



September 23, 2002

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Taking Care of Wild Places

The BIG stories

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## 13. ACTION SUMMARY

#No.	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or Action
1	Oil spill at Clear Creek	Gov. Sundquist	"State <del>must</del> take whatever measures are needed!"
2C	Obed land acquisition funds	Rep. Wamp, Sen. Thompson Sen. Frist	"Warmest thanks for support!!!" "Urge conference committee to support \$1.5 million!"
2B	Mussel Recovery EA	NP S, by Sept. 30	"I support Alternative #3"
5	Elections, Nov. 5		Vote/work for candidates with good environmental credentials
6A	North Shore Road in Smokies		Attend Oct. 5 rally
6B	Elkmont EA		Participate in Sept. 28 meeting or send comments
7A	Wildfires in national forests	US Senators	"Oppose Craig amendment!"
7D	Bad logging	Cielo Sand	Become a Forest Watcher in your favorite watershed
9A	Pollution from power plants	US Senators. and Rep.	"Support Clean Power Act (S.556)-- <del>not</del> Clear Sky Initiative!"
9C	Utah's redrock wilderness at risk	US Senators. and Rep.	"Support HR.1613/S.786, America's Redrock Wilderness Act!"
10A	Snowmobiles in Yellowstone	U.S. Rep.	"Co sponsor bipartisan Yellowstone Protection Act!"

Senator John Doe  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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

Pres. George W. Bush  
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: 202-225-1264  
web: <http://frist.senate.gov>, click "Contact"  
Local: 865-602-7977

Sen. Fred Thompson:  
Ph: 202-224-4944; FAX: 202-228-3679  
e-mail: [senator.thompson@thompson.senate.gov](mailto:senator.thompson@thompson.senate.gov)  
Local: 865-545-4253 (FAX 545-4252)

Rep. Zach Wamp:  
Phone: 202-225-3271  
FA X: 202-225-3494  
Local: 865-576-1976

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.lcv.org>  
Note that mail to Congress is very slow following the anthrax scare. Consider adding other modes of communication.

## 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).

Exec. Director: Marcy Reed, 865-691-8807 or 481-0286; [MarcyRReed@aol.com](mailto:MarcyRReed@aol.com)

Membership-Development Directors:

Sandra Goss, 865-522-3809; [SKGoss@esper.com](mailto:SKGoss@esper.com) and Marcy Reed, 865-691-8807; [MarcyRReed@aol.com](mailto:MarcyRReed@aol.com)

Newsletter editor: ~~the~~ Russell, 865-482-2153.

Internet: <http://www.kornet.org/tcwp/>

## 1. OIL SPILL INTO THE OBED WSR: IT MUST NOT HAPPEN AGAIN

[Contributed by Cindy Kendrick]

How effectively are the natural resources of our designated wilderness and park areas protected? A recent drilling disaster discharged oil into the pristine Obed Wild and Scenic River system in Morgan County and resulted in the ongoing closure of a six-mile section of Clear Creek. This tragic incident has cast serious doubts on the adequacy of current buffer zones and on rules and/or enforcement related to exploitation of our State's oil resources. With public awareness and concern being relatively widespread, now is an excellent time to evaluate inadequacies and to effect changes that will help prevent such catastrophes in the future.

### What happened

Just after midnight, on Saturday, July 21, 2002, the Highland Drilling Company/Pryor Oil Company crew hit the "mother lode," at a depth of about 2,500 ft below the surface, in a well located on a bluff almost directly above the confluence of two creeks just outside the boundary of the Obed Wild and Scenic River. But the pressure exceeded all expectations, and the crew lost control of the well. Oil gushed onto the ground, overflowed whatever emergency containment measures were in place, soaked into and washed down the steep embankments, and polluted the pristine waters of Clear Creek and White Creek. While the crew struggled to contain the spill, a spark of undetermined origin ignited the crude. Fire quickly engulfed the well site and containment pits, blazed along the oily paths down to both creeks, and burned atop the surfaces of the creeks as well. The billowing inferno at the wellhead could be seen for tens of miles during its most intense period, with flames raging well over 100 feet high, and it burned until crews extinguished it and stopped the oil release on Thursday, July 25.

The fire probably mitigated long-term damage by burning most of the oil that would otherwise have smothered the creek and its denizens. The efforts of world-renowned oil-spill responders, and of local, state, and federal emergency-response crews, helped contain the spill. Booms, pads, and skimmers were placed on the Clear Creek above and below Barnett Bridge, and oil that was collected on the water's surface was pumped into tanks and removed for treatment. But some of the oil slid past these containment measures. About a week after the original inci-

dent, oily water and coated vegetation were evident for about two miles downstream of Barnett Bridge. Oil also sat in unlined pits at the well site for several days.

### Current status

As of this writing (September 15), oil that penetrated into the fractured geology of the bluff during the spill continues to seep into the creeks at a rate of 100-200 gallons per day. This oil is still being collected on the surface of the creeks and pumped out daily. Oil entering the creeks from beneath the sediment has also been reported.

Teams of experts are assessing the extent of damage to water, soil, and biota, and are identifying and evaluating options for remediation. There is no simple fix. The cleanup will need to continue for years. While EPA, along with the National Park Service and Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, will continue to actively monitor the cleanup, responsibility is being transferred to Pryor Oil. We are being assured, however, that EPA will see this remediation through.

A July 31 memo imposed additional safety measures for drilling in Fentress, Morgan, and Scott Counties and in areas around Dale Hollow Lake. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Policy Office received recommendations for changes to drilling requirements from the oil and gas industry, and agreed to entertain recommendations from the conservation community. Such recommendations were submitted on Sept. 10 by the National Parks & Conservation Association and the Tennessee Clean Water Network, along with TCWP, The Nature Conservancy, and others. The State is evaluating how to proceed, including potentially holding a public meeting and/or establishing a task force to look at the issues.

### Future dangers

The well that leaked into the Clear Creek was unbelievably productive. This has started a big oil boom in the region, greatly multiplying the danger of future disasters. In fact, a wire release of Sept. 18 is headed "Miller Petroleum Commences Drilling Near National Park; Medcalf # 1 is the First of Three Wells to be Drilled in Morgan County." This well is about 1 mile from the one that caught on fire.

