be stopped (see some of the points enumerated above).
- (2) Send a copy of your letter to the editor of your local paper(s).

#### **B. Frozen Head addition now final - survives Frozen Head closing**

For several years, Joni Lovegrove, representing TCWP (on whose Board she served) tirelessly and tenaciously led the efforts to get the State to acquire lands adjoining Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area. The deal has now been closed on the 1246-acre Byrd Mountain tract, which constitutes much of the viewshed from the visitors center. Surveying will take place this fall. Not only that, but procedures preliminary to later State acquisition of the Love Mountain tract, on the opposite side, are still very much in the works.

We all owe Joni a great debt of gratitude! She has been assured, by the way, that the proposed closing of Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area (¶4A) has no effect on the Byrd Mountain acquisition - distinct pots of money are involved.

Correction: In the article on Pickett lands in NL240, ¶2A, we referred to the 1,125-acre Burton Kelly tract, donated as a wilderness to The Nature Conservancy and to additional land protection by Mr. Kelly. That name is not Kelly, but Talley - our sincere apologies.

#### **C. Duck River land transfer and Scenic River status celebrated**

At a local ceremony on August 14 (NL240 ¶3D), TVA transferred 12,800 acres of Duck River lands to the state of Tennessee (NL28 ¶8D). Much of the area would have been submerged, had the Columbia Dam been completed.

Gov. Sundquist announced that 6,800 acres of river corridor and sensitive lands will be protected from development, including 2,000 ecologically significant acres that will become State Natural Areas. An additional 3,800 acres will be reserved for water supply (if proponents of the Fountain Creek Reservoir win out - see NL235 ¶4A). A few small recreational vendors will be allowed on other portions, but no industrial or residential use will be permitted on the land.

At the same August 14 celebration, Sundquist signed the amendment that adds 37 miles of the Duck River, surrounded by the new state land, to the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Act (NL239 ¶3A). "This river is the lifeblood of the land around it," Sundquist said. "The State Scenic River designation is a great complement to the use of the land in the area." The state Web site describes the stretch as "one of the most biologically rich and diverse rivers in North America. Over 500 species of aquatic plants, fish and invertebrates have been documented in the section of the Duck River that has been designated as a state scenic river alone, including at least 39 mussel and 84 fish species. Indeed, the Duck River contains more species of fish than all of Europe."

#### **D. Campaign to acquire tract adjacent to Foothills WMA**

In 1997, the Foothills Land Conservancy (FLC) succeeded in raising the funds needed to purchase 5800 acres on Chilhowee Mountain, partly adjoining the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The bulk of the land, mostly west of the Foothills Parkway, was given to the Tennes-

see Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and became the Foothills Wildlife Management Area (NL218 §3B; NL205 §3A). The FLC is now attempting to purchase an additional 59 acres on the NW corner, with 2000 feet of frontage on Allegheny Loop Road. This tract was on its way to becoming a subdivision, but FLC got an option to purchase the land for \$190,000 by 12/3/01. They hope that this will facilitate access to a future trail system over Chilhowee Mountain and into the Park at Abrams Creek - with lots of great views from the crest. For further information, contact Randy Brown at FLC, 614 Sevierville Rd., Maryville, TN 37804.

### E. Abandoned mine lands

Almost \$40 million-worth of clean-up of abandoned mine sites remains to be done in Tennessee, but the state currently receives only about \$1 million per year for this effort. This is not due to absence of a money source -- the AML (Abandoned Mine Lands) Fund has \$1.4 billion to be spent -- but due to a failure to dispense the money, and to distribute it equitably. SOCM has succeeded in getting numerous county commissions in East Tennessee to pass resolutions supporting more AML funds, but more than half a dozen counties remain to be heard from. If you are interested in helping, contact Landon Medley at 931-946-2951, [brameward@infoave.net](mailto:brameward@infoave.net).

### F. Water-supply problems

Demands on our water supply are not only local but come from all over. The population in 6 southeastern states doubled between 1970 and 1995, and metropolitan Atlanta, which continues to grow rapidly is already running short of water. Dyeing operations for carpet mills in North Georgia are demanding tens of millions of gallons daily.

The Tennessee River is considered a rich water source; thus, at Chattanooga, the minimum daily flow is over 8.4 billion gallons of water going downstream. But there are lots of places where water moves between watersheds. For example, every time the lock to the Tombigbee Waterway is opened to river traffic, 47 million gallons of water leave the Tennessee River. Across Tennessee, at least 33 water utilities currently transfer water from one river basin to another.

The state is becoming increasingly conscious of the problem. Last year's Inter-Basin Transfer Act (NL234 §4E) empowers state regulators to block water diversions between watersheds, either within the state or to a neighboring state (however, it grandfathered existing transfers).

The Tennessee Dept. of Environment & Conservation (TDEC) has established a water-supply-policy panel to make recommendations on further legislation for next year. This year, the General Assembly created a legislative committee to study rural water distribution systems and their fiscal needs (NL240 §3C). TDEC has created a new web site ([www.tdec.net/watersupply](http://www.tdec.net/watersupply)) devoted to emerging water-supply issues for the state (NL240 §3B).

