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the Highlands Voice

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Wilderness Report

by DAVE SAYLOR
Citizens for Eastern Wilderness

May 1975

Action on the Washington front with respect to Eastern Wilderness has been relatively light so far. From what I have learned, the principal action has been in the individual states where groups are busy developing new proposals or revamping old ones. Missouri, which had the misfortune to have all four of its proposed areas dropped from the 1974 bill, will ask protection in this Congress for six areas, either as wilderness areas or as study areas, and is seriously seeking the active support of the three Missouri Congressmen and two Senators. In Indiana, where the Nebo Ridge proposal was dropped in 1974, wilderness proponents are attempting to modify their previous proposal to overcome last year's objections while at the same time preparing a workable study area. New Englanders are doing likewise as they seek to eliminate objections from last year and to gain the local Congressman's support. I would be glad to hear how proposals are developing in other states and if there is anything I can do to help.

Senate Hearings

There is a strong indication that the Senate Interior Committee's Subcommittee on Environment and Land Resources (formerly the Subcommittee on Public Lands) under the same chairmanship of Senator Floyd Haskell of Colorado, may hold hearings on S.520 in late June or July, prior to the August Congressional recess. S.520, introduced on February 3, 1975 by Senators Jackson, Fanning, and Haskell, covers all of the wilderness and study areas originally in S.3433 as passed by the Senate on May 31, 1974, but which were dropped from the final bill as enacted by the Congress. The S.520 hearings would not restrict citizens in offering their own additional proposals. S.520, as now written, would simply serve as the basis for holding a hearing on eastern wilderness. Those of you who participated in the February 21, 1973, Senate Interior Committee hearing know that an essentially similar situation prevailed at that time: certain numbered bills listing specific areas served as the reason for holding the hearing, but witnesses testified in favor of a considerably different and larger list of areas. At present, it is not possible to say definitely that such hearings will in fact be held in late June or in July this year, but it's wise for group representatives to begin making plans to come to Washington to testify and to rally support on the Hill.

House Bills Needed

On the House side, Representative John Melcher (D-Mont.) as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Works of the House Interior Committee is aware that wilderness advocates are working to get the support of local Congressmen prior to having any bill or bills introduced. He expects there to be another eastern wilderness bill in the fall Congress and has indicated his willingness to give it consideration. Four months of this year having gone by already, let me express the

hope that we will soon be seeing individual bills introduced by the local Congressmen. As indicated in the last CEW memorandum (date February 14, 1975) the strategy this year should be to have individual bills introduced by the local Congressmen. Later such bills would be combined into a single omnibus bill for consideration by the House Subcommittee on Public Lands. You will all remember Chairman Melcher's insistence last year that an area not be included in the final bill reported out by his Subcommittee unless its inclusion is acceptable to the local Congressman. While this requirement may sound harsh, it is a recognition of the standard procedure in the House of Representatives under which legislation related to a particular Congressman's district is rarely ever reported out of committee without that Congressman's consent.

When you are ready to formally ask your Congressman to sponsor your bill and have completed a map for each wilderness or study area (preferably outlined on a USGS quad), I can provide you a sample bill based on S.520 and a sheet of instructions if you need for such.

Converting Established Study Areas into Wilderness Areas

Seventeen new study areas were established by Public Law 93-622. As most of you know, within five years after enactment (January 3, 1975) recommendations are to be submitted by the Forest Service to the Congress with respect to final boundaries. Such recommendations by the Service may range anywhere from zero acreage to something very much larger than that prescribed in the Act. While the Forest Service is required to protect only the study area as described in the law, it is free to study and recommend as much contiguous area as it chooses. It is in our interest to encourage the agency to study as large an area as there is any justification for studying, and of course, after such, to make as large a recommendation as the conditions will support. Meanwhile, local wilderness proponents should be making their own study with equal freedom and looking ahead to the day when they will want the local Congressman to introduce a bill embodying their own recommendation. It is desirable to cooperate with the Service as fully as practicable in making these studies, both to encourage the Service toward your viewpoint and to save unnecessary work by you where the Service already has helpful data. We would like to believe that we will see better cooperation from the Service now that passage of PL93-622 has clearly established that areas which were once disturbed by man but which have recovered sufficiently so that the effects of that disturbance are "substantially unnoticeable" meet the definition of wilderness as laid down in Sec. 2(c) in the Wilderness Act.

Reports from some of you show that study teams for the new study areas already are in operation or in the process of being formed. A study team for each area is absolutely essential if we are to be

successful in converting each study area plus qualified contiguous lands into a permanent wilderness area established by Act of Congress. While PL 93-622 gives the Forest Service 5 years in which to prepare and submit its recommendations to the Congress, in fact the agency will probably begin to submit individual recommendations within the next 2 or 3 years. The local forest supervisor for the national forest on which the statutory study area is located can probably tell you the approximate time when the agency will begin its study and when it expects to complete it. Let me suggest that meanwhile you carefully read or reread PL 93-622 with respect to study areas so that you will feel fully informed as you deal with the Forest Service. As many copies as you need of the Act can be obtained by writing to your Congressman. I will be happy to help you interpret the law and any regulations eventually promulgated by the Service.

Administration Fights Land Use Bill

The latest effort to steer national land use legislation through Congress and past the President struck yet another executive branch roadblock as Administration spokesmen rejected the bill for violating President Ford's declared moratorium against all new, non-energy federal spending programs this year. Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton told a House Interior subcommittee in mid-March that "overriding economic and budget problems" have forced the Administration to reconsider and reverse its earlier support of land use proposals. But Secretary Morton and other Administration witnesses reiterated their support for passage of land use legislation once the "overriding" problems pass.

Two of the over 30 witnesses heard by the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment during four days of hearings--Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) chairman, Russell Peterson and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Russell Train--stressed the need for national land use planning legislation but ultimately supported Administration fiscal objections to current proposals. Chairman Peterson delivered a lengthy explanation of the arguments supporting a national program with only brief mention of the moratorium, and he assured the subcommittee that the Administration's objections do "not mean we are sitting still on land use" in the executive branch.

Indeed the CEQ official suggested that federal efforts to improve land use programs locally and statewide will help heal the U.S. economy by encouraging "efficient use of Federal Dollars" that avoids "stimulating development inconsistent with local growth management efforts." Administrator



What the Other Team Is Doing

Overlook

By Bob Burrell

Before any of us take comfort in whatever successes the Conservancy may have enjoyed recently, it may be well to consider what the guys on the other team are doing and what they think of us. I recall some years ago at one of our early mid-winter workshops, we had a speaker of national prominence who warned us that with each conservation victory, the other side will have smarted with defeat and will have become better organized, thus each succeeding effort will be much more difficult for conservationists. For instance, the strippers were caught napping in 1967 when our strip laws were passed, but it will never be that easy to beat them again.

For one thing, they are organized and they have a big war chest, permanent budget, and full time lobbyist now. With us, conservation is a hobby. If we have to go to a meeting, we have to take vacation time off to go, pay our own expenses, and be prepared to sit down at a table versus some professionals who are being paid to be there and who work full time opposing what you are there for. In other words, you have to be as good in your hobby as they are in their profession in order to make any kind of gain. Several years ago, an Izaak Walton League member was attending a midweek, mid-morning air pollution conference. The chairman scolded our hero by wondering where all of the conservation people were. Didn't they think air pollution was important?