## Major inadequacies in the regulation of oil-drilling procedures

- No opportunity is provided for the public to become aware of, or to comment on, drilling-permit applications.
- Current regulations allow drilling as close as 100 ft from streams and other waters; furthermore, the distance between dikes surrounding containment pits and the "normal" high water line of a stream or lake may be as little as 25 ft. Very much wider buffer zones are needed, especially around state and federal parks and scenic rivers, waters that flow within protected lands, and Tier-II and Tier-III waters.
- The Division of Water Pollution Control has no role in evaluating drilling permit applications.
- The current level of bonding is insufficient to cover costs of plugging, abandonment, and reclamation of the well site, and it doesn't begin to cover initial cleanup costs in the event of a spill.
- The adequacy of resources to enforce requirements is questionable.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Without delay, contact Governor Sundquist ([dsundquist@state.tn.us](mailto:dsundquist@state.tn.us); State Capital, Nashville, TN 37243-9872; ph: 615-741-2001; fax: 615-532-1353) and insist that the State take whatever measures are necessary to protect our waters from another damaging oil incident. You may wish to request that the issues mentioned above be addressed.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- (1) Contact Rep. Wamp to express your very sincere appreciation for his action, and to urge him to defend the full Obed appropriation in the conference committee.
- (2) Express your thanks to Sen. Thompson for his offer of support.
- (3) Urge Sen. Frist to inform the Senate conferees of his support for the Obed acquisition funds at the full level of the House bill.

All contact information is on p.2.

## B. Big South Fork mussel recovery program needs our support

The Big South Fork NRRRA has released an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the recovery of mussels. This is an excellent proposal that may, however, be attacked by certain user groups and therefore needs our strong support. Comment deadline is Sept. 30 -- almost right away, but you need send but a brief e-mailed message (see box, below).

The Southeast was blessed with a globally significant mussel resource: more than 90% of the 297 US mussel species were reported from there. This resource is, however, in grave danger: almost 40% of the species are either already extinct or federally endangered. For the Cumberland River system, 94 species had been reported, of which at least 55 (and probably as many as 71) had at one time occurred in the BSF. Only 25 of these are now left, with 6 of them being federally protected.

The BSF is thus a prime example both of the initial wealth and of the disappearance of mussels. It is also our best hope of restoring these species, for, not only does it still have the most diverse population in the Cumberland River basin but it provides the most suitable habitat -- with long river reaches that are not isolated by impoundments, and with waters that are relatively clean and may be getting cleaner.

The draft EA enumerates three alternatives of which the preferred one (#3) is the one which will not only augment existing populations but potentially greatly increase species diversity. It will

- maintain current mussel conservation efforts
- augment existing mussel populations (listed as well as non-listed ones) with juveniles propagated from parents collected within the BSF
- reintroduce species that had been historically reported from the BSF, using animals collected outside the BSF
- monitor the progress of the project

## 2. OTHER OBED AND BIG SOUTH FORK ISSUES

### A. Support needed for Obed acquisition funds

The \$1.5 million for Obed National Wild & Scenic River land acquisition for which Congressman Zach Wamp (TN-3<sup>rd</sup> dist.) managed to get funding item into the House Interior Appropriations bill (NL246 #1A) are going to be needed more than ever to buy land buffers against future disasters like the recent oil spill (#1, above). The Senate appropriations bill, however, does not contain an equivalent item, so it is essential that the House version remains intact in the bill that will emerge from the conference committee any day now.

Senator Thompson has assured us that he will support the \$1.5 million Obed appropriation, but we have heard nothing so far from Sen. Frist.

The draft appears to address only the Big South Fork Cumberland River itself. If so, is there a reason why the major tributaries – particularly Clear Fork and North Whiteoak Creek – were not included?

The presence of mussels represents the best indication of clean water. Acid mine drainage and sediment have been the most significant pollutants in the watershed. The former is being increasingly controlled. For sediment, however, there are a number of continuing sources, including roads and trails in the Park and the watershed immediately outside, as well as stream channel instability, which can be triggered by certain kinds of recreational uses such as OHV and horseback riding.

Horse trails cross the BSF at two designated areas -- Station Camp and Big Island -- that are inhabited by 5 species of federally endangered mussels; and horses cross and walk in streams elsewhere within the BSF NRRRA. Horses' hooves crush mussels, and sedimentation is caused by bank instability where trails enter and exit streams. The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking funding to study options for reducing horse impacts on mussel populations; these options are enumerated in the EA, with no choices being, however, made at this time. Unless one or more of these options is implemented without delay, much of the effort and expense of the mussel recovery program will be wasted.

In view of the unparalleled opportunities offered by the BSF for restoring so much of what has been destroyed, NPS virtually has a duty to choose Alternative #3. In additional support of Alternative #3 is that, (a) it fulfills the NPS mission of re-establishing organisms that have been extirpated; (b) many of the conditions that led to extirpation have been, or can be, rehabilitated; and (c) several federal and state agencies and educational institutions have offered assistance in rebuilding the resource.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

By Sept. 30, contact NPS in support of Alternative #3 in the EA on the mussel recovery plan. Time is short, but all that's needed is a brief e-mail message to [BSO\\_Superintendent@NPS.GOV](mailto:BSO_Superintendent@NPS.GOV). Or mail to Superintendent, BSF NRRRA, 4564 Leatherwood Road, Oneida, TN 37841.

#### C. Yet another threat of

##### **water withdrawal from Clear Creek**

The Catoosa Utility District in Cumberland County is planning to withdraw 600,000 gallons

per day from a tributary to Clear Creek. This withdrawal would be made from Caryonah Lake, which was created several decades ago by impounding Panther Creek, a northern tributary to Clear Creek, not far outside the Wild & Scenic River boundary. The water withdrawal would not start until after construction of a treatment plant is completed. Currently, Panther Creek below the dam is fed by seasonal overflows (the dam has no discharge) and is thus an intermittent stream. These overflows participate in the seasonal water-level changes that are needed to sustain the ecology of the Clear Creek. Thus, any withdrawal that reduces this overflow can be harmful.

In addition, the Catoosa Utility District wants to raise the level of the existing dam, which would, of course, reduce natural overflows still more. The Obed system cannot stand any further addition to the cumulative water thefts from the numerous little impoundments in the watershed. Partly as a result of questions from TCWP, the Catoosa Utility District will be required to apply for a permit from the Water Pollution Control Division. We will notify you about the scheduling for public comments. Please be on the alert.

#### **D. Report on Emory/Obed-water-quality meeting**

There was a fine crowd at the Division of Water Pollution Control's August 29 meeting in Wartburg, at which DWPC presented Emory/Obed-watershed findings made during the first 5-year assessment cycle. (Prior to the meeting, TCWP's Cindy Kendrick had organized a successful "tail-gate" party, for which, due to uncertain weather, the Park Service kindly offered the Obed Visitor Center.) During an Open House at the meeting, numerous displays by DWPC, by local student groups, government agencies (TVA, NRCS), and others were on view. The computerized GIS (Geographic Information System) maps and pictures presented on a "Smart Board" illustrated the much greater precision with which DWPC is now able to record and store data. This has resulted in smaller units of assessment, and thus in more water-body units being assessed (though not necessarily more stream miles).

The final part of the meeting was a presentation of the Draft 303(d) list. Water bodies on that list are those that violate water-quality standards and are considered in greatest need of water-quality-improvement efforts. These ef-

forts include (in addition to permit conditions) attempts to control pollution sources that have historically been exempted from regulations, such as certain agriculture and forestry activities. For 303(d)-listed streams, DWPC will not allow additional loadings of the pollutant(s) that caused the stream to be listed.

