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Steve Wilson Retires as President

Steve Wilson, our president through 1976, 1977, and 1978 has added the prefix "Ex" to his title as eventually do all presidents; but he will still be around to help as he is grounded in Little Rock.

Steve has been with us for a long time; in fact, he has practically grown up within The Ozark Society. Our first encounter with him was on an Ozark Society hike into Grassy Creek Gorge, south of Batesville, in May 1969. Our attention was divided between the waterfall and Steve's rappelling over a cliff.

In September, he and Phil Gipson, both biology students at the University of Arkansas, took the grand prize, a Ouachita canoe, in the Third Annual Cleanup of the Buffalo River.

On April 16, 1970, six days before Earth Day, the University of Arkansas Chapter of the Ozark Society was reorganized (having been first formed in 1965) with Steve Wilson elected chairman over an initial membership of 71. Steve was in this position for a year, and then, while still an undergraduate, worked for the Game and Fish Commission. Upon graduation, Steve became an employee of the Environmental Development Division of the Arkansas Highway Commission.

At the Annual "Autumn" Meeting in August 1975, Steve was elected president of the Society to take office January 1, 1976. In October of 1975, The Ozark Society was announced the winner of their "Connie" Award by the Society of American Travel Writers. Steve went to Washington to receive the Award which was presented by Vice President Nelson Rockefeller. Since that time, he has returned to Washington for conferences on the proposed Alaskan parks and wilderness and Rare II. Two years ago, Steve stepped forward to accept the Eagle Conservation Award of the Arkansas Wildlife Federation for The Ozark Society.

The Ozark Society's New President

Dr. James W. (Bill) Wiggins is an Associate Professor of Chemistry at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Bill has served as Treasurer of the Society since the summer of 1972. He has been meticulous in his accounting and has spent much time determining the legal obligation of the Society in regard to taxes and the establishment of the Ozark Society Foundation.

Bill's devotion to the office of treasurer presages a good future for the Society under his direction.

FRONT COVER: Snow on Spruce Lil Junas

Rio Grande Canoe Trip

by Robert W. Schery

Editor's introduction to RIO GRANDE CANOE TRIP

We've kept a clipping of an article from the April 1966 issue of NATURAL HISTORY MAGAZINE entitled "Rio Grande Canoe Trip" in the Bulletin files for several years. Always has existed the idea of republishing the story, but we never got around to it until we read about the Indian Nations Big Bend trip March 4 - 12, 1978 in that chapter's newsletter. These Indians spent much time scouting and becoming acquainted with the area, and happened to be at the exit of Santa Elena Canyon when two couples came out in one raft, without gear. They had started two days earlier at the head of the canyon in two rafts, fully equipped.

Paul and June Kendall led the group through Mariscal Canyon, and then past San Vicente and Hot Springs ending the twenty five mile trip at Rio Grande Village Campground, some distance above Boquillas Canyon. They came home talking about a return trip to float Santa Elena and Boquillas Canyons.

This renewed our interest in the article and we wrote the author, Robert W. Schery and Natural History Magazine for permission to republish. It was graciously given by both.

Dr. Robert W. Schery is Director of The Lawn Institute in Marysville, Ohio and has long been a member of The Ozark Society.

Answering our letter asking his permission, he wrote, "I joined The Ozark Society as an old Missourian because in youth I so loved to canoe the Ozark Rivers. I can well remember, in a borrowed canoe, going down the Current in Missouri when 'it couldn't be done by canoe'. We enjoyed canoeing most of the Missouri Ozark streams before World War II."

"More recently we overlapped a bit into Arkansas, and have enjoyed the Buffalo on several occasions. My son picked up his masters degree at the University of Arkansas, and canoed many of the Arkansas streams such as the Mulberry. Aside from canoeing our family has a great affection for the Ozarks, and we consider returning there some day."

"At the time we made the trip no ranger at the Big Bend Park knew of any canoe having completed the swing of all three canyons, and they were clearly accustomed to thinking in terms of rubber rafts. It was not many years after we ran these canyons that Ladybird Johnson was escorted down Mariscal Canyon by a slew of secret service agents, with a helicopter flying in lunch in the open central area."