"Certainly", rejoined Ike, "but most of our members are blue collar, working men who would have to take a cut in pay to lay off work to attend these meetings conveniently scheduled at a time when all of you are here, either receiving your expenses from your company or deducting the cost from your income tax. Try scheduling your meeting in the evening, and we will fill the place!"

No one has tried that trick again! Nor have they scheduled evening meetings.

Another difficulty facing conservationists is that although nobody squawks at the companies who continually pollute our streams or ravish our mountains, when you try to do something about these abuses, you must be perfect. You can not afford even one little mistake for if you do, it will be pounced upon by newspapers and adversaries together and the main thrust of your argument will be lost in the smoke screen. As a good, recent example, take our work with Shavers Fork. We have documented evidence in our files going clear back to at least 1966 of the constant pollution and siltation caused by the J. Peter Grace owned Mower Lumber Company. DNR and Forest Service officials have repeatedly complained about logging and road building practices up there for years. In fact, anyone who knows anything

at all about the situation accepts as fact the continuous damage over the years and continuing right through the present (there has been no stocking of Shavers Fork in the Cheat Bridge area as of May 12, 1975 due to J. Peter Grace operations) on Shavers Fork. The disgrace at Fort Milroy and the unreclaimed strip mines on his property are a matter of record and visible today for all to see. Further, the tax records of Randolph County show what mere pittance in taxes his company pays for being allowed to use the land in this manner. Any citizen has the right to go in to the Court House and examine the records.

Last September the Conservancy conducted a field trip into the upper headwater area and found questionable practices associated with a new road Mr. Grace's company was building. Shavers Fork was running heavily silted and no steps were being taken to inhibit such siltation. No conduit pipes, no limestone approaches, no bridge, no nothing were in evidence. As shown by the pictures published in the "Voice," their trucks were crossing Shavers Fork with no protection on the approaches. In short, there was no evidence that any of the West Virginia forest practice standards were being observed.

Sounds straight forward, doesn't it? What does one do when he confronts a situation like this? No agency can do anything about it since it occurs on private land. Our action was to notify the owner of what was being permitted on his land and why we were upset and we also sent a newsman a copy of the information so that the public might be informed as to what we saw. So what went wrong? A small mistake, namely our letter named a date once week later than the one we actually saw the conditions in the field, was made and it was this mistake that was seized upon by the adversary.

"Mower Lumber Company Criticized Unfairly on Road Building" blared a headline from the **Charleston Gazette**. An official of that same organization who had been criticizing Mower practices for years, the Forest Service, wrote a followup letter to Mr. Grace suggesting that Mower roads were a model of sound construction practices and although there were a few places in need of tightening up, Grace had nothing to worry about. Also, the West Virginia Forests, Inc. set up a fact finding committee to go up and view what the WVHC had taken the gall to criticize. On the tour at least 3 weeks later were a Mower official, the Forest Service letter writer, a newsman, and at least three other WVFI officials. By this time the culverts had been put in place and other discrepancies cleaned up. The WVFI stated "The criticism was unfair and

premature. The culverts which were the subject of the criticism were in place at the time of the committee's inspection tour. . . Mower was also criticized for using a temporary crossing to enable company workers to construct a bridge which is necessary for removal of timber beyond the road in question. . . (the group was informed) that the road running parallel to Shavers Fork would ultimately become a recreation road. . . The committee was informed that the conservation group which criticized the road building did not consult with them before or after their tour. It would seem as a matter of courtesy and ethics that any group or person publicly criticizing a company. . . should consult with the official in charge. . . " When did ever Mr. Grace or the Mower Lumber Company view their treatment of Shavers Fork with ethics?

It should be pointed out that the WVFI inspection committee did not examine Fort Milroy, the abandoned strip mines, or the Randolph County tax records, also main points in our critical letter to Grace.

A follow up letter was sent to the Mower official, the leader of the WVFI committee, and the Forest Service official correcting the data, re-emphasizing the exact conditions as we saw them, and furnished them with color prints of the way things were when we were there. Neither Mr. Grace nor any of these officials had the decency (courtesy or ethics) to reply to this letter. As far as the public knows, God is in His Heaven and all is right in His world and the Shavers Fork watershed, and the Highlands Conservancy sure has a lot of nerve to make such unfair criticisms of the J. Peter Grace owned Mower Lumber Company. Oh yes, there was one other thing that happened as a result of our tour that will make subsequent work in this area more difficult. Mower has gated some of the roads leading into the area to keep us nosy types out I suppose. In fact, at any place on Mower Land currently being "developed" you will find a muddy stream, but many signs plainly telling you to stay the hell out.

And here is one more for the road, speaking of the Mower Lumber Company. It concerns one of their officials and how he viewed former Bowden Hatchery manager Ralph Malsom. You may recall when Ralph spoke to us at a midwinter workshop a couple of winters back, how soft spoken and reserved he was. Anyway, the Mower official referred to Ralph as a one of those wild, radical conservationists and West Virginia certainly doesn't need his kind around. Ralph Malsom wild? Radical? I wonder what he thinks of the rest of us. You ask him.

Next month: "Why the battle of Otter Creek isn't over?"

Avoiding the Endorsement Trap

by Ron Haraway

It came as no surprise a few weeks ago to hear Jay Rockefeller announce that he no longer favored abolition of strip mining. That no one else found that surprising was borne out by the fact that the story flew away almost immediately and has not seen print since. We bring it up now because a general election is looming in the near future, and the old controversy over Conservancy endorsement of political candidates is due to crop up again.

The Highlands Conservancy does not endorse political candidates. Putting our organization on the line in support of a politician's promises is almost a certainty to have an embarrassing aftermath. Let's face it - politicians live by the pork barrel alone, and the Conservancy's most hated enemy is the pork barrel. When one stops to consider the projects which have aroused our most intense anger, the nature of these projects jumps at one like the final frame of a pornographic peep show.

The Highland Scenic Highway, Corridor H, Eagle Lake, Rowlesburg, Swiss - they all are pork barrels, completely unnecessary, costly projects designed to spread around a great deal of money and buy votes legally. Other projects such as Snowshoe, the Davis Power Project, Blue Ridge and Timberline have the nature of being pork barrels in that politicians had the power to stop them dead in their tracks, but succumbed to the immense vote-buying potential of such porters.

The West Virginia political scene is a particularly dangerous one when the question of endorsement comes up. The last fifteen years has seen an incredible array of thieves, liars, drunks and incompetents assume the highest elected

offices in the state. It has come to the point where almost every act by a West Virginia politician is likely to produce a charge of wrong-doing. Far too often the charges turn out to have plenty of substance behind them.