In the Emory River watershed, 10 stream segments were placed on the 303(d) list. Of these, 4 fail to support designated stream uses, 5 only partially support designated uses, and one, a 12.4-mile section of the Obed in Cumberland County, was identified as "threatened," based on decline in biological diversity. Those segments failing to support are: 3.2 miles of the Obed below Lake Holiday (flow alterations), and Crab Orchard, Goliher, and Fagon Mill Creeks (abandoned mines in each case). Only partially supporting are major segments of Flat Fork, Crooked Fork, Drowning Creek, Long Branch, and One Mile Creek. For some of the 303(d) stream segments (namely, Crab Orchard, Goliher, and Fagon Mill Creeks) TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Loads) were developed and approved by EPA. For more information, check <http://www.state.tx.us/environment/wpc/wsmplans/index.htm>.

### **E. Climbing Plan is finalized**

In July, Regional NPS Director Belson signed the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Environmental Assessment on the Obed Climbing Management Plan. The final Plan is very much like the Park Service's preferred alternative described in NL244 §1A and NL245 §1C, restricting sports climbing in the Obed WSR to the area within which it is presently occurring, essentially Lilly Bluff, the Clear Creek downstream from Lilly Bridge, and the north side of the Obed for about 1 mile upstream from the Clear Creek confluence. Although the alternative that was chosen is not the one which NPS itself characterized as "environmentally preferred," it includes a number of environmentally-protective provisions for climbing within this area. Several of our comments on the draft were incorporated, and NPS is to be commended for a very good compromise document. We hope staffings will be adequate for good enforcement.

The Final Plan and FONSI may be viewed at [www.nps.gov/obrn](http://www.nps.gov/obrn), under the Facts/Docs link; or you may request a paper copy by calling 423-346-6294 (Kris Stoehr).

## **3. CUMBERLANDS PROTECTION EFFORTS**

### **A. Successful applications for Forest Legacy funds will protect forest lands**

[Information contributed by Frank Hensley]

The US Forest Service's Forest Legacy Program (FLP), designed to encourage the protection of privately-owned forest lands, supports efforts to acquire donated conservation easements. It may fund up to 75% of the cost, with at least 25% coming from private, state, or local sources (NL241 §1). Last year, TCWP was among the groups and individuals that were successful in having the northern Cumberlands designated as a "Forest Legacy Area," which means that lands within it are eligible for FLP funding (NL243 §3A).

Recently, 11 tracts applied for FLP funding for FY 2004. The ranking made by the State FLP Committee, placed the following projects into the first three positions (we have no information on the other 8).

- #1 Approximately 1,500 acres at Rugby, proposed by Barbara Staggs and supported by The Nature Conservancy (TNC).
- #2 Approximately 2,200 acres south of the Scotts Gulf Bridgestone/Firestone lands. This is the beginning of a protected corridor from Scotts Gulf to Fall Creek Falls. Kathleen Williams presented this acreage for the owners.
- #3 Approximately 500 acres adjacent to the TN/KY border near Pickett, owned by Burton Tally. This application was supported by TCWP (Frank Hensley supplied maps and made a presentation for Mr. Tally) and by TNC (Chris Bullington).

Recommendations of the State FLP Committee are almost sure to be approved at the federal level, and there is thus a high probability that at least the three listed projects will be approved for FY2004. TNC's Jim Creek tract has already been approved for FY2003 Forest Legacy Funds.

### **B. 75,000 acres in the Cumberlands become Wildlife Management Area**

It was only a pretty good rumor a couple of months ago (NL246 §3B), but the purchase of 75,000 acres of International Paper lands in the Cumberlands for TWRA (Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency) has indeed been completed. By linking Frozen Head State Natural Area at one end with the Royal Blue Wildlife Management

Area at the other, the acquisition has resulted in 140,000 acres of unbroken forestland -- the second largest expanse of public land in Tennessee, exceeded only by the Gt. Smoky Mountains National Park and Cherokee National Forest complex. A 35-mile segment of the Cumberland Trail State Park within the area will link existing trail sections in Frozen Head and Royal Blue. The area includes the headwaters of the Cumberland River and may contain 80 or more extremely rare species of flora and fauna, some of which are identified as endangered or threatened.

The acquisition process was quite unusual, resulting in management provisions that permit some resource use. The Conservation Fund (with significant support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation) used money from its revolving fund to provide interim financing for the purchase of surface rights to 75,000 acres (in two tracts). It will transfer its interest to the state as an addition to the existing Royal Blue WMA, managed by TWRA. The timber rights to the same 75,000 acres were purchased by Renewable Resources, Inc., which worked with the Conservation Fund to develop a plan for sustainable forestry while maintaining the natural hardwood-forest cover. Timbering operations will meet or exceed the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (see ¶7C, this NL) and Tennessee Best Management Practices. All operations are designed to protect critical habitat for species such as migratory song birds (e.g., cerulean and golden-winged warblers), all aquatic resources, as well as soil and air quality. Recreational activities will include hiking, bird watching, hunting, and fishing.

**NOTE:** The talk by Mike Butler at AFORR's October 2 annual meeting (¶8C and ¶11, this NL), will include information on the new large Cumberland purchase.

### **C. Alliance for the Cumberlands beginning its work**

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

The Alliance for the Cumberlands, a group of organizations dedicated to the Cumberlands, was formed under the guidance of TCWP's Public Lands Committee. The most recent meeting of the Alliance, on July 10 at Whitley City, KY, had 24 attendees representing 19 affiliations (government agencies and citizens groups). The group ratified a mission statement, formulated goals, and set up committees to address these goals (NL246 ¶5B).

Since then, the committees have been busy, using conference calls and face-to-face meetings to complete the first steps of the tasks they are to accomplish.

- The Appropriations Committee will present "Acquisition Funding 101" to the whole group at the November meeting.
- The Public Relations Committee, which met just before we went to press, is working on printed pieces that can inform about our group and its mission.
- The Steering Committee is formulating a survey for potential members, as well as bylaws that will govern the group.

The next Alliance meeting is scheduled for November 19, probably in Crossville.

### **D. Important cave protected**

The Wolf River Cave, 7 miles north of Jamestown in Fentress County, was purchased, along with 33 surrounding acres, was purchased in July by The Nature Conservancy, Southeastern Cave Conservancy, and Bat Conservation International. The seven-mile-long cave provides wintering (hibernation) habitat for Indiana bats (the rarest bat species in the SE) and gray bats (federally threatened). Other potential buyers, who were outbid by the conservation groups, had plans to commercialize the cave and develop the surrounding area.

### **4. WHITE'S CREEK SMALL WILD AREA: WE ARE PURCHASING BUFFER!**

Thanks to the generous responses from our wonderful members (NL246 ¶2A), we raised sufficient money to purchase the ~50 acres buffering the White's Creek Small Wild Area against land that will be sold by Bowater, and probably developed. This buffer also contains an integral portion of the trail TCWP has been maintaining for almost 20 years.