### G. Things to be proud of in Tennessee

[From Tennessee Clean-Water Network [tcwn@brown.org](mailto:tcwn@brown.org)]

- Seven of the 8 most biologically diverse rivers in North America flow through Tennessee (Source: The Nature Conservancy).
- Tennessee is #1 in the nation for total fish species diversity and is a global center for freshwater diversity in general.
- The Appalachian region is home to 7 of the 8 families of salamanders; the largest number of families found on any other continent is 3 (Source: World Wildlife Fund).
- There are over 700,000 acres of wetlands in Tennessee, ranging from small cranberry bogs in East Tennessee to forested depressions and wet prairies in Middle Tennessee, to oxbow lakes and forested bottomlands in West Tennessee.

[Data from the Endangered Species Coalition]

- Tennessee is 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation (behind only Hawaii, California, and Alabama) in number of endangered and threatened species -- 95, including 7 candidate species.

### H. Will Callaway now director of TEC

Will Callaway has a long history of service to the environment. While on the staff of Senator Sasser, he worked on legislation to transfer management of the Big South Fork NRR from the Corps of Engineers to the National Park Service, and he was involved in efforts to pass the Sasser/Gore wilderness bill for the Smokies (subsequently stymied by Sen. Helms -- see §5, this NL). Subsequently, on the Washington staff of the National Parks and Conservation Assoc., he worked on Congressional liaison. He has been legislative director of the National Environmental Trust (Safe Drinking Water Act, Clean Air Act) and policy advocate for the National Audubon Soc. (Everglades restoration). Most recently, in 2000, he was the Democratic candidate for Tennessee's 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District and made a very respectable showing against Zach Wamp.

Will recently took the job as executive director for the Tennessee Environmental Council. TEC, formed in 1970, has organizational as well as individual members and performs an educational and advocacy role on issues of environmental quality and public health in Tennessee.

### 5. SMOKIES: Immediate action needed to stop North Shore Road

The threat of the North Shore Road invading Smokies wilderness north of Fontana Reservoir reared its ugly head once again when, in the waning days of the last Congress, Rep. Charles Taylor (R-NC) and Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) managed to attach a rider to the big Highway Appropriations bill to add \$16 million "to construct a road in Swain County, NC" (NL240 ¶3C). It was a threat that seemed manageable, because of the many steps that would be required to get it implemented.

But now, with Sen. Jesse Helms' impending departure - which should have made things easier - the threat has all of a sudden become a burning danger. For Helms is determined to make this his last hurrah, and his Senatorial colleagues might just be sentimental enough to give him the road as a parting gift.

Helms and Taylor plan to circumvent obstacles by legislatively exempting the proposed 21-mile road project from all applicable environmental laws. They will also attempt to appropriate actual construction costs, which could approach \$200 million (it is estimated that the \$16 million already appropriated would only cover studies required by NEPA for an EIS).

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Without delay, contact Senators Frist and Thompson at their Washington offices and ask them to help stop any legislation that would exempt the proposed North Shore Road in the Smokies (Swain County, NC) from environmental laws, and any legislation that would appropriate funds for this destructive project. Phone Nos. and e-mail address on p.2. Urge others to make these contacts also. For up-to-date info, call Ray Payne at 865-693-6944.

## 6. FOREST ISSUES

### A. Administration's frontal attack on the Roadless Rule

The latest move by the Bush Administration to scuttle forest protections under the Roadless

Area Conservation Rule of January 2001 (NL240 ¶5D) is to re-open the Rule for possible revisions. The US Forest Service published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in which they requested public comments on 10 questions - essentially a scoping exercise. The deadline was September 10, and TCWP submitted comments on all the questions.

We expressed our dismay at the Bush Administration's apparent determination to change the Roadless Rule, which was promulgated after the most extensive and local public involvement in the history of rulemaking, an involvement that resulted in overwhelming support. Several of the 10 "scoping" questions raise artificial issues that will inflame some people who are unfamiliar with the contents of the present Rule and with the rationale for its existence. The questions rehash the myths of the very small minority that opposed protection, and they contain numerous red herrings.

A couple of the questions imply that the process that was used in gathering input for the Rule was not local, and that it did not provide opportunities for "strongly competing views, values, and beliefs" to be expressed. The fact is that public hearings were held in about 600 localities throughout the country - that's an average of 12 per state. There was at least one for every national forest, and meetings were held in communities close to these forests. Representatives of states and local communities received invitations to the meetings, and were asked for oral and/or written input. The final Rule addressed the views expressed during the public comment period and incorporated many of the suggested changes. The fact is that over 95% of the over 1.5 million comments supported the strongest possible protection for the remaining roadless areas in our national forests. The number of people who commented is five times the number that have ever expressed their opinion on any federal rule.

Other red-herring questions pertain to risk from wildfires and from insect and disease outbreaks in roadless areas (already addressed in the Rule by permitted exceptions) and to supposed denial of the right to inholder access (not changed by the Rule).