Rockefeller's announcement that he no longer favors abolition of striping because reclamation has become an accomplished fact rather than a paper promise is not something for environmentalists to fret about. Jay's "rethinking" of his 1972 abolition platform is something that was underway before the 1972 campaign was even over. West Virginia would not have been able to tell any difference in the way striping has chewed its way through the state had Rockefeller defeated Arch Moore in 1972. The only difference would have been the nature of press releases from the governor's office. Rockefeller's would have leaned toward the environment, whereas Moore's leaned toward industry.

It seems reasonable to think that an organization which endorses a political candidate should have some influence over that politician should he be elected. A promise made should be a promise which can be collected when it is needed. Not so, friends, not so. There is a vast difference between a promise and a commitment, and politicians do not commit themselves to environmentalists. They cannot afford to do so because they live by the pork barrel alone - and no pork barrel project is environmentally sound.

The Conservancy must never fall victim to the endorsement game. We are watchdogs, not interested in promises, but acutely aware of actions. Endorsement of one candidate over another limits us badly.



and if the other guy wins we are in big trouble. We must reserve the ability to speak firmly, critically and directly to any office holder. Prejudicing the candidates before the election can only retard our effectiveness. Not only will the candidate we oppose be disinclined to listen to us in the future, but the candidate we support may not respond to pressure from "fields." Until such time as the Conservancy can actively participate in an Environmental Party which runs its own slate of candidates from within its own membership on a platform designed by environmentalists, let's avoid political endorsement as though it were a job offer from a coal company.

Nature Conservancy Purchases Spruce Knob Unit

Grafton, West Virginia - A key holding within the Spruce Knob-Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area in the Monongahela National Forest, 6 miles north of Franklin, West Virginia, has been purchased by The Nature Conservancy. The Conservancy, a leading national land conservation organization, bought the property for \$60,100 at a public auction.

The 221-acre mountain farm, largely wooded and cut by a number of streams, will be transferred at the non-profit Conservancy's costs to the U.S. Forest Service. Conservancy action came at the request of the Forest Service which was unable to bid on the property at the auction.

The farm, purchased from the estate of Okey J. Hedrick, was the fifteenth project involving The Nature Conservancy in West Virginia. Recently, Governor Arch Moore announced the beginning of a major effort—the West Virginia Heritage Trust—to be undertaken with The Nature Conservancy aimed at inventorying and safeguarding important lands throughout the state. Moore said, "It is imperative that we identify and take the initial steps toward preserving important natural, recreation and historic sites within the state."

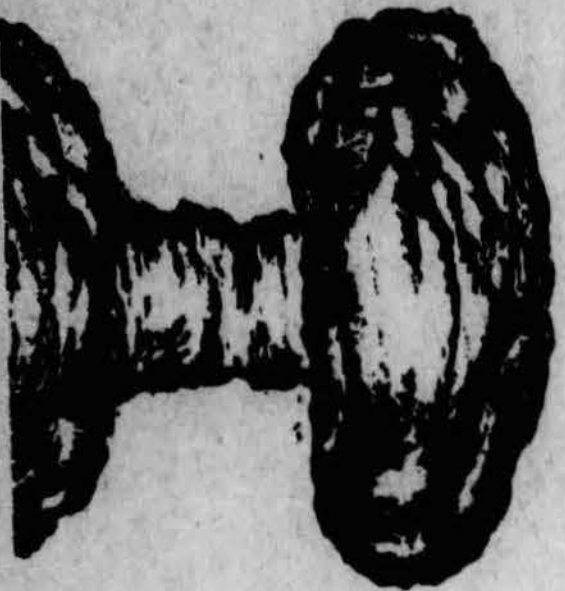
Special funding to undertake the Heritage program was provided by the Benedum Foundation of Pittsburgh.

L. Gregory Low, Conservancy mid-Atlantic representative, said, "The Conservancy's ability to purchase at auction the Hedrick property with only five days advance notice, is an example of the organization's capacity to move and act both decisively and quickly to protect the natural lands. The Conservancy and its West Virginia Chapter look forward to continued productive efforts in the Mountainwest State."

Low went on to say that the Conservancy's West Virginia Chapter, led by Maxwell A. Smith of Grafton, is currently "pursuing a number of exciting land conservation projects and is initiating a statewide membership campaign."

Spruce Knob, the national recreation area, takes its name from the highest peak in West Virginia, rising to 4,862 feet above sea level. Seneca Rocks, north-west of the Hedrick property, The Seneca Rocks are sheer faced and sharply above the surrounding woods and fields.

Earlier Conservancy activities in the Monongahela National Forest included the purchase of mineral rights to 10,000 acres of the Dolly Sods scenic area as well as additional purchases in the Spruce Knob area.



Learn to identify the poison mushroom. It's scientific name is "Holocaustus nuclearus," and it can be found growing in a wide range of habitats and can be identified by its large size, lateral gills, and extremely high body temperature. Although its poison is extremely that its ecological effects are devastating, it is still being cultivated in some areas.

the Readers' Voice

McGinnis Comments on Wilderness Permits

521A West Drive
Boalsburg, PA 16827
April 11, 1975

John Ballantyne
U.S. Forest Service
Elkins, WV 26241

Dear Mr. Ballantyne:

Thanks for the copy of the press release on wilderness permits for Otter Creek and Dolly Sods. I read it over last night and again this morning, and it seems to me that it leaves some important questions unanswered that could possibly lead to considerable unhappiness with the permit system.

The article states that permits can be obtained from District Ranger offices. At least until now these offices have only been open on weekdays from 8 to 5. It is my impression that a majority of hikers on these areas arrive on Friday night or Saturday mornings and spend the weekend there. I assume that Forest Service offices are not open then. Also, my tallies of auto licenses plates at trail heads into Otter Creek and Dolly Sods indicate a majority of hikers are from Pennsylvania, presumably the Pittsburgh region. It is not convenient for Pittsburghers to visit a District Ranger office, especially those going to the Sods. If a conscientious trip leader drives out of his way to locate a District Ranger office and finds it closed, he will be annoyed. He may decide at that point to ignore the permit requirement. If a Forest Service representative should meet him on the trail and ask him for his permit, he would understandably be even more annoyed.

Of course a way to solve part of the problem would be to set up "permit dispensers" at the Ranger offices that people could fill out after hours. But why ask people to drive out of their way for that? Trail side stations would serve just as well. For that matter, what's the value of having a girl in the office fill out the forms when the trip leader could do it himself at a trailside station just as well?

I presume the Forest Service is instituting the permit system at this time for two main reasons: (1) to get information about visitors and (2) to get the hiking public used to a permit system which could be used to limit use of wilderness areas in the future. For (1) you presumably want the information to be as accurate as possible, and for (2) you want the public to accept the permit system, which can be best done by informing them of its purposes and by choosing the one which causes visitors the least amount of hassle. I don't see that the way of handling permits outlined in the news release is the best way of achieving either of these goals. Especially, I fear the inconvenience it causes visitors may build up resentment to permits in general.