Current status: The southeastern boundary line of the Whites Creek SWA addition has been surveyed and marked. Bowater is now at work making a plat plan, determining the acreage, and drawing up the deed.

THANK YOU, GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS, FOR MAKING THIS ACHIEVEMENT POSSIBLE! Because we raised the funds in time, we will not have to borrow money and pay interest

## 5. NOV. 5 ELECTIONS ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT

The upcoming November 5 elections may well be the most important ones ever for the fate of our environment. With a national Administration that is mounting constant major assaults on our lands, waters, and air, we must look to the Congress to provide some measure of protection. On the state level, too, much is at stake, both in the gubernatorial race and state legislative contests. It is vital that, in each race, we vote for the candidate with the better environmental record and/or platform.

The League of Women Voters provides an important information source on its web site [www.OneLog.org](http://www.OneLog.org). Each candidate is invited to submit issue statements and a brief biography. Click onto Tennessee on the map and read what the candidates consider to be important issues for our state. Because this material keeps coming in, it is well to continue checking back to the site.

The following additional information may be helpful.

### A. US Senate race

#### Bob Clement

- LCV (League of Conservation Voters) rating of 79% in 2001
- Endorsed by Sierra Club
- Voted against opening ANWR
- Co-sponsored National Forest Roadless Area Conservation Act
- Co-sponsored Act to Save America's Forests
- Co-sponsored Red Rock Wilderness Act
- Voted to prohibit EPA from delaying arsenic standards

#### Lamar Alexander

- As governor, he created the "Safe Growth Team (SGT)" that suggested environmental improvements, some of which were partially implemented.
- Some SGT meetings were closed to the Tennessee Environmental Council.
- At the end of Alexander's term in 1986, Tennessee was ranked 48<sup>th</sup> in the nation in air quality and in the amount of toxic chemicals released by industry into the air. The state ranked 38<sup>th</sup> in per capita expenditures on the environment.
- During 1996 Presidential race, he said "I believe in clean air and clean water," explaining that environmental laws are one area where federal policy should prevail over states' power. On the other hand, he proposed moving Superfund enforcement to the state level.

- During the present race, he has said he would support President Bush 100% of the time in the Senate.

### B. US House races

Two districts have unopposed incumbents: Bill Jenkins (R-1) and Harold Ford, Jr. (D-9). Three districts have no incumbents: the 4<sup>th</sup> (Lincoln Davis, D, vs. Janice Bowling, R), the 5<sup>th</sup> (Jim Cooper, D, vs. Robert Duvall, R), and the 7<sup>th</sup>. For the incumbents who have contests, the League of Conservation Voters scores for 2001 are as follows:

Candidate	Party-Distr.	LCV score
John Duncan, Jr.	R-2	14
Zach Wamp	R-3	7
Bart Gordon	D-6	71
John Tanner	D-8	43

The Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club has endorsed Bart Gordon.

In addition, considerable information is available on Jim Cooper (D-5), who had an excellent environmental record while serving in the Congress from 1983-1994, with a lifetime League of Conservation Voters rating of 73%. He led the fight in the House to acquire land for the Big South Fork NRA and to protect the resources of that park. He fought hard for clean air and conservation of energy resources.

### C. Gubernatorial race

#### Van Hilleary

During his term as Congressman from the 4<sup>th</sup> District, Van Hilleary's LCV scores were 7% in 2001, and 7% in 1999/2000. There is thus next to nothing that can be reported in terms of pro-environmental performance.

#### Phil Bredesen

Record as mayor of Nashville:

- Added 30,000 acres to parks and greenways in Davidson County
- For appointments in his administration, he picked professional, credentialed, experienced people, suited to their jobs, and of racial, ethnic and gender diversity.

Platform (as stated at TCL annual meeting, May 2002):

- Need to have, and increase, funds designated for land acquisition
- Will appoint TWRA commissioners who are committed and who know something about wildlife issues



- Believes state agencies must "maintain and expand links with" grass roots organizations that deal with natural resources, land issues, etc.
- Believes state should encourage non-polluting industries.

#### D. State legislature

The following incumbent House candidates are endorsed by both the Sierra Club (SC) and the Tennessee Conservation Voters (TCV): Representatives Carol Chumney, Michael Kernell, Mike McDonald, Kim McMillan, Gary Odom, and Mike Turner. Additionally, SC endorses Rep. Sherry Jones, and TCV endorses Reps. McCord, Johnson (Dislr. 21), and Briley, as well as Senators McNally, Sands, and Henry. TCV endorsements do not mean to imply that other races (which were not covered by their analysis) have no environmentally friendly candidates, or, conversely, that the endorsed candidates (above) have a 100% record of support (compare, e.g., performance on the Forestry bill, below).

SOCM reports that the following, who are up for reelection, sponsored the important Forestry Bill: Representatives Bob Patton (R), Joe Armstrong (D), and Gary Odom; Senators David Fowler (R) and Doug Henry (D). Senator Charlotte Burks (D) supported it in committee, but Sen. Randy McNally (R) voted against it.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Please vote on Nov. 5!!! In this article, we have given you some information on the candidates' environmental records and/or positions, and you may get some from other sources too. Contribute money or labor to candidates who will support environmental causes.

### 6. SMOKIES ISSUES

#### A. Come to October 5 rally

##### to support N. Shore Road solution

As the result of a one-sentence rider added by Rep. Taylor (R-NC) to a 2001 Act, \$16 million were appropriated "for construction of, and improvement to, North Shore Road in Swain County." This road, which would be located entirely within the Park north of Fontana Reservoir, would traverse the largest roadless area of mountain terrain east of the Mississippi River, an area of beautiful vistas, wonderful trails, and important wildlife.

The road proposal has a long and complex history (clearly summarized by Ray Payne, [rpayne10@bellsouth.net](mailto:rpayne10@bellsouth.net)), that stemmed from a 1943 agreement made between TVA, NPS, and other entities when TVA flooded land to create Fontana Lake. After almost 60 years of controversy, it is now recognized, not only by the conservation community but by the citizens of Swain County, that the best solution is payment of a lumpsum of money (\$40 million) to the county in lieu of constructing the road.

On Saturday, October 5, 10-11:30 a.m., a number of organizations, including TCWP, are sponsoring a rally on the lawn outside the Sugarlands Visitor Center (just inside the Park, coming from Gatlinburg, on Hwy 441) to support the settlement solution. Speakers include Mayor Victor Ashe, long-term Park activists Ted Snyder and Leroy Fox, and Swain County attorney Luke Hyde, who is representing Citizens for the Economic Future of Swain County (CEFSC). This is a group of citizens who recognize that the cash settlement would be of significantly greater economic benefit to their county than would the road. Following the program, there will be an opportunity to join a short hike from near Clingman's Dome to points from which there are views down to the area north of Fontana Reservoir.