It appears that over 140,000 comments (overwhelmingly supporting retention of the Roadless Rule) have been received on the Bush policy already, before there is even a draft proposal. But the timber industry is making a big



noise about not wanting this to be a "popularity contest" but an "issue contest." They could, their opposition against roadlessness in demands to protect forests from fires and rotting trees.

While soliciting comments on the misleading "scoping" questions, the USFS failed to reveal that the Bush Administration was simultaneously revising the forest planning regulations so as to greatly weaken existing environmental safeguards and public participation opportunities in the planning process. Thus, local forest planning, which is disingenuously suggested as a means of protecting roadless areas, would, in fact, be much less likely to accomplish this.

Currently, the May 10 injunction by a US District Court in Idaho to bar implementation of the Roadless Rule is in place (though it has been appealed by environmental groups). Chief Bosworth has issued interim directives that require individual forests to be managed in accordance with existing land-use plans. Proposed timber sales are to be submitted to him for approval.

The bottom line is that if the Bush administration fails to respect the views of the overwhelming majority who expressed strong support for the Rule, this will be a clear indication that it is under the influence of the extractive industries. In our comments, we strongly urged the USFS to leave the Rule as it is.

If the ill-begotten Rule-revision process does go forward, there will be a draft proposal on which we'll be asked to comment. When this happens, we'll urge every one of you to get involved.

## B. Oil & gas leasing in forests

A little-noticed provision of the energy bill passed by the House of Representatives in August would strip supervisors of their authority to restrict oil and gas leasing in national forests. This provision is apparently specifically aimed at two large western national forests whose supervisors have barred, or proposed barring, drilling in environmentally sensitive areas.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Tell your Senators (addresses on p.2) to oppose all legislation that would allow energy development in pristine areas of the Greater Rockies and in the redrock wildlands. The vast majority of public lands is already open for such development, including 95% of BLM lands in New Mexico, Colorado,

Utah, Wyoming, and Montana, located in the Overthrust Belt, which has the greatest oil & gas potential in the West.

## C. The Great Forest Campaign

The Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition, based on a consensus of its 17 member groups, has developed the Great Forest Campaign for conservation work in the region. The campaign has three components:

1. Protecting priority public lands and streams through legislative special areas designations;
2. Implementing and defending the roadless policy for national forests (see also §6A, above);
3. Pursuing land-acquisition opportunities (from willing sellers) to add to public conservation ownership (see also §1, this NL).

## D. Change in Regional Forest Service

Elizabeth Estill, who was head of the Southern Region, has become deputy chief for programs and legislation of the entire US Forest Service. Bob Jacobs, formerly Eastern Region Forester, has replaced Estill in the Southern Region.

## E. Forest depletion in Tennessee

[Information from Dogwood Alliance]

- The South is the largest pulp-producing region in the U.S., providing ~25% of the world's paper.
- Logging is projected to increase proportionally much faster in Tennessee than in any other state; it is expected to double over the next 20 years.
- More than 8,700 acres of forest are clear-cut annually for each average chip mill. Since 1985, the number of chip mills in the Southeast has grown from 35 to 159.
- A study of a Cumberland Plateau county (Grundy) has shown a 12% loss of privately owned native hardwood habitat, with the greatest rate of hardwood-to-pine conversion occurring during the past 4 years.

## 7. TVA

### A. Whites Creek Small Wild Area needs protection

TVA's Whites Creek Small Wild Area (SWA) on Watts Bar Reservoir, designated in 1983, has a lovely trail, partly constructed and maintained by TCWP. The Area encompasses forest-covered ridges, hollows, and secluded

coves, and provides views over deeply indented bays and relatively undeveloped lakeshores.

As we reported in March (NL238 ¶6A), a large tract that surrounds the SWA, owned by the Bowater Paper Co., is now for sale (most of the pines in the Bowater plantation have died). TCWP's Frank Hensley and Mary Lynn Dobson recently walked and mapped the area, and identified about 50 acres of Bowater land that is needed to protect the integrity of the trail and as a buffer for the SWA (which would feel not nearly as "wild" if surrounded by houses and roads). Bowater has agreed to meet with us to explore ways in which this can be accomplished - probably via purchase. Kathleen Williams, executive director of the TN Parks & Greenways Foundation will be helping us in these contacts. TVA's SWA contact is Nancy Fraley, 865-632-1535.

## **B. Challenging TVA to stop lobbying against required air clean-up**

TVA is certainly not alone in poisoning the air we breathe, but its 11 coal-fired power plants, with an average age of 40 years, are estimated to be responsible for 73% of the SO<sub>2</sub> and 33% of the NO<sub>x</sub> in the air of the Tennessee Valley (source: Southern Alliance for Clean Energy). These 11 plants emit 6-10 times more pollution than do plants that comply with Clean Air Act revisions. Yet TVA, a public utility, is violating the New Source Review provisions of the Clean Air Act. These provisions require that if a utility makes major changes to a power plant (as repeatedly done by TVA), or increases its capacity, the plant loses its grandfathered status and must conform with Clean Air rules, reducing emissions (NL240 ¶4B).