My suggestion for handling the permit system at this time is to set up trailside stations. Visitors entering the area would pick up a two-part brochure, printed on sturdy paper and folded so that it would fit easily into the side pocket of a pack. One part of the permit-brochure would be concerned with "outdoor good manners." On Dolly Sods a small map showing designated campsites might be included. The other part would be a questionnaire for the group leader to fill out after the trip is completed. The brochure would instruct hikers to carry the entire permit with them on their hike, and to fill out the questionnaire portion and drop it into a slot in a box at the trail station at the end of their hike. From time to time Forest Service personnel could patrol the areas on foot and ask hikers to show them their permit-brochures.

There are two advantages to this system. First, it would minimize the trouble visitors would have to go to in getting a permit. Second, it would make the

data on the questionnaires more accurate. The permits mailed in advance as mentioned in the news release would be particularly suspect. Any trip leader will tell you it isn't possible to know for sure who will be going until the party actually starts out on the trail. A problem with any advance registration, even at a trailside station, is that the proposed hiking route may be changed. Someone may get blisters or the party may find an appealing campsite on route and decide to do less hiking. Some parties over estimate the time it will take to do a certain route and end up covering more ground. By having hikers fill out questionnaires at the end of the trip, the Forest Service would know where they actually went and camped.

Another advantage of this system would be that the Forest Service would be able to ask people questions about their trip that could not be asked in advance. For example, you could ask them how many people and/or parties they met, how many they shared their campsite (s) with, and if this affected their experience." A number of other management-related questions could be asked.

In a way the news release seems to be a replay of the controversy over the designated campsite system on Dolly Sods in that hiking interests had no opportunity for input before policy was set. I realize that not all hikes favor any permit system. But if we had been told there would be a permit system, we could have made some helpful suggestions. The news release leaves questions unanswered that would occur to almost any hiking group. I don't think I can write an article on wilderness permits until I know what to tell people who decide to visit one of the wilderness areas on the spur of the moment, who arrive late Friday night or early Saturday morning, and for whom a side trip to Petersburg or Parsons is an inconvenience. What do I tell those who plan to lead a group and write for a permit in advance. For all these potential leaders know two weeks in advance, their trip could be cancelled, and they might not be able to give you any idea of the number of participants.

I hope this letter isn't too critical. I am really happy that the Forest Service is taking steps to protect the wilderness quality of Dolly Sods and Otter Creek.

Sincerely,
Helen McGinnis

Potomac Prospect

To save the Potomac River and its heritage from the wrong kinds of "progress," Congressman Gilbert Gude of Maryland has introduced a bill to protect the river's shoreline from Cumberland, Maryland to Washington, D.C. The bill, HR 12785, would create a "green ribbon" at least 200 feet wide on each shore, sufficient to allow fishing access, and enough to protect the natural appearance of the river. An important aim of the bill is to protect much of this strip without federal purchase. Instead, local planning and zoning will do the job.

To lands already set aside in federal, state and local parks (like the C&O Canal), HR 12785 would add about 15,000 acres - protected, where possible, by local land-use controls.

To minimize federal land acquisition along the river, HR 12785 provides that:

1. State and local governments have five years to use zoning and other tools to protect the Potomac shoreline before the federal government acquires an interest. Lands protected by local zoning would stay in local ownership.
2. Failing local land-use controls, present home owners, sportsmens clubs, and vacation home owners would have lifetime or 25 year tenancies.
3. Towns along the river would be helped - but not required - to develop historic districts to tie into the National River. An Historic Council, composed of local historians and

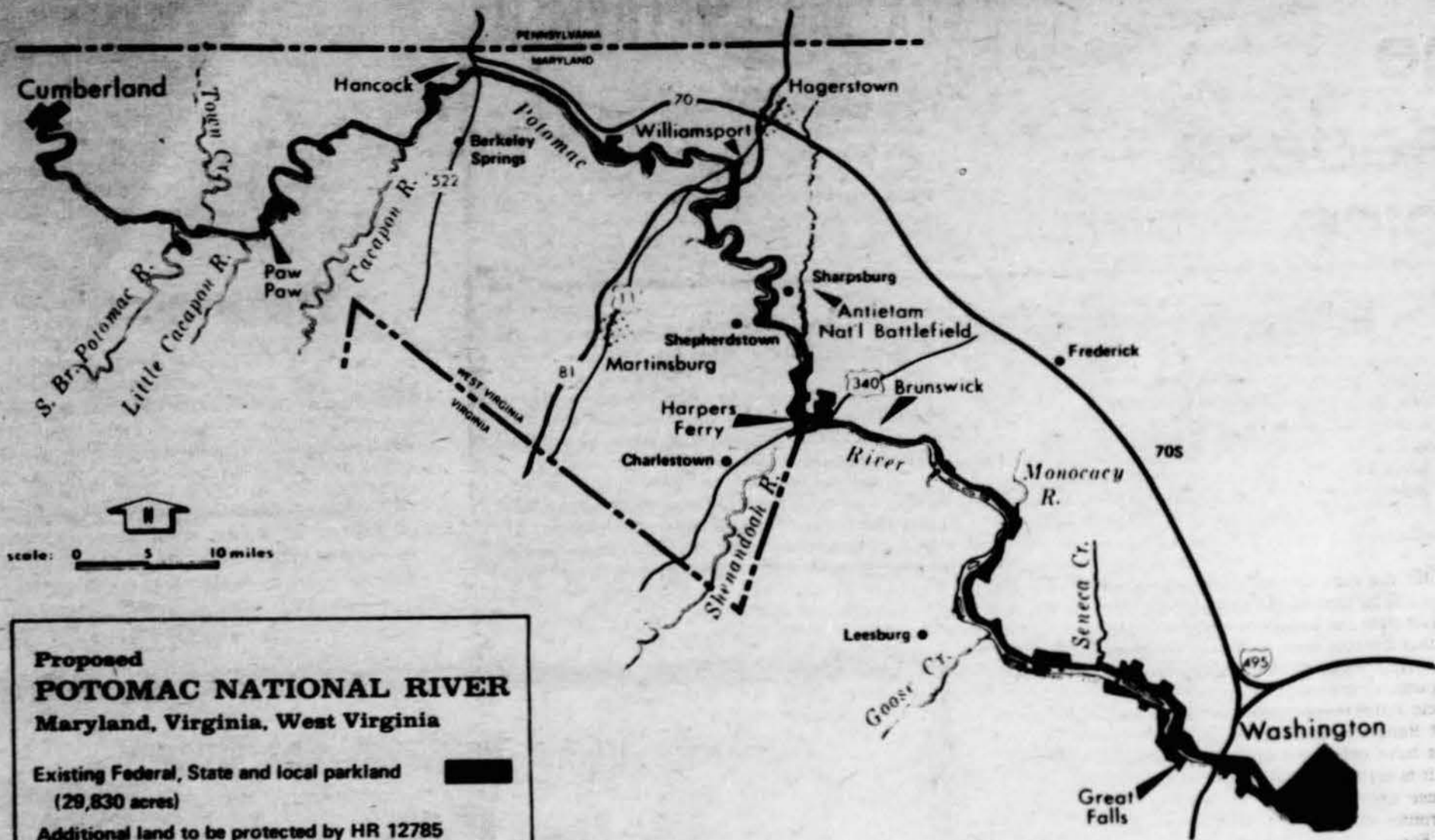
Other Voices

The monthly publication of the Movement for Social Justice, **Just Economics**, carried a flier for a new publication in its April issue. Called **The Journal of Current Social Issues**, the magazine is published quarterly. As its title makes perfectly clear, emphasis is on current social issues. The spring edition concerns occupational health and safety in the United States. The issue presents an encyclopedic approach to the topic. Articles progress from "Dimensions of the Problem" through "Women in the Workplace" to book reviews on related publications.