CEFSC continues to grow, but needs both additional members and financial support (you can send a check to CEFSC, 750 E. Deep Creek Road, Bryson City, NC 28713). They have a web site that provides information about the road, <http://www.4swain.com/cefsc.html>.



**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Come to the rally on Oct. 5 to show you support for a North Shore Road solution. A big turnout will help. For further info, see the brochure TCWP is mailing separately, or contact Greg Kidd at [gkidd@ncra.org](mailto:gkidd@ncra.org) or Beverly Smith at [blsmith1300@comcast.net](mailto:blsmith1300@comcast.net)

#### B. Elkmont: fate of the structures

Saturday, Sept. 28 (details in box below), the National Park Service (NPS) is holding a public workshop on what is now called the Elkmont Historic District within the Park, a group of buildings that were originally scheduled for removal. This is yet another step toward generating an Environmental Assessment for a proposed amendment to the Park's General Management Plan (GMP/A/EA, see below). The initial scoping phase generated 554 comments. Subsequently, in August, NPS conducted two public meetings to present the results of baseline studies and a range of possible uses for Elkmont structures, and to so-

licit public feedback. Following an impact analysis, NPS will formulate a preferred alternative for the GMPA/EA, which is scheduled for public release in June 2003.

The GMP, as formulated with extensive public input in 1982, requires dismantling of the 74 Elkmont structures (all but three of which have been unoccupied for almost 10 years) and restoration of the area to its natural state. The Elkmont enclave began in the early 1900s as a group of vacation cottages built in the area. When the Park was created, many of the cottage owners chose to retain a lifetime lease for use of their property. Leases to the Elkmont Preservation Committee ended in December 1992.

TCWP members who attended the August hearings were struck by the extent to which the whole process seemed dominated by the Elkmont "residents," descendants of original lease holders, many of whom were Knoxville business leaders and members of the social/corporate/financial elite of the time. These "residents" managed, in the 1990s, to obtain National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) designation of the structures (some of which are not much older than our own homes) in the National Register of Historic Places. The current planning process is strongly influenced by this "historical designation." If restoration of any structures is to be accomplished, it must begin within the next two years, or the decay will be too far gone.

Obviously, the more buildings are left, the smaller the area that can return to its natural state. We must insist that the EA consider natural resources, and the Little River status as an Outstanding National Resource Water (ONRW), which means that no additional discharge can be allowed into this river.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Attend the workshop, which is designed to facilitate discussion about preliminary alternatives. It will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Pellissippi State Community College, in the Cafeteria of the J.L. Goins Building. For further information, check [www.elkmont-gmpa-ea.com/](http://www.elkmont-gmpa-ea.com/).

### C. States surrounding Smokies take air-quality actions

North Carolina led the way. In June, Governor Michael Easley signed a bipartisan bill requiring aging coal-fired powerplants to cut their smog-generating emissions (NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and mercury) by ~75% over the next decade. The 14 plants affected by the law account for a majority

of North Carolina's air pollution. Subsequently, NC's attorney general, Roy Cooper, wrote to attorneys general in other southeastern states, and Gov. Easley wrote to some southeastern governors, urging them to clean up pollution in their states as well. Roy Cooper's letter said: "North Carolinians do not want the benefits created by this new law to be lost because of emissions from other states."

Also in June, the governors of NC, TN, GA, and SC jointly wrote to Pres. Bush urging him to "implement, through legislation, a strong national multi-pollutant strategy to reduce the emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and mercury, particularly from electric utility plants. ... Additionally, early reductions obtained from an individual state's efforts should be recognized, encouraged and rewarded by any subsequent national measure."

## 7. FOREST ISSUES

### A. Wildfires fuel forest-damaging policies

In August, Pres. Bush proposed his "Healthy Forest Initiative," which trades on human fear and suffering caused by the recent western wild fires to fulfill the timber industry's wildest anti-environmental dreams. Subsequently, Sen. Larry Craig (R-ID) translated this Bush initiative into an amendment he has offered to the pending Interior Appropriations bill.

Bush blamed environmental regulations and environmentalists' appeals of Forest Service logging plans for the destruction of homes caused by the fires. His plan would suspend environmental laws, citizen appeals, and fiscal accountability in order to promote increased logging in national forests. Laws affected include NEPA, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the National Forest Management Act, and others. Never mind the facts! As reported by the General Accounting Office (GAO), only 1% of fuel-reduction projects were, in fact, appealed last year. A science-based strategy crafted by the Western Governors' Association last May -- and signed also by the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture -- agreed that fire risks could be reduced without any change to existing laws.

For years, conservation organizations have been pressuring the Forest Service to focus its efforts on protection of communities through the use of both prescribed burning and reduction of underbrush in places where forest meets homes -- rather than continuing to log the remaining old-

growth trees in remote wildlands, which is what the industry wants and what the Bush plan would encourage. Commercial logging does not fireproof a forest; on the contrary, it removes the large trees that are most fire-resistant, leaves behind flammable debris, and opens up the canopy, making the forest hotter, drier, and more fire-prone. This was clearly illustrated by some of the recent fires.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Today, call your senators (phone numbers on p. 2) and urge them to oppose the dangerous Craig amendment, which suspends all environmental laws that protect our national forests. The amendment would not protect homes and communities from forest fires.

## B. Scientists urge Bush to halt logging in national forests

Some of the nation's most prominent scientists were among 221 Ph.D.s from every state in the nation that signed a letter to Pres. Bush, sent in April, urging him to halt commercial logging in national forests and to invest in scientifically supported forest-restoration projects. Signers include Edward O. Wilson and National Medal of Science recipient Peter Raven.

The letter points out that the original purpose of the National Forests has been perverted during the past several decades. "Today almost all of our old growth forests are gone and the timber industry has turned our National Forests into a patchwork of clearcuts, logging roads, and devastated habitat." Economic facts also argue strongly for an end to commercial logging. Thus, "timber accounts for only 2.7% of the total value of goods and services derived from the National Forests, while recreation and fish and wildlife produce 84.6%. ... When the dramatic value of ecological goods and services are taken into account, it is clear that protecting National Forests creates more economic benefits than continued logging. Moreover, only 4% of America's timber supply comes from the National Forests."

The letter has obviously not been heeded by the Bush Administration, as judged by its continuing efforts to dismantle the Clinton Roadless Area policy (NL246 ¶7B) and its recent attempts to exploit the western wildfires as rationale for even more exploitation of the forests (¶7A, above). The Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment, overseeing the US Forest Service, is Mark Rey, a former lobbyist for the National Forest Products Association, and subsequently Chief of Staff of Idaho's notoriously pro-timber-industry Senator Larry

Craig (mentioned in ¶7A, above). In the latter capacity, Rey was a consummate practitioner of disguising forest-destroying legislation with language that seems to address forest health.

## C. How good is the Sustainable Forestry Initiative?

[Based on report by Tennessee ForestWatch]

Wood products sold with Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification, the "green stamp of approval," are produced under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. SFI, created by an industry group (the American Forest and Paper Assoc.) involves, (a) "sustainable" harvest standards and (b) a mechanism for inspection. Observation and analysis indicate, however, that SFI fails the test on both counts.