Not only has TVA failed to comply with the law of the land (NL235 ¶5A), it has joined an industry front group, the Electric Reliability Coordinating Council (ERCC), in lobbying the Bush Administration during their "review" of New Source Review provisions. ERCC is employing high-power Republican lobbyists, such as Haley Barbour (former Republican National Committee chairman) and Mark Racicot (governor of Montana), in this endeavor.

The Tennessee Clean Air Task Force (of which TCWP is a member), recently wrote to the TVA Board and Executive Committee urging them to withdraw from ERCC, stating "The use of Tennessee Valley rate-payer dollars to undermine the very protection established in the Clean Air Act that ensures the health and environment of citizens in the Valley is perverse." Instead of using money to clean up the plants with best avail-

able retrofit technology, TVA is spending it on lobbyists, lawyers, and internal staff to fight against the clean-up.

## **C. Green Power capsules**

- On July 3, TVA issued a request for proposals (deadline 9/28/01) to build additional wind turbines that will provide clean power for TVA's green pricing program, Green Power Switch. The request is for 40-50 MW of installed capacity, with the first 20-25 MW to be in operation by October 2003 and the remainder to be completed by October 2004. Four potential sites for the new turbines have been identified.
- Faith-based energy stewardship. An ecumenical group from congregations in the Oak Ridge/Knoxville area met in Oak Ridge on July 19 to discuss efforts promoting green power and environmental stewardship. Future events are planned. Congregations interested in participating should contact Gil Melear Hough (gil@tngreen.com). The Reverend Sally Bingham of Episcopal Light and Power, a California-based group that works with churches that want to switch to green power, will speak Nov. 7 and 8 (details later).
- The Southern Alliance for Clean Energy is now online at <http://www.cleanenergy.org>. You will automatically be redirected to this location when visiting their old site.

## **D. McCullough chairman of TVA Board**

In July, Pres. Bush named Glenn McCullough as the 12<sup>th</sup> chairman of the TVA Board, and the first ever from Mississippi. He was originally appointed as Board member by Pres. Clinton, on the recommendation of then-Majority Leader Trent Lott. The nomination of Bill Baxter to the Board (NL240 ¶4C) has been sent to the Senate, with the request that he be confirmed not only for the remaining time of what had been Craven Crowell's tenure (until May 2002), but for a whole 9-year term beyond that (until May 2011). The third member is Skila Harris, who was at one time chief-of-staff for Tipper Gore.

## **8. OAK RIDGE AND KNOXVILLE AREAS**

### **A. Intruders on the North Ridge Trail**

Several TCWP members who often hike on the North Ridge Trail have reported ATVs (motorized All Terrain Vehicles, or dirt bikes) on the trail. When confronted, these riders claim that they have never seen any signs prohibiting motorized use.

Tom Thomas, TCWP's North Ridge Trail guardian and representative has approached the City with a request for signs to be posted at all 11 Trail accesses. The signs will probably read:

- City of Oak Ridge - North Ridge Trail
- A National Recreation Trail
- Foot traffic only (hiking image)
- No mountain bikes (no-bike image)
- No horses (no-horse image)
- No motorized vehicles (no-vehicle image)
- Report any violations to ....

Tom was told such signs would cost \$80 each. Will some of our members contribute to this cost? (see box below).

TCWP is exploring ways to put some teeth into these prohibitions, possibly via an ordinance for getting violators fined. In the meantime, the police should be notified of motorized-vehicle user or other violations, such as tree cutting in the greenbelt (some of which has, unfortunately, occurred in one area, with the perpetrator supposedly not identifiable by the police).

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** If you can contribute \$80 (or any amount) for a North Ridge Trail sign, make a check to TCWP, Inc. (that makes it tax deductible) and designate it "for signs." Send it to the address in box on p.2.

## B. Pine Ridge petitions available

There has been considerable concern about the denuding of Pine Ridge (at the City's entrance on Hiway 62) and about the plans to shave off 70 feet to level the tops for construction of warehouses. Much background information has been researched that shows, among other things, that the properties were transferred from the City to the developer by a route that avoided public notice and the opportunity for other citizens to acquire the same property. Additional information is available at

<http://www.kormet.org/afour/PineRidge/>.

A petition (accessible for signature and/or downloading at [orvista@bellsouth.net](mailto:orvista@bellsouth.net)) urges City Council to better utilize the ridge as a valuable and dramatic Oak Ridge asset, one that draws positive attention to the city, rather than acting as an impediment to beneficial development. The Pine Ridge site should be permanently stabilized, revegetated and made available to the public as a City vista park, making use of the spectacular panoramic view from the ridge top.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** The petition is available for signature at the Civic Center, Club Room (in

the hallway that runs out from the indoor pool), on

Saturday, Sept. 29, noon - 4 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 - 5 p.m.

It is also available on the kormet web site listed above, and at [orvista@bellsouth.net](mailto:orvista@bellsouth.net). Additionally, City Council can be contacted by email; using <http://www.ci.oak-ridge.tn.us/council.htm>. This same web site also provides the telephone numbers of Council members, who have thus made themselves freely available to be called.