"Unfortunately, film in my camera was ruined when we were under water for a fairly lengthy spell at the Rock Slide in Santa Elena Canyon, while we rescued a neophyte dog (I had my veteran dog who knows to swim to shore, but my son had his new pup who was being washed into the vortex)." The canoe was secured, but the force of the water shredded the plastic bags that were supposedly protecting our equipment. Hoisting waterlogged gear over the slide was no easy task, but I most remember canoeing the latter part of the canyon in semi-darkness, with wall-to-wall water (no gravel bars or beaches); it reminded one of downtown New York City with streets flooded one story deep. So narrow and straight-walled is the canyon that it becomes claustrophobic."

*Reprinted with permission
from Natural History Magazine, April 1966.
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About 300 miles southeast of El Paso, Texas, a tortuous half-circle bend of the Rio Grande marks the southern perimeter of Big Bend National Park. The park is outstanding for its rugged beauty, and is particularly remarkable for the three major canyons that the Rio Grande cuts along its 150-mile course from the village of Lajitas, west of the park, to an old suspension footbridge a few miles east of it. A tremendous fault block, on which is superimposed the results of volcanic activity and mountain uplift,

has subsided more than 1,000 feet relative to surrounding land where the river courses across the park. At the edges, the Rio Grande cuts through the sedimentary layers of the escarpment making some of the sheerest-walled canyons to be found anywhere today. Particularly in Santa Elena, the westernmost canyon, the river runs between cliffs that rise as high as 1,600 feet.

It was while canoeing this 150-mile stretch that my son, Steve, and I and our two dogs spent one of our more memorable Christmases. But it's not a vacation for the faint of heart, nor for one unwilling to work hard physically. Self-reliance is one of the principal ingredients, but in the remoteness of the Big Bend country, the courtesy of ranger radio communications makes it possible to fit a wilderness outing to a schedule.

How does one get started on this sort of adventure? It may be (as it was with us) that a lad in his late teens reads somewhere that someone surmises it possible to "run" a certain stretch of river in a canoe. It's good winter talk before the fireplace. You mumble something about "Maybe next Christmas."

About Halloween, however, the lady of the house reminds you that this "maybe" has been taken as a promise. "Are you making plans?" she asks. No one you ask has even heard of the canyons, much less canoed this stretch. So off goes an inquiry to the park superintendent, as well as other inquires in search of a canoe (a good one, but one sufficiently beaten-up so that the loss will not be too stunning if it doesn't get back).

Presently a letter arrived from the park superintendent. "The use of canoes is not recommended," he said, "however their use is not prohibited. We do not know of any place a canoe or other river craft can be rented . . . To relay your vehicle, it would simplify matters to have your wife do this," and so on.

An enclosed information sheet was scarcely more encouraging. "The Rio Grande . . . borders the park for 107 miles . . . It has carved three major canyons which vary in depth from 1,200 to 1,600 feet. The canyons are sheer-walled and, once entered it would be IMPOSSIBLE (Park Service capitalization) to get out of in the event of an accident. In certain locations there is considerable shallow white water or rapids which can be very dangerous to the novice." The canyons were described separately: regarding Santa Elena—"Seven miles of the canyon are boxed in between sheer walls averaging 1,500 feet above the river level. A difficult 2-4 hour . . . portage is required around a boulder slide located approximately one mile within the canyon."

The information sheet then recommended a rubber raft for shooting the canyon waters. "Any type of rigid craft is subject to damage from submerged rocks, and there is a danger of breaking

(Continued)

up when the boats are slammed into the rock walls of the canyons, due to cross-channel rapids. Canoes and similar craft should be used only by the most expert boatmen, as there is danger of capsizing in the shallow, whirling, backlashing currents in some parts of the canyons. *We do not recommend the use of canoes for canyon trips.*" (Again, the italics are those of the Park Service.)