Thus, SFI permits clearcuts of 120 acres (as contrasted with a maximum of 40-50 acres recommended by the U.T. School of Forestry), and any number of these can be adjacent to each other, separated by just small buffers of trees. Such clearcuts nearly eliminate all wildlife and aquatic populations, and they ruin the soil. Further, SFI does not prohibit the conversion of native, diverse, hardwood forests to monoculture pine plantations. These plantations allow the rapid spread of insects, such as the pine beetle, in epidemic proportions - pests that prey on remaining native pines as well as on the planted ones. SFI standards require harvesters to follow Best Management Practices (BMPs). Unfortunately, Tennessee's BMPs do not restrict cutting on steep slopes with their erosion-prone soils.

Not only does SFI have major deficiencies on the harvesting side, it fails on the inspection side as well. Mills owned by SFI companies can use lumber from suppliers that need not be harvested under SFI standards.

SFI is being promoted by the Tennessee Division of Forestry (TDF) and by some politicians as the cure-all for Tennessee's forest ills, and as a substitute for needed legislation that would prevent or decrease the horrendous environmental damage that is occurring. FSC certification should complement strong environmental laws, not replace them.

## D. Become a "Forest Watcher"

[Based on an article by Cielo Sand]

ForestWatch is a citizen-monitoring program that keeps an eye on forestry practices within a watershed framework. Thousands of remote logging operations, and the streams running through them, remain unknown and unseen. Over 60,000 stream miles flow through Tennessee, but only 8% of timber harvests are monitored and

nually by the state to ensure that streams are protected from sediments. The ForestWatch Program of the Dogwood Alliance provides training, tools, and support to allow citizens to document the destruction caused by poor logging practices. The program has already published a Field Guide to Forest Watching (NL246 ¶12).

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** To become a Forest-Watcher in your favorite watershed, contact Cielo Sand at [Cielo@dogwoodalliance.org](mailto:Cielo@dogwoodalliance.org), or 423-332-7391.

## 8. OAK RIDGE AREA

### A. Oak Ridge Focus Group completes task and reports

(Contributed by Dev Joslin)

The Oak Ridge Land Use Planning Focus Group held its final meeting on September 13, when all 20 members signed the *Focus Group Final Report*. The group drafted three key recommendations to the Department of Energy concerning the Comprehensive Land Use Plan for the Oak Ridge Reservation that the agency has promised to draft:

- *Resolution on Land Preservation* (concerning the 5,100 acres under consideration on the western end of the reservation). The department is urged to "find means for the perpetual preservation of land areas designated by Focus Group for green space/conservation and/or research purposes." This consists of approximately 4,000 acres, or 80% of these western lands.
- *Resolution on Extending the Land Use Planning Process to the Entire Reservation.*
- *Resolution for Expanding the Analysis to Include an Economic Evaluation of Biological Resources.*

These recommendations are especially significant because they come with near-unanimous support from a cross-section of the Oak Ridge Community, as well as from several statewide organizations and agencies and two federal agencies. Input from public meetings also has indicated strong support for conservation of as much land as possible.

However, our efforts to conserve as much as possible of the reservation for conservation, research, recreation, education, historical preservation, and aesthetic values must continue. This report is only a recommendation to DOE. DOE must follow through with its promise, made over a year ago, to devise a complete comprehensive

plan for the entire 36,000-acre reservation, with serious consideration given to public input, such as that provided by this report. Efforts by DOE to lease or transfer land prior to a full-fledged Plan would be a violation of this agreement, and would, further, violate the National Environmental Policy Act by committing segmentation.

Accompanying the Focus Group Report is the Oak Ridge Reservation Land Use Planning Technical Report. (TCWP contributed comments on the draft.) This document compares four scenarios with different amounts of industrial and/or residential development of the western 5,100 acres under consideration by the group. Scenarios range from no new development whatsoever, to development of about 1,000 acres. The group did not support any one scenario, though the two intermediate scenarios received the fewest objections. The technical report compares the scenarios with respect to many parameters including economics, biodiversity, endangered and threatened species, aesthetics, water and air quality, noise, transportation, historical preservation, and many others.

The two reports from the Oak Ridge Reservation Land Use Planning Process will be available at the end of September. If you would like to receive a copy of either of both reports, please send an email message to Pat Parr ([parrpd@ornl.gov](mailto:parrpd@ornl.gov)) with your name, mailing address, and email address indicating the report(s) you would like to receive.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Contact your congressional representatives (Thompson, Frist, and especially Zach Wamp) (addresses on p2) to get them to urge DOE to act promptly on its commitment to complete a comprehensive plan for the entire reservation. Write to DOE headquarters with the same message. See AFORR web page for addresses ([www.kornet.org/aforr/](http://www.kornet.org/aforr/))

### B. Partial victory on ED-1

DOE is proposing to transfer Parcel ED-1 (Horizon Center) to CROET. Of major concern to several groups (including TCWP – see NL246 ¶9B) were about 450 acres of Natural Area within ED-1. Protection of these was a primary mitigation action leading to a 1995 FONSI (Finding of No Significant Impact) for ED-1. The Draft Environmental Assessment was vague on how deed transfer to CROET would ensure continued protection of these Natural Areas. To provide protection in perpetuity, TCWP recommended donation of fee title, or conservation easement, to an organization such as The Nature Conservancy.

Partial victory! The sensitive acreage will not be transferred to CROET but will remain in DOE ownership. It will be covered by a lease arrangement with CROET, with DOE oversight. While this is not all we had hoped for, it does mean that the original Mitigation Action Plan that protects this acreage will maintain its full legal authority under NEPA.

### C. Upcoming talk: conservation on public and private lands

(Contributed by Dev Joslin)

The featured speaker at AFORR's October 2 annual meeting (details in T11), Mike Butler, will discuss "Implementation of Conservation on Public and Private Lands." Using his experience with TVA and their land management practices, Butler (Director, Tennessee Conservation League) will address the intricacies of dealing with federal agencies and getting them to adopt, and stick to, any kind of long-term plan. He will also describe the challenges of working out collaborations between various NGOs, state, and federal agencies, and private citizens to broker land conservation arrangements, such as the complex 75,000-acre land-preservation deal just completed on the Cumberland Plateau (T38, this NL).

## 9. NATIONAL ISSUES

### A. Bush's Clear Skies Plan = murky skies for Parks

New rules announced by EPA in June would severely weaken the all-important New Source Review (NSR) laws. These laws apply to power plants and other industries that were already in existence at the time of passage of past Clean Air Act amendments and were at that time exempted from pollution controls. NSR required such plants to install up-to-date pollution controls any time they expanded or altered in such a way as to increase pollution.