## C. Keep Clark Center Park "as is" I

Clark Center Park (formerly Carbide Park) within the Oak Ridge Reservation has long been a well-loved area of outdoor recreation for Oak Ridge. It has a swimming beach and limited boat access in a scenic bay of Melton Hill Reservoir, picnic facilities, and a couple of small ball fields.

DOE would like to give up responsibility for the Park and is thus in a mood to entertain offers from others to take it over. The City of Oak Ridge has requested the park, but wants no restrictions put on its use. This proposal, supported by some local developers, is potentially very dangerous because it would allow construction of a large marina that would insert a major development into the middle of the Three Bend Scenic and Wildlife Management Area, a region now reserved for conservation. It would definitely increase powerboat traffic along the shores of undeveloped Freels Bend and Gallaher Bend. Some developers still eye the Three Bend Area as a possible site of residential development, and will agitate for such a plan once DOE's 5-year agreement with TWRA ends. The future of Clark Center Park is definitely one of the things to watch out for in any comprehensive plan for the Oak Ridge Reservation.

## D. Park/wildlife sanctuary proposed for area on French Broad

Knox County is proposing to create the Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge in East Knox County, to encompass a peninsula on the French Broad River and several islands with about 2 miles of shoreline. This section of the French Broad is riverine (rather than impounded), with shoals and mussel beds. The emphasis will be on wildlife and low-impact recreation. There will be canoe and kayak access only -- no power-boat ramps. Camping will be accessible only by paddlers and hikers.

Because some land acquisition is needed for this park, it requires funding. Thus, the county needs to hear as much expressed support as possible for the Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Send an e-mail in support of the Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge to the Knox County Parks and Greenways Department at [greenway@esper.com](mailto:greenway@esper.com).

## E. ORICL course to visit TCWP "heritage" areas in Oak Ridge

An activity of ecology field trips scheduled for the fall term of the Oak Ridge Institute of Continued Learning will visit three areas preserved through TCWP's past actions: the Oak Ridge Cedar Barrens, the Worthington Cemetery Ecological Study Area, and the Delaware Loop of the North Ridge Trail. The course is taught by Tom Thomas, TCWP's North Ridge Trail guardian and representative, who will provide some TCWP materials for his students. For more information call the ORICL office at Roane State Community College, 481-8222

## 9. NATIONAL ISSUES

### A. ALERT: Arctic Refuge drilling must be denied in the Senate

Now, only the U.S. Senate remains to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from losing its vast wilderness to the oil drillers. On August 1, the House narrowly voted in favor of permitting oil & gas drilling in the ANWR Coastal Plain. Though there was overwhelming opposition to this, last-minute lobbying by the Teamsters and Carpenters unions (who claim that jobs will be created) swung over some Congressmen who normally would have been opposed. Three members of the Tennessee delegation, Reps. Ford, Clement, and Gordon, stayed the course and voted in favor of protecting ANWR; they deserve our sincere thanks.

The pro-drilling outcome in the House was partly the result of a great deception: Congressmen thought they were opening up a mere 2000 acres to "oil development." The reality is that these 2000 acres include only the areas where drill rigs are actually extracting oil and/or gas; not counted is the acreage taken up by roads, pipelines, gravel pits, etc., which would spread far and wide across the entire landscape, nor would the acreage needed for exploration be

counted as part of the 2000 acres. In actuality, drilling legislation would change the designation of the entire 1.5 million-acre Coastal Plain.

The new chairman of the Senate Energy Committee, Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) has indicated that he will support an energy bill with general provisions (unlike the detailed directions to agencies contained in the House bill), which will not authorize oil & gas drilling in the Refuge. Alaska's Sen. Murkowski (R-AK), however, believes he can add ANWR drilling to the Committee bill; and if he fails, he'll certainly attempt to do so on the floor. In the latter case, he and other drilling advocates will have to come up with 60 votes to overcome a filibuster by ANWR champions.

Unfortunately, Sen. Murkowski and other pro-leasing advocates are seeking to associate Arctic Refuge oil development with the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, and they will portray Refuge drilling as necessary for our national security. It is reported that the Bush Administration, also, will push ANWR drilling on the basis that it will "decrease America's dependence on foreign oil." But here are the facts:

- Alaska cannot drill its way to energy independence, even if we sacrifice all of our wilderness, parks, refuges, and coastlines. The U.S. has at most 2-3% of the world's oil reserves while accounting for 25% of the world's oil consumption. The only way to reduce dependence on foreign oil is through conservation and alternative energy supplies.
- The U.S. Geological Survey estimates that oil recovered from the Arctic Refuge would amount to less than a six month supply for American consumers. At no time would oil from the Refuge be expected to amount to more than about 2% of US demand.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- (1) Without delay, contact your Senators (see p.2 for contact info -- a short, hand-written letter is best) and urge them to oppose oil exploration and development in the Arctic Refuge. Let them know that the need for Arctic Refuge protection has not changed as a result of the terrorist attack. ANWR is an irreplaceable national treasure. Drilling there is not a solution to any energy crisis and will not give us energy independence; the amount of oil there will not lower gas prices; it would take 10 years for any oil from the Refuge to reach the market; there are alternatives, such as increased fuel efficiency.

cont'd

Please write or call TODAY (and urge friends to do likewise)!