A single copy of the Spring edition of the **Journal of Current Social Issues** is available for \$1.50 from United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, 287 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010. An

annual subscription is available for \$5.00, and a free copy of the Spring issue will be sent on request to anyone subscribing for one year. Copies are also available for distribution to organizations.

Another publication recently brought to our attention has been around for a few years. It doesn't have a thing to do with the environment, but even an environmentalist occasionally finds times for an outside interest. **Colonial Heritage** is a newspaper which deals in depth with the events of the American Revolution. It comes out about eight times a year, has beautiful artwork, articles on obscure happenings during the Revolution, a multitude of budget-breaking ads, and is a lot of fun. It's available from **Colonial Heritage**, P.O. Box 1776, Bound Brook, NJ 08805. It's five bucks a year.



Proposed POTOMAC NATIONAL RIVER
 Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia

Existing Federal, State and local parkland
 (29,830 acres)

Additional land to be protected by HR 12785
 (14,678 acres)

architects would be available to advise on restoration projects, and to help communities seek private and federal grants to fund them.

The proposed National River would be administered by the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of Interior. Along the Potomac, the Park Service already manages the C&O Canal and Harpers Ferry National Historical Parks, and nearby Antietam National Battlefield.

To insure a local voice in planning, Congressman Gude proposes a 19 member Potomac National River Advisory Commission and a 12 member Historic Council to advise the Park Service on matters of park development, scenic protection, and historic restoration. Members would be from counties along the Potomac, the District of Columbia, and appointees of the Secretary of Interior.

Although the C&O Canal and Harpers Ferry fall within the proposed National River boundary, both would be administered as "identifiable units" under existing legislation. Antietam Battlefield would be linked with the Potomac by an historic trail.

According to Congressman Gude "The bill is not designed as a vehicle for federal intrusion into the state, but is designed to help localities keep their options open. Without the bill, industrial and other private development along the shoreline will close these options forever."

An organization has formed in Kearneysville, W.Va. to coordinate citizen involvement in passage of HR 12785. The organization will place anyone requesting it on their mailing list. They can be contacted by writing Citizens for the Potomac National River, Rt. 1, Box 15, Kearneysville, West Virginia 25430. Speakers and slide presentations on the proposal are available by contacting Bob Harrigan, 5113 Wehawken Rd., Washington, D.C. 20016.

Administration Fights

(Continued from Page 1)

Train called poor land use "one of the most pressing problems confronting us today," cited his past support for land use planning legislation, made only passing reference to the Administration's moratorium.

Earlier, Rep. Morris K. Udall (Ariz.), the subcommittee's chairman and cosponsor of the major land use bill, opened this latest round of land use hearings on March 17 by declaring that the nation's land use problems will not disappear while the federal government shelves legislation. Rep. Udall said a land use planning program is more important than the Administration's proposed multi-million-dollar grant program for energy facility siting. The Arizona congressman noted that the \$50 million which his bill, H.R. 3510, authorizes for expenditure in the 1976 fiscal year is approximately one-seventh thousandth of the entire proposed federal budget, and he estimated that start-up lag would cut outlays of the \$50 million for the next fiscal year to \$5 or \$10 million. It is unfortunate, Rep. Udall said, that the Administration is fighting the bill because of what he called its miniscule effect on the budget. Later, responding to Secretary Morton's initial statement, chairman Udall said he is appalled and disappointed by the executive branch's position on the legislation.

During the question-and-answer period, Secretary Morton revealed that at several high-level meetings President Ford and other Administration officials debated whether the land use planning bill fell into the energy category, which is excluded from new-spending moratorium. According to the Interior Department head, the proposal of a separate energy facility siting bill put the land use bill within the moratorium's restrictions. Secretary Morton also revealed that these high level meetings uncovered wide opposition to Interior Department control of any federal land use program. This opposition, led by the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Agriculture, left the President somewhat shaken up, he said. The Interior Secretary admitted the moratorium is also buying time for the Administration to smooth out these inter-agency disagreements over jurisdiction. But if the "overriding" economic problems did not exist, he insisted, the Administration would be supporting national legislation. (A mid-March wire services report quoting "congressmen and others" suggested that a

power struggle between Interior, Agriculture and HUD led the Administration to drop its support for a land use planning program.)

While Administration witnesses seemed divided between the merits of a land use planning bill and its costs, other witnesses before the sub-committee usually stood firmly for or against H.R. 3510 which Rep. Udall introduced with another subcommittee member, Rep. Alan Steelman (Tex.). Supporters of the proposal included: Rep. Joseph L. Fisher (Va.), Vermont Governor Thomas P. Salmon, the Mortgage Bankers Association of America, the League of Women Voters, and the American Institute of Architects. Among its opponents in the hearings, which ran March 17, 18, 24 and 25, were: the American Mining Congress, the Forest Industries Council, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, the American Farm Bureau Federation, the Forest Farmers Association, and the American Cattlemen's Association.

Typical of many of the groups testifying against the land use proposal was William G. Davis, a representative of the Forest Farmers Association (FFA), an organization of timberland owners controlling about 25 million acres in 15 southern states. Explaining his association's opposition to H.R. 3510, Davis said the FFA favors "the general concept of orderly land use planning" but sees federal legislation as "unnecessary, undesirable" and too costly. He added: "The FFA feels that decisions on land use planning can best be handled at the grass roots level by local people." Like several other witnesses, Davis attached the federal government's record in running lands under its jurisdiction, suggesting "respectfully... that upgrading management of the 40% of the land that is publicly owned should be Congress's first priority before tackling the 60% that is privately owned." One of the underlying objections to the land use bill repeated frequently by witnesses was fear of what another FFA witness, executive vice president J. Walter Myers, Jr., called "harsh federal guidelines." As Davis stated, "H.R. 3510 could well be just an opening wedge leading to creation of another monstrous federal bureaucratic organization to handle land use planning and leading inevitably to federal land use control. We're simple enough people to believe that if you take someone's money, you dance to their tune—and this includes money from the federal government."

-National Wildlife Federation Staff

Does environmental protection cause unemployment?

Do Federal measures to clean up the air and water help or hurt the economy?

During 1974, a number of proposals were heard for relaxing environmental regulations on the basis that they have a significant adverse impact on employment and inflation.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), as well as the Congressional Joint Economic Committee, ordered investigations of this question.

EPA and CEQ found that pollution control required by Federal law would have small impact on the Nation's economic growth, unemployment and prices. In fact, although certain industries have been affected adversely by outlays for pollution control, aggregate national output is expected to be stimulated in the next few years by environmental expenditures which will create many jobs.