The Administration's weakening of NSR provisions is viewed as the worst attack on the Clean Air Act in the law's 32-year history, and EPA is likely to face a court challenge. Air quality in national parks has been worsening dramatically. In the Smokies, for example, the number of days/year with unhealthy ozone levels has gone up from 33 during 1990-1995 to 140 during 1996-2001. The Park's levels of smog often exceed those recorded in major cities.

Bush's "'Clear Skies Initiative' creates a smokescreen for the rollbacks of the Clean Air Act," says NPCA's Don Barger. This Initiative,

which was introduced as legislation in July, would set pollution caps for NO<sub>x</sub>, mercury, and SO<sub>2</sub>; however, utilities could buy "credits" from other utilities, allowing them to exceed the caps. A much superior bill, introduced in the Senate with a companion bill in the House, would require much deeper cuts in emissions of these three pollutants; it would, additionally, cut CO<sub>2</sub>, which contributes to global climate change. This bill, S.556 the Clean Power Act, sponsored by Jeffords (I-VT) and co-sponsored by Edwards (D-NC), has been adopted by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Urge your Senators and Representative (addresses on p.2) to support S.556, the Clean Power Act -- and not the Clear Skies Initiative. The Smokies provide a good argument for this!

### B. Utah's redrock wilderness needs protection

Utah's beautiful and fragile redrock wilderness is constantly under assault from the coal and oil industries, from counties seeking to develop roads to nowhere, and from off-road vehicles. But no help can be expected from the home front; the state's three congressmen have dismal environmental records, and one of them, Jim Hansen, in his role as powerful committee chairman, has been notorious for sponsoring bad legislation that undermines the 1964 Wilderness Act and jeopardizes some of Utah's most fragile ecosystems. Like Alaskan wilderness, Utah's needs help from out of state.

America's Redrock Wilderness Act, first introduced in 1989, currently (HR 1613) has 162 cosponsors in the House (the younger Senate bill, S.786, has 17). It would place ~9 million acres of Utah's public lands into the Wilderness Preservation System. The bill is the culmination of top-notch documentation that details the condition of the state's public lands and determines which unlike meet the conditions of the Wilderness Act.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Contact your members of Congress (addresses on p.2) and urge them to support HR 1613, America's Redrock Wilderness Act. Two Tennessee Congressmen, Reps. Clement and Ford, have already done so and deserve your expressed thanks.

### **C. The power of the OHV lobby: NPS disregards citizens in allowing Snowmobiles in Yellowstone**

About 80% of the more than 350,000 public comments favored a ban on snowmobiles in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Science proved their harm to the parks' ecosystems, and EPA, as recently as April, called a snowmobile ban "the best available protection for the parks. Despite this overwhelming logic, the National Park Service announced in June that snowmobile use would continue. The specific plan, which has not yet been released, would go into effect during the winter of 2003-2004.

The Bush Administration caved in to the snowmobile industry when it ordered a re-study of snowmobiles in the parks. The re-study followed settlement of a lawsuit the industry had brought against the Clinton Administration's decision to phase the vehicles out of the parks by 2000-2001. It will probably take Congressional action to protect the parks. The Yellowstone Protection Act has been introduced in the House by Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ) and Christopher Shay (R-CT).

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Contact your Representative (address on p. 2) and urge him to become a co-sponsor of the bipartisan Yellowstone Protection Act.

### **D. Conservation programs funded through Farm Bill**

[News from The Conservation Fund]

Conservation programs funded through the farm bill signed in May include the following.

- The Farmland Protection Program pays half the cost for state and local governments to purchase development rights on farmlands. Funded at \$597 million over 6 years (up from \$525 million over the past 6 years).
- The Wetlands Reserve Program pays land owners for 30-year or permanent easements, and also provides wetland-restoration funding. Authorized spending of \$1.5 billion will boost enrollment to 2.275 million acres by 2007.
- Under the Conservation Reserve Program, land owners are paid to convert working farmland to a less intensive use by planting trees, grass, etc. to conserve and improve soil, water, and wildlife habitat. Authorized spending of \$1.517 billion would boost enrollment to 39.2 million acres.

- The Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Program received an authorization of \$360 million through 2007.
- The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (\$5.8 billion authorized) helps farmers to protect soil, water, and air quality and improve wildlife habitat.

New programs created include

- Grasslands Reserve Program
- Conservation Security Program
- Forest Land Enhancement Program (formerly, Stewardship Incentive Program); under this, non-industrial forest-land owners will be eligible for cost-share assistance.
- Conservation Corridor Demonstration Program.

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## **10. TCWP NEWS**

### **A. Marcy Reed to move west**

Marcy R. Reed, TCWP's executive director for the past four years has decided to move to the Seattle area, where many members of her family still live. She has accepted a job with the Army Corps of Engineers to do endangered species studies. We will miss her greatly! Some of her duties will be taken over by Sandra Goss, who will become executive as well as development director. Sandra is planning to spend part of her time transferring some of the executive-director work on issues to the membership. We hope many of you will be responsive to her calls for involvement.

### **B. Nominees**

Elections for next year's Board and Nominating Committee will be held during our Annual Meeting (11/02, below). A list of the 2003 nominees with brief bios is included with this mailing. There will be a number of changes since Jimmy Groton is retiring as president, Rob James left the Board in the middle of the year (with Frank Hensley filling out his term), and Jenny Freeman and Patrice Cole are stepping down at the end of 2002.

### **C. Upcoming activities**

[The following are activities of TCWP's Service Committee. For additional information, contact Sandra K. Goss, 865-522-3809 or [skgoss@esper.com](mailto:skgoss@esper.com)]

Worthington Cemetery workday, Saturday, September 28

This Ecological Study Area in Oak Ridge will once again benefit from TCWP's National Public Lands Day program. Starting at 10:00 a.m., volunteers will "weed out" pervasive exotic plants such as privet, wisteria, and multiflora rose. Meet in the parking area near "Elza Gate" on the south side of the Tumpike, just east of the corner of Melton Lake Drive. Bring your workgloves, loppers, and clippers. Lunch will be provided. The Oak Ridge League of Women Voters and Tennessee Valley Authority cosponsor this event.

TCWP Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 12, Cumberland Mountain State Park

You have already received our special mailing on this, and we hope you will return your registration form. It's going to be a very fine meeting, with three outstanding speakers (long-time activist Jenny Freeman, TWRA Executive Director Gary Meyers, and The Conservation Fund's Rex Borer) talking about activities for protecting and preserving the Cumberlands (T3, this NL), a tasty lunch buffet at the Park restaurant, and a choice of two good hikes (easy and moderate) in the afternoon. A special feature, again this year, is our silent auction, which, in addition to raising funds for TCWP, is a lot of fun. Among items to be offered are white-water-training classes by paddling clubs (retail value \$45), a sailing trip to view sandhill cranes with Leaf and Cielo, and a Nordic Track. We hope you will contribute auctionable items too.

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge program, Tuesday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m.

Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Alaska Wild representatives are bicycling across the state this fall to draw attention to ANWR and the continuing threats to this wilderness. TCWP and the Sierra Club are cosponsoring their presentation.