- (2) Thank Reps. Ford, Clement, and Gordon (addresses on p.2) for their pro ANWR vote in the House

## B. Status of LWCF and CARA

One of the most important features of CARA (the multifaceted Conservation and Reinvestment Act) is full and guaranteed funding of the LWCF (the Land & Water Conservation Fund) at its authorized level of \$900 million annually. Currently, LWCF dollars (the source of money for purchases of parklands and open space) are appropriated annually - always at levels far below the authorized amount. Last year, CARA passed the House by a wide margin, but then Majority Leader Trent Lott allowed time for it to run out in the Senate. With encouragement of the Clinton Administration, the Congress passed a compromise, which was addition of Title VIII, the Land Conservation, Preservation, and Infrastructure Improvement (LCPII) Fund to the Interior Appropriations package (NL236176). LCPII added \$12 billion (over a 6-year period) to acquisition and other conservation programs, sums that have already been tampered with by the Bush Administration.

CARA was reintroduced this year, with the same bill number (HR.701) and the same House sponsorship (Rep Don Young, R-AK, and numerous co-sponsors), but with some slight changes in content. In early August, a similar Senate bill (S.1328) was introduced by Sen. Landrieu (D-LA). The House Resources Committee marked up CARA on July 25 by a vote of 29:12 (Tennessee's John Duncan, a member of that committee, was not present.) Full House passage was thought to be just a matter of formality, but now, with the surplus gone and deficit spending at hand, the bill is not scheduled for House action in September (the session is scheduled to end Oct. 5).

In the meantime, the regular Interior Appropriations process goes forward as in years past. In June, the House Interior Appropriations Committee marked up the FY 2002 bill. This included \$544 million for the LWCF, with \$390 million for federal land acquisition and \$154 million for stateside grants (Tennessee would receive 2,833,174, but this money will have to be matched by the state), as well as \$30 for the Urban Parks Program (UPARR). Numerous other programs would also be funded (including \$60 million for Forest Legacy - see 11, this NL) for a total of \$1.32 billion under LCPII (see above). Shortly af-

terward, the Senate Interior Appropriations Committee did its mark-up for a total of \$1.3 billion, which includes \$560 million for the LWCF, with \$406 million for federal land acquisition and \$154 million for stateside grants. These amounts may get trimmed in view of the now-apparent federal deficit for discretionary spending.

It is interesting that the budget that had been proposed by the Bush Administration appeared to contain \$450 million for the federal portion of the LWCF. However, \$60 of that amount was earmarked for two new local grants programs (for private stewardship), and the remaining \$390 million would be prioritized for such practices as easements and transfer of development rights (TDRs), as opposed to the federal LWCF's traditional use of acquiring land for national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other public lands.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Guaranteed full funding of the LWCF is a necessity if we want to protect our remaining valuable lands before they disappear to development. That's a major reason for supporting CARA. Urge your Representative and Senators to co-sponsor and support CARA, HR.701 and S.1328, respectively. (Addresses on p.2)

## C. Administration gets VERY low marks on parks protection

At a photo op at Sequoia National Park earlier this year, Pres. Bush announced his National Parks Legacy Project. In response, the National Parks & Conservation Association (NPCA), chief advocates for park stewardship, released a report card on the Administration's record on park protection issues:

- F for Park System expansion;
  - D for Park air and water quality;
  - D- for motorized abuse of Parks.
- Reasons for the low grades follow.

The Bush Administration announced a two-year moratorium on funding park expansions, new parks, and even feasibility studies. The rationale: they don't want to increase the park system until the \$5-billion maintenance backlog is addressed. (? Toilets more important than vanishing resources?)

The Bush/Cheney energy policy will severely threaten national parks by relaxing air-quality regulations and allowing energy exploration in and around parks. Environmental Impact Statements that guard public lands would essen-

tially be replaced with energy impact statements designed to push development at any cost.

The Administration is negotiating behind closed doors with the snowmobile industry to overturn the ban in Yellowstone. A similar fate may befall bans on jet skis ("personal water craft") in several park units.

In the judicial area, the Bush Administration has failed to defend environmental regulations in court. For example, the Justice Dept. elected not to appeal an Idaho injunction against implementing the National Forest Roadless Area regulations (see also ¶6A, this NL). They have also not contested a suit by the Snowmobile Manufacturers' Association that challenged the snowmobile ban for Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Earthjustice, in their recent publication, cites the Sherlock Holmes story of the dog that didn't bark -- the dog didn't defend its home against the intruder because the intruder was, in fact, its master.

#### **D. Fran Mainella, new NPS Director**

The first woman ever to head the National Park Service, Fran Mainella, 53, has been involved in parks for over 30 years, most recently serving 12 years as director of Florida's 500,000-acre state parks system, recognized as one of the best in the country. Veteran National Park System (NPS) employees have characterized her as balancing the enjoyment of landscapes against the need to preserve the natural world from being inundated and destroyed. As NPS Director, Mainella will have policy and administrative responsibility for the 384-unit, 83,000,000-acre National Park System, visited annually by over 285 million people.