It is EPA's position that environmental protection must not be sacrificed for economic reasons where the public health is directly involved. The Agency believes that we can have both jobs and a clean, healthy America, and that environmental costs will have a minimal adverse impact on employment.

As EPA Administrator Russell E. Train has said: "There is simply no evidence that environmental requirements have had or will have any marked adverse impact upon jobs or existing productive capacity, especially since investments in environmental protection create new markets, new jobs and new profit opportunities."

An example is EPA's Federal grants for constructing or upgrading wastewater treatment plants. At the beginning of 1975 there were 40,000 people directly employed in this program and more than double that number in related, off-site jobs. Then, on February 24, President Ford released a total of \$9 billion for allocation to the State TES and cities in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 1975 to build sewage treatment plants. The action was estimated to result in approximately 180,000 new on-site construction jobs over a number of years and at least twice that many off-site jobs in related industries.

By way of contrast, EPA economists have determined that since January 1971 a total of 12,000 jobs were involved in actual plant shutdowns where pollution control was alleged to be a significant factor, and of these plants only a fifth involved Federal enforcement action. As Mr. Train told Congress, "While the local impacts of these closings may be quite serious, it simply cannot be said that they have significantly affected the Nation's productive capacity or its unemployment problem. Reviews of the plants that have closed reveal that they have, for the most part, been small, old and marginal plants whose demise may have been hastened slightly by pollution standards, but which probably would have been closed soon anyway for economic reasons."

Apart from Federal spending, there is another positive economic effect of government efforts to clean up the environment—the impact on the pollution equipment industry, which is now well established and growing. An analysis by Arthur D. Little Inc. in 1972 showed that there were approximately 700 firms producing equipment and treatment systems for air and water pollution control. Total sales were estimated at \$466 million for air and \$475 million for water in 1971. The sales estimate for all pollution control firms in 1973 was approximately \$2 billion, creating many thousands of new jobs.

Other evidence underscores the fact that pollution controls have a positive effect on the Nation's economy. A study in 1974 for the Joint Economic Committee by the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering, titled "Air Quality and Automobile Emission Control," concluded that tangible benefits from cleaner air alone are \$15 billion to \$20 billion per year, which does not take into account subjective questions of aesthetics, comfort and freedom from respiratory illness in smog-free areas.

Opinion polls in recent years have shown a continuing and strong public support for environmental protection.

In March 1975, a survey by Louis Harris and Associates showed that three out of four Americans were unconvinced that a temporary slow-down of water and air pollution control programs would "help ease the energy shortage," "get the economy moving again," or "ease unemployment."

The Harris survey found that Americans rate water and air pollution as the Nation's third and fourth greatest problems respectively. It also found that the public opposed proposals to sacrifice environmental cleanup for either emergency energy programs or those to boost the economy. In fact, compared with a similar Harris poll taken in 1973, the latest results showed that the percentage of people concerned about water pollution had risen 11 points, and for those worried about air pollution it had risen 13 points.

President Ford declared in Portland, Oregon, in 1974, "I do not accept the dismal proposition that pollution is the inevitable price of prosperity nor that we must compromise the environment to gain economic growth. We cannot enrich our lives by

importuning our land. We can raise both the standard of living and the quality of life."

This view was amplified by the Congressional Joint Economic Committee in its report, "Achieving Price Stability Through Economic Growth" (December 23, 1974), which declared:

"Because of the present recession, human and physical capital are and will continue for some time to be underutilized. Expenditures for pollution control are a productive and sensible use of these resources."

The report included the following recommendations: "There should be no general relaxation of environmental standards for the sake of reducing inflationary pressures because: (1) the benefits of this investment clearly exceed the costs, (2) their contribution to inflation has been and will continue to be minimal, (3) delays will only increase the ultimate cost of environmental cleanup, and (4) the stimulative effect of these expenditures on employment in the near future will be beneficial to the economy."

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Corridor H - Effect on Trout Streams

by Don Brunson

Trout Unlimited is an organization interested in the preservation and improvement of quality trout fishing. West Virginia was once blessed with an extensive array of native brook trout streams before the turn of the century. Most of these streams have disappeared through the efforts of man. Acid drainage, road building, and agricultural activities that warmed the streams are the major reasons for the demise of these streams.

Acid drainage results from the disturbance of pyritic materials, i.e., materials that contain iron pyrites, FeS₂. When it is exposed to the air, bacteria convert iron pyrite to Fe₂O₃ (iron rust) and H₂SO₄ (sulfuric acid). Rainbow trout require a pH greater than 6.5 to survive and greater than 7.0 to reproduce successfully while brown trout require a pH of 6.0 to survive and 6.5 to reproduce. Brook trout are more tolerant and can survive at 5.0 but need a pH of 6.0 for good reproduction. Streams with acid drainage often have a pH of less than 4.5.

Fish just cannot survive under this condition.

Road building has the detrimental effects of siltation, channelization and increased temperature. Siltation decreases the production of food in the streams, resulting in lowered trout production. Trout exposed to heavy silt loads are very susceptible to diseases, all usually die, either due to the "clogging" of the gills or the reduced oxygen content of the water. Silted water is always warmer than clear water. Even moderate siltation prevents successful reproduction of trout. The eggs are "smothered" in the redds. Two or three years of siltation in a wild trout stream will wipe out the population since a very, very small percentage of them live to be four years old under the best conditions.

When shade is removed from the stream banks,

the temperature increases dramatically. Brook trout cannot survive if the temperature remains much above 70°F. Brown and rainbow are more tolerant and can stand temperature up to 75°F.

Channelization associated with road building causes siltation, increases temperatures due to removal of shade, and dramatically decreases the food supply. The channelized stream has a lot of shallow riffle area with no hiding places for the trout. Studies have shown that trout population is only about 1% of what it was before channelization even after 50 years.

West Virginia cannot afford to lose any more of its trout streams for any reason. It appears that once a stream loses its trout it is very difficult, if not impossible, to get them successfully introduced again.

Please keep the above facts in mind as you read comments concerning the various alternate routes of Corridor H.

West Virginia Deliverance

by Stauffer Miller

Between Ft. Seybert and Milan there flows one of the cleanest, clearest, wildest and roughest stretches of water anywhere around. It is known to the "ferriners" as the Moorefield River - locals call it the South Fork River. This stretch of water flows through a small, but not unimpressive canyon, and this is called the Moorefield Gorge.

For as long as I have lived in Hardy County I have known of this stretch of water and wanted to see it. A number of coordinates needed to intersect in order to permit my doing so. The weather needed to be right. The stream level needed to be right. I needed an experienced canoeing partner, and both of us needed to be off from work when the other conditions had been met. For five years these variables involved remained unsynchronized, and my chance was denied. Finally, last week, after five years of waiting, the merger of all the tentative conditions came together, and I got to canoe the Moorefield Gorge.

This is heavy water, as the white water freaks would say. It is mean, hostile, awesome, frightening, and challenging. It is fifteen miles of more or less perpetual combat between the canoe, rocks and rapids.