Greenbrier hike, Saturday, Nov. 9

This easy hike to the old Smoky Mtns. Hiking Club cabin will be led by Hal Smith. Hikers should wear sturdy shoes, and bring rain gear and a lunch. Meet 9:00 a.m. in NW corner of the Food City parking lot, intersection of S. Illinois Ave. and Oak Ridge Turnpike.

Hirst Farewell, Thursday, November 14

Long time Board member Eric Hirst and wife Susan will be moving to the Seattle area later this year. Eric was the driving force behind TCWP's rejuvenation through a major fundraiser that resulted in our being able to hire staff four years ago. Please join us

in a Farewell Potluck Dinner to honor them. 6 p.m. at the Midtown Community Center in Oak Ridge.

**D. Reminder: TCWP receives cash from gift certificates**

An easy way for you to contribute to TCWP without giving us the cash: we buy gift certificates from Kroger, and you buy them from us for the same amount they cost us. Then you use the certificates in lieu of cash at the check-out counter. You get change (in cash) for any unused portion of the certificate. At intervals, Kroger then sends TCWP a check for 4% of all the purchases that have been made with TCWP-purchased gift certificates. Contact Sandra Goss, 865-522-3809, [skgoss@esper.com](mailto:skgoss@esper.com), to get your certificates.

**E. We thank our volunteers**

- We are most grateful to Gail Stakes for making mailing labels from a large Excel file of our Friends of the Obed (FotO) network.
- Charlie Klabunde single-handedly processed the TCWP mailing about the October 5 North Shore Road rally (T6A).
- Thank you to the many volunteers who turned out for the assembling of NL246: Jean Bangham, Don Davis, Sandra Goss, Carol Grametbauer, Frank Hensley, Eric Hirst, Charlie Klabunde, Marcy Reed, Hal Smith, Ken and Helen Warren. Thanks to the size of the group, the job was completed in 1.5 hours.

**11. JOB OPENINGS; CALENDAR; RESOURCES**Job opening

Ijams Nature Center is seeking a full-time School Program Coordinator to manage on-site school field trips and outreach programming, and to assist with day camp programs and teacher workshops. Must have at least 3 years teaching experience. Send resume and cover letter to Diane Madison, Exec. Dir., Ijams Nature Center, PO Box 20518, Knoxville, TN 37940-1518.

Events and deadlines calendar (For details, check the referenced NL item, or contact Sandra K. Goss, 865-522-3809, [skgoss@esper.com](mailto:skgoss@esper.com))

- Right away, take action on: Obed acquisition funds (T2A). Obed Oil spill (T1). Sen. Craig's Forest amendment (T7A). Mussel recovery Plan (T2A)

- Sept. 28, National Public Lands Day worksession at Worthington Cemetery, starting 10 a.m. (§10C).
- Sept. 28, NPS workshop on Elkmont EA, at Pellissippi Community College, 10-4:30 (§10C).
- Sept. 28, starting 8:30 a.m. near Elizabethton, "Tour de Cut," a tour of clear cuts in the Cherokee National Forest, sponsored by Sierra Club. Call Gary Bowers. 615-366-4738.
- Sept. 30, Deadline for comments on Mussel Recovery Plan (§2B).
- Oct. 2, AFORR annual meeting with speaker on "Implementation of Conservation on Public and Private Lands," 7 p.m. at Oak Ridge Midtown Community Center, 102 Robertsville Road (formerly the Wildcat Den) (§8C).
- Oct. 5, North Shore Road Rally, GSMNP Visitor Center, Gatlinburg, 10-11:30 (§6A).
- Oct. 12, TCWP Annual Meeting, Cumberland Mountains State Park (§10C).
- Oct. 16-18, St. Paul, MN, 2002 Watchable Wildlife Conference (Call 651-433-4100, or visit [www.watchablewildlife.org](http://www.watchablewildlife.org)).
- Nov. 2, 8:30-3:30, Kingsport, Clean Air conference sponsored by the Coalition for Jobs and the Environment. Call 423-247-2481.
- Nov. 5, General election, federal and state offices (§5).
- Nov. 5, TCWP and SC meeting on Arctic Refuge (§10C).
- Nov. 5-7, Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere (SAMAB) conference, Gatlinburg. Call 865-974-4583.
- Nov. 9, Greenbriar hike (§10C).
- Nov. 14, Hirst Farewell (§10C).
- Nov. 19, Alliance for the Cumberlands meeting (§13C).

#### Publications

- *Greenspeak* is a collection of addresses made by Michael Frome from 1963 to 2001 – speeches that offer insight into virtually every major conservation issue. The talks encapsulate the American environmental movement over its most turbulent and productive era (Univ. of Tenn. Press, \$21.95, 288 pages). For more information, [tpost@utk.edu](mailto:tpost@utk.edu), or 865-974-5466.
- *Land at Risk* is a booklet highlighting significant tracts of land for sale in all 6 states of the Southern Appalachians. Useful for those wishing to help secure federal funds for public land acquisition from willing sellers. The Land & Water Conservation Fund and the Forest Legacy Program are also described. Contact Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition at [safc@safc.org](mailto:safc@safc.org), or 828-252-9223.

- Two reports from the Oak Ridge Reservation Land Use Planning Process may be requested via an e-mail message to [parp@ornl.gov](mailto:parp@ornl.gov). Include your name, mailing address, and e-mail address in the body of your message.
- *Sightline* is a semiannual publication that focuses on the environmental health of the Gt. Smoky Mountains National Park. It is a collaborative effort among U.T., the Park, and other groups. To receive a complimentary copy, contact Constance Griffith at [cgriffith@utk.edu](mailto:cgriffith@utk.edu), or 865-974-1156.
- *Big Oil's Energy Plan: The cost to America's wild lands and waters* is a packet of information on, and photos of, 18 special places threatened by drilling. (The Wilderness Society, [publications@tws.org](http://publications@tws.org), or call 202-429-2612)

#### Other Resources

- The National Forest Protection Alliance works for an immediate end to the industrial exploitation of all federal public lands, and in particular, an end to commercial logging in national forests. Basic membership is \$25, which can be sent to NFPA, P.O. Box 8264, Missoula, MT 59807.
- The Conservation Campaign, a new organization affiliated with the Trust for Public Land, focuses on funding for parks and open space by supporting and managing campaigns that will accomplish this goal by various means. Included are park bond issues, state and federal appropriations legislation, referenda to dedicate funds to open space, and similar measures. Contact the group at 660 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Suite 402, Washington, DC 20003; 202-543-6102; [www.conservationcampaign.org](http://www.conservationcampaign.org).
- If you wish to be notified by e-mail of Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit (ARAP) applications, send an e-mail to [Care.Turner@state.tn.us](mailto:Care.Turner@state.tn.us).

"Man is rich in proportion to the number of things he can afford to let alone." -- Henry David Thoreau.

A Member of  
  
 Your Fund for Change