Mainella assumes her responsibilities at a time when the Bush Administration is trying to overturn a number of key protections for the National Park System, including prohibitions against snowmobiles and jet skis and restrictions of off-road vehicles. Some observers have worried that the Administration will use her as window dressing while proceeding with their actions to dismantle park protections.

#### **E. Other nominations**

Director of BLM (Bureau of Land Management): Kathleen Burton Clarke, presently director of the Utah Dept. of Natural Resources. She has received high praise from Rep. James Hansen (R-UT), who has a strong anti-environment record.

Associate Deputy Interior Secretary: James Cason. This newly created position does not require Senate confirmation; it was apparently created for James Cason, whom Bush Senior was unable to get confirmed in 1989, and whose name had to be withdrawn at that time.

Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish & Wildlife: Craig Manson.

Director, US Fish & Wildlife Service: Steve Williams.

Director, Office of Surface Mining: Jeffrey Jarrett.

All except Cason have yet to be confirmed by the Senate.

### **10. TCWP NEWS**

#### **A. Upcoming TCWP events**

[For further info, contact Marcy Reed, 691-8807, MarcyRReed@aol.com, or Sandra K. Goss, 865.522.3809, skgoss@esper.com]

- Public Lands Day activity at Worthington Cemetery, September 29, 9 a.m. (you have also received a separate mailing on this). TCWP is sponsoring this event along with the League of Women Voters and TVA. The morning will start with an interpretive walk and exotic-plant removal (bring pruners or other clippers if you have any). At 12, picnic lunch (hot dogs and drinks supplied by TVA; bring your own plates, cups, and utensils -- and a dish to share, if you wish)
- Annual Meeting, Oct. 13, Cumberland Mtn. State Park, 9-5, Central Time. (You should have received the brochure -- please return the registration blank.) The theme of the morning program is "Public Lands in Tennessee", and our three wonderful speakers will address the issues from both the public- and private-sector viewpoints. In the afternoon, there'll be a choice of great hikes (Black Mountain) and other activities. A Silent Auction of donated items will also be conducted.
- TCWP Holiday Party, Dec. 6 at the house of Jenny Freeman and Bill Allen.

#### **B. Elections of 2002 Board and Nominating Committee**

A sheet with short bios of the nominees is enclosed. Election occurs at the Annual Meeting. On the same sheet, there are also by-laws changes proposed by the Board. These, too, will be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

### C. Changes in staff time

Because of pressures from a full-time jobs he has recently accepted, Sandra Goss has to reduce her hours worked for TCWP from an average of 20 per week to 10 per week.

### D. Report from committees

After a long leadership of the Service Committee (which has been incredibly active in arranging meetings, outings, and special events, supervising development of our display Board, organizing T-shirts and posters, etc.), Eric Hirst is stepping down, although he will remain a member of the committee. Carol Grametbauer has agreed to take over the chairmanship. Carol, a member of the TCWP Board, plans to retire from her work at Y-12 at the end of this year, giving her additional time to contribute even more service to TCWP than she already has (she is also a member of our Public Lands Committee).

The Public Lands Committee is organizing a round table on Cumberland Plateau land-protection initiatives to be hosted by TCWP in Oak Ridge in November. Representatives from state and federal agencies and advocacy groups interested in this geographic region are being invited with the objective to foster communication and cooperation among these entities.

The Public Relations Subcommittee of the Service Committee (NL240 ¶6D) has undertaken a two-pronged effort to increase TCWP's profile. (a) Each month, an article on a different topic will be sent to area newspapers. (b) Members in a number of different locations will be recruited as "media liaisons" with their local paper to send letters to the editor on timely topics.

For the work of other TCWP committees, see NL240 ¶6C.

### E. Issue-related action

The following is a partial list of recent issue-related actions by TCWP.

- Comments on first draft of Mt. Helen Prototype Trail Environmental Assessment (¶3).
- Comments on Roadless Rule revisions (¶6A).
- Addition of Byrd Mountain tract to Frozen Head (¶4B).
- Actions to buffer Whites Creek SWA (¶7A).

### F. Donation from Chota

The Chota Canoe Club has donated \$350 to TCWP "in support of their efforts to protect and restore streams in Tennessee." "We appreciate

TCWP's efforts in this area," their letter continues, "and applaud your successes on the Obed Outstanding National Resource Water designation and the Cove Branch 401-certificate denial, as well as your ongoing efforts to influence the management of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area." TCWP is grateful to Chota for the generous gift and kind words!

### G. New revenue-raising activity

We have for some time used the Kroger Cares program to raise money for TCWP. Kroger has recently changed the way the program is run - instead of gift certificates, they now use gift cards. A gift card worth \$20 is sold to TCWP for \$19. An individual member who buys a card from us (for \$20) can get \$20-worth of groceries with it, and can recharge it at the checkout stand for any amount up to \$500. Subsequently, you use the card in lieu of cash, simply charging against it until its value has been used up. Kroger keeps track of the amount, both for the owner and for TCWP. Whenever charged by all people who own TCWP cards total \$5,000, Kroger sends TCWP a check for \$250. This way, by doing your normal shopping (and not paying anything extra), you are supporting TCWP. (And you don't have to keep buying gift certificates, as before, and worrying about losing them.)