Scarified banks and piled debris are everywhere as the trip begins, and are evidence of a recent flood. The water flows smoothly enough for a mile or so until a white church is reached. The canyon walls close in here and the canoeists' work begins. Maybe the church is there to impart some message. The water enters what my partner calls a "rat maze." Boulders are everywhere in the stream, and we slam from one rock to another, weaving our way through. The current is fierce and we can only follow the biggest waves and whitest water - these are our only clues to the way through. A perilous run down a watery chute, dodging three or four boulders, and we emerge from the first portion of this intricate canyon.

The gorge which attends the passage of this water and this stream is notably pretty. It is cedar and hemlock lined on one or both banks. A hawk flies over which I cannot identify. He tantalizes me. He is only in view in the midst of the worst rapids, and I cannot divert much attention to him. In a quiet stretch there are some dead carcasses along the

bank. The veterinarian side of me wonders about a possible cause of death.

I keep saying to myself that this is fun (as my apprehension grows) and I keep asking my partner if the worst, I mean the best, lies ahead. He replies that it does.

The final, most treacherous portion of the canyon is upon us. We ricochet through this, straining at the paddles to elicit the hair-pin canoe turns necessary to avoid smash-ups. A second canoe which had joined us at the last moment failed the test, is impaled on a rock, and swamps. Canoeists and gear flow everywhere. With wedges and ropes the canoe is grudgingly righted, and we set forth once more.

Elation has separated from apprehension, victory and success feelings are uppermost, and the Milan Bridge is in sight. We are delivered up sound from the Moorefield Gorge.

With time for reflection, one senses the danger, but also the fragility of the wild, free-flowing stream. The wild character is not immutable. It must be protected. It is part of our heritage.

Strip Mine Licenses to Pollute

Appealed by CCW

Campaign Clean Water, joined by the W.Va. Highlands Conservancy, the Izaak Walton League of America, Citizens for Environmental Protection, and the Cheat Lake Area Environmental Conservancy, is attempting to reverse an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) decision to grant all West Virginia strip mines "licenses to pollute."

EPA had been issuing strict water pollution permits to other industries, but backed down when it came time for strip mines to receive the required Federal discharge permits.

Among the provisions which made a mockery of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 are:

Compliance with the permit is determined by the stripper test-pollution levels on its two best days each month;

Virtually unlimited sedimentation is allowed during and after rainstorms.

The stripper is not responsible for any pollution following the release of the regrading bond.

EPA actually issued only one discharge permit to a West Virginia strip mine (White Ridge Coal in Raleigh County) when the appeal was filed. They have since decided to base the

remainder of the permits on the outcome of this precedent-setting appeal, which is expected to be received this spring. The formal hearing will be held before a Federal Administrative Law Judge.

Among the points Campaign Clean Water will make are the following:

Strip mine pollution is so serious that it should require daily sampling of water quality.

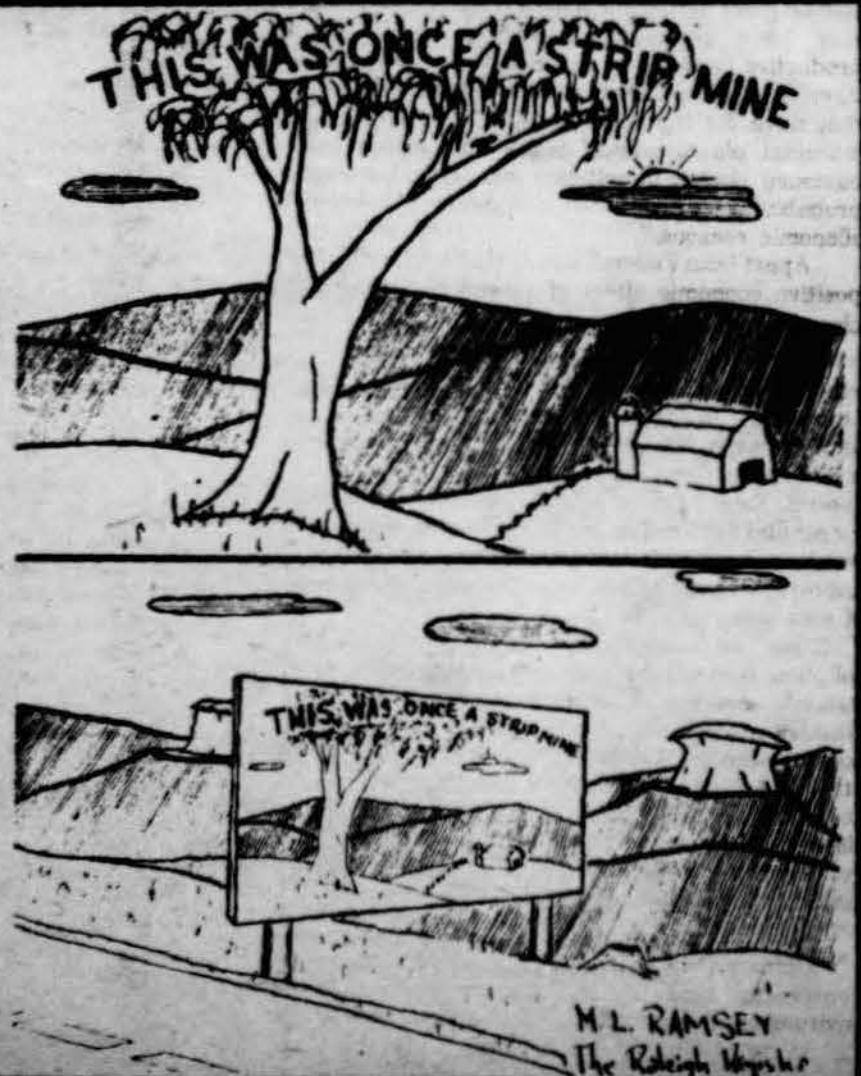
Sediment control during periods of rainfall is possible.

Pollution control during the revegetation period is needed.

Some Federal discharge permits have been issued to strip mines in other states without the objectionable loopholes contained in the West Virginia permits.

Violations of Federal discharge permits are punishable by fines of up to \$25,000 per day. Most important of all, citizens can sue to enforce the provisions of the permits if the government fails to act.

-W.Va. Citizens Action Group Staff



Spy in the Sky

by Gordon T. Nemrick

The late Aldo Leopold and many others have stressed the need for wilderness as a laboratory; the need for wilderness as a living example of the land in a state of natural ecological balance. The concern has been repeatedly expressed that soon there will be no land left that has not been changed by man's hand. Perhaps, also, wilderness needs to be protected as a laboratory in human values; as a place where the land and not man is allowed to determine in large measure the human relationship to nature's ecological balance.

While the broad institutional answers which may yet prevent our destroying the planet or destroying our own civilization are being sought - or ignored or rejected - we individuals might pause to take a look at a scientific innovation that threatens, for better or worse, to revolutionize man's relationship with his environment.

This innovation is the Earth Resources Technology Satellite, known as ERTS, launched July 23, 1973, from Lompoc, California. ERTS was designed for a polar orbit, traveling from the Arctic to Antarctica on the daylight side of the earth, then northward on the dark side of the earth. One complete orbit requires 103 minutes. As ERTS is in a stationary east-west plane 570 miles above the earth, the rotation of the earth brings a different portion of the earth under the satellite on each orbit. Each 18 days, the satellite commences a new cycle, having completed coverage of the earth and having arrived over the course followed the first day.

ERTS is equipped with three sensor units at the earthward end of the body. These units consists of: a supersensitive television camera, covering an area of 115 miles square; a multi-spectral scanner also covering an area of 115 miles square; and a data collection system which functions primarily as a communications center.

The first sensor - the television camera - records a picture every 25 seconds. This data can be transmitted live to one of the three ground stations, located in Maryland, Alaska, or California, or can be stored on video tape for delayed readout.

The second sensor - the multi-spectral scanner - is literally a rocking mirror that scans single lines horizontally east-west across the ERTS track. Scanning is conducted simultaneously in four color bands: green, red, and two near-infrared bands. Data can be transmitted live or stored for delayed readout.

The data collection center - or communications center - is used for a handful of projects related to natural disasters, where vital information is collection from remote areas on the ground, is relayed to ERTS, and from ERTS to ground stations.

And, just how does this affect the environment? Simply this: scientists and technicians have discovered that each type of resource - be it water, mineral, fiber, or animal - has a recognizable "signature" which can be determined from the multi-spectral scanner data when run through a properly-programmed computer. Thus, areas litterly cry out, "Dig here!" "Cut here!" "Drill here!" It may be significant that at least one oil company has purchased ERTS data coverage for the entire world.

This has all the appearances of being a new ball game, conducted under new rules. Anyone can purchase ERTS data and/or pictures for a slight fee. Thus a company looking for, say, iron, could acquire relevant pictures and data, could delineate the limits of prospective ore bodies, and could file environmental impact statements without ever setting foot - or bulldozer - in the area.

On the other hand, ERTS pictures and data can also locate pollution and sources of pollution; can locate unused arable tracts of land; can locate water resources or sources of geothermal energy; can locate diseased crops or trees; and can predict streamflow conditions based upon snow cover during the winter.

ERTS, in short, offers something for both business and conservation. Possibilities are unlimited, and space prohibits listing even a fraction of the proven uses of ERTS. Anyone interested in ERTS should read Lleyd Darden's *The Earth In the Looking Glass*, (Garden City: Anchor Press/Doubleday, 1974).

Strip Mining: Override The Veto

On June 10, Congress will vote on the strip mining control bill, one of the most important pieces of energy, agricultural and environmental legislation this year. We must not lose this crucial battle - and we need your help in assuring that the people's voice will be heard more loudly than President Ford's.

Every person who cares about the future of environmental quality in the U.S. must act now to battle the forces of the Big Business and special interests behind Ford's veto. It is particularly crucial to ensure the support of 90 key "swing" votes in the House of Representatives.

Action to save the strip mining bill is imperative! For too long we have allowed energy companies to reap exorbitant profits while ravaging our environment.

The vote to override Ford's veto will occur in June 10. Before then, please make a special effort to do one or all of the following things:

* Representatives and senators are home right now for a recess. Take this opportunity meet with the people who represent you. Tell them we cannot tolerate Ford's sacrifice of the environment for the betterment of oil and coal company profits.

* Write, telegram or telephone your senators and representatives. Addresses: Senator X, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Representative X, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Telephone: 202-224-3121 and ask for your representative or senator.

* Telephone all environmentalists and concerned citizens in your group or area and urge them to act now.

"SWING" VOTES IN THE SENATE

MARYLAND - Beall, WEST VIRGINIA - Byrd, PENNSYLVANIA - Scott.

"SWING" VOTES IN THE HOUSE

PENNSYLVANIA - Schulze, Shuster, Murtha, Coughlin, Eshleman, Schneebeli, Goodling, Johnson, and Myers. VIRGINIA - Whitehurst, Harris, and Fisher. WEST VIRGINIA - Steggers.

1975 Cheat Valley Float Trip

The May 17-18 weekend turned out to be soggy in more ways than one for the 37 canoes that turned out to tour the Cheat Valley from Parsons to Hannabsville. This sixth annual float trip jointly sponsored by the WVHC and the Cheat Valley Conservancy took place on fairly high water which took its toll in a few capsize and in a fairly continuous drizzle.

Putting in at Parsons on Shavers Fork the paddlers received their first lesson in West Virginia conservation since Shavers was running its usual ugly, muddy consistency. Well, all rivers get muddy when it rains, you say. The hell they do, our trip participants say, because when the confluence with the Black Fork was reached within a half mile, it was found that that river was running it normal dark, but clear color. That river is the combination of the Blackwater, Red Creek, Otter Creek, Dry Fork, Laurel Fork, Gandy Creek, and Gladly Fork and with all of that water draining that huge watershed, the Black Fork couldn't even match the consistency of one Shavers Fork, thanks to the good Grace of J. Peter and the abundant largesse of Corridor H.

The rains did abate for the evening smorgasbord and chow down and pleasantries around the camp fire continued well into the clear evening. However, the rain gods noticed canoes sully the river once again on Sunday and cut loose around lunch time. Yet, it was a good trip. New people were introduced to the Folly of the Rowlesburg Dam and the harm that would come to this great valley.

Board member Nick Lozano making the trip for the first time, said, "We've got to get more people to see this!" The more people we can show the river to, the more understanding we can create about prime assets such as this that are being squandered on a short term gain. The rest of you can begin planning right now for 1976. Put it down on your calendar, it is a standard date - the third weekend in May each year. Join us!

JOIN THE WEST VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

We travel together, passengers on a little space ship, dependent on its vulnerable reserves of air and soil; all committed for our safety to its security and peace preserved from annihilation only by the care, the work, and, I will say, the love we give our fragile craft. --Adlai Stevenson

- \$5.00 Individual regular
- \$10.00 Individual associate
- \$25.00 Individual sustaining
- \$20.00 Organizational regular
- \$30.00 Organizational associate
- \$50.00 Organizational sustaining

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ZIP: _____

Make checks payable to "West Virginia Highlands Conservancy." Mail membership form and dues to:

Virginia McTeer
1026 Sixth St., Apt. 2
Charleston, WV 25302

CONSERVANCY PUBLICATIONS

A new edition of the Monongahela National Forest trail guide is now available. Users will be pleased to know that the format of the guide has been altered, and it will now fit conveniently in a large pocket or an outside pocket on a pack. The new guide measures 5 1/2" x 9". It costs \$3 and can be ordered from the address below.

"The Otter Creek Guide is now out-of-print and unavailable."

1. Dolly Sods Trail Guide & Management Plan - \$3.00. "Available Mid-April"

2. Cranberry Backcountry Trail Guide & Management Plan - \$3.00 "Supply Limited"

3. Hiking Guide to the Monongahela National Forest \$3.00.

These may be ordered from:
Ron Hardway
206 Union St.
Webster Springs, WV 26288

Copies available at 1-3 discount to stores and clubs. Address inquiries concerning wholesale orders to Bruce Sundquist, 210 College Park Drive, Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146. Prices as of January, 1975.