If you are interested in purchasing one of these cards, contact Marcy Reed at 865-691-8807 or email her at MarcyRReed@aol.com.

## 11. JOB OPENING; CALENDAR; PUBLICATIONS; RESOURCES

### Rick Sutherland Fellowship:

The purpose of this fellowship, a two-year grant of up to \$12,000 annually, is "to enable socio-economically disadvantaged lawyers with otherwise insufficient financial means to engage in public-interest litigation that would benefit the environment through employment with a 501 C (3) or (4) organization." Established employees of such organizations are not eligible, and preference is given to relatively recent graduates (within 5 years). Applications will be accepted between 9/15/01 and 1/31/02. For information on what an application must contain, contact Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund (415-627-6700; [ea-jus@earthjustice.org](mailto:ea-jus@earthjustice.org)).

### Job opening:

MACED (Mountain Association for Community Economic Development) at Berea, KY, is seeking

a Community Forestry Coordinator. Visit <http://www.maced.org> for organizational information and the complete job description. Review of applications will begin September 27 and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. Send résumé to Community Forester Search, 433 Chestnut Street, Berea, KY 40403.

**Events and deadlines calendar** (For details, check the referenced NL item, or contact Sandra K. Goss, 865-522-3809, [skgoss@espe.com](mailto:skgoss@espe.com); or Marcy Reed, 865-691-8807, [marcyreed@aol.com](mailto:marcyreed@aol.com)).

- NOW, Contact Senators about Arctic Refuge (§9A)
- Sept. 29, TCWP's work day at Worthington Cemetery (§10A).
- Sept. 29, Emory River clean-up (§12F).
- Sept. 29 and 30, Petition signing at O.R. Civic Center (§8B).
- Oct. 5, Comment deadline for Mt. Helen Trail EA (§3).
- Oct. 12, Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Obed Wild & Scenic River celebration (§2C).
- Oct. 13, TCWP Annual Meeting, Cumberland Mountain State Park (§6A).
- SAMAB Conference, Gatlinburg (For info, 865-974-4583, or [samab@utk.edu](mailto:samab@utk.edu)).
- Dec. 6, TCWP Holiday Party, Oak Ridge (6A).

The following programs are organized by the Obed Wild & Scenic River. The location is at the Wartburg visitor Center (VC) unless otherwise indicated; times are Eastern Daylight. (Check 423-346-6294 for details):

- Oct. 13, "Railroading, mining, and working songs," performed on guitar and banjo, 7 p.m., VC.
- Oct. 27, "Astronomy - night skies of the Obed," 8 p.m., Lilly Bluff Overlook parking lot. Telescopes will be available.

#### **Publications**

- *You Can't Eat GNP: Economics as if ecology mattered*, by Eric A. Davidson (Perseus Publishing, 2000, \$24) shows that the conflict between environmental concerns and economic needs is a matter of perception, and that the two can work hand-in-hand to develop a sustainable society.
- The National Park System Advisory Board has released "Rethinking the National Parks in the 21st Century," a report that focuses broadly on the purposes and prospects for the National Park System in the next 25 years. The Advisory Board was established by Congress to advise the National Park Service on matters related to park operations and management, among other issues.

You can download a copy at

<http://www.nps.gov/policy/futurereport.htm>.

- *Arctic Refuge: a Circle of Testimony*, by Barry Lopez, Rick Bass and ~30 other writers, is a collection of writings about the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. (Ordering info at [www.milkweed.org](http://www.milkweed.org)).
- *Great Smoky Mountain Colloquy* is a newsletter by the University of Tennessee Libraries ([www.lib.utk.edu/refs/smokies/](http://www.lib.utk.edu/refs/smokies/)). One feature of the newsletter is the Smokies Bookshelf, a list of Smokies-related publications, some quite obscure.

#### **Resources**

- Copies of the draft for "Tennessee State Parks Management Recommendations and Use Classification System" may be obtained from Nancy Dorman, 615-532-0039, [ndorman@mail.state.tn.us](mailto:ndorman@mail.state.tn.us)
- The Tennessee Clean Air Task Force Web site at [www.cleanairsouth.org](http://www.cleanairsouth.org) provides up-to-date information about campaigns throughout the Southeast, state-specific information, fact sheets, copies of press releases, relevant reports, and action alerts. You can register at the site at no cost.
- A new EPA Website, [www.epa.gov/waters.com](http://www.epa.gov/waters.com), combines water-quality information that was previously scattered among individual agency and other EPA Web sites.
- The Alaska Wilderness League's new web site is [www.alskawild.org](http://www.alskawild.org)
- For a list of winter programs at the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont, visit [www.gsmiit.org](http://www.gsmiit.org)
- A Training Workshop on Water Quality, sponsored by the Cumberland River Compact, will be held Oct. 26, 9-3, at J. Travis Price Park in Springfield TN. For teachers, scout leaders, etc.: chemical testing, macro-invertebrate studies, free test kits. Call Margo Farnsworth, 615-837-1151 by Oct. 5.



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