Arriving at the Park

Nevertheless, after much deliberation my son and I decided to use an aluminum canoe. We picked one up in Missouri on our drive to Texas, and our party finally arrived at the park's north entrance. This was the beginning of a most gratifying experience with park rangers and their willingness to accommodate us. We told the ranger-in-charge our intentions, and he wrote out a camping permit and hauled out a desk-top map. He had only been over parts of this river route himself, and to the best of his knowledge none of the rangers presently at the park had made the entire swing in a single trip. He didn't even know for sure if a canoe had ever made it. He thought it would take six days from the upriver Lajitas embarkation (to which a passable road runs), to the first possible fetch-out point below the third canyon (recognized because of an old suspension footbridge). We argued that four days would be enough for the 150-mile trip, with any appreciable current in the river. He chivalrously conceded, "You know canoes better than I do," but did attach some conditions:

"After the first canyon, Santa Elena, there is a village on the Mexican side with a rowboat 'ferry' that takes Mexicans over to the village of Castolon, about a mile from the river. Would you kindly walk up to Castolon and let the storekeeper know you have gotten this far? A peregrinating ranger stops in each day, and will radio any intelligence about you back to park headquarters. The service will wait an extra day; if you're not out in two days, they'll start looking for you upriver from Castolon. Helicopters can be called in, if it is really thought necessary." With matter-of-fact logic the ranger surmised, "If you get through Santa Elena, we'll presume you can make it. Mariscal and Boquillas are not so tough."

Nevertheless, he recommended that we also check with a ranger outpost some seventy miles downstream just before the beginning of the last canyon, Boquillas. "If you are not there within one day of the schedule you set for yourself, we'll look between Boquillas and Castolon."

Ranger Efficiency

Surprisingly, with these arrangements our trip worked out easily. In one of the least accessible wildernesses in the United States, we were still reasonably in touch with the appropriate authorities. From the Chisos Mountain Lodge, where my wife and daughter spent a few days enjoying the scenery, my son and I were driven at daybreak to the Lajitas embarkation, a distance of about fifty miles. We paddled off immediately, and except for a few minor mishaps in Santa Elena, which slowed down the first lap of the trip, we reported at each check point more

or less on time. Late in the morning of the second day we reported to the storekeeper at Castolon, and two days later, seventy-five miles farther downstream, we worked our way up from the river to the Boquillas office. There the ranger radioed our whereabouts to headquarters and relayed the message to my wife to meet us at the footbridge at 6:00 p.m. It was already nearly noon, and twenty-three miles of Boquillas Canyon lay ahead, plus a half-dozen additional miles to the suspension bridge. The ranger argued that we would never make it by nightfall—but he was obviously thinking in terms of rubber rafts!

Sure enough, we first sighted the suspension bridge at about 6:15, later learning that the pickup car had been on the scene for exactly fifteen minutes. On most occasions our family can't meet with this precision on a street corner in Columbus, Ohio; but thanks to the rangers we managed it in western Texas, separated by four days and 150 miles of practically impassable country!

Portage and Swamped Canoes

I cannot even attempt to describe the canyons and the river scenery of that canoe trip; and no suite in the world's finest hotel can match a night's camping on a Rio Grande sandbank between the great canyons of the Big Bend—even if one's duffel is wet. We upset four times in the course of the trip, although two of the overturns stemmed merely from not minding our *p*'s and *q*'s.

As the ranger had said, the toughest canyon was Santa Elena. Next time, I would probably park most of the duffel at the Castolon store and pick it up *after* we have passed the canyon. It's no fun carrying the duffel over the vaunted rock slide. The boulders are each as big as a truck, and one man must climb atop and the other boost from below to get a canoe up and over each one. Two hours is not too pessimistic an estimate for this quarter-mile portage. Make it three trips (once for the canoe and twice for the duffel—heavy because of wetness), and it can prove exhausting.

This particular stretch was our only really tough go. In the fast water just above the slide—into which the river pours, sucking down most anything that floats—we failed to make shore in time with a loaded canoe, and were swamped. Of course the duffel was lashed in, in supposedly waterproof sacks, but in the fifteen minutes it took to work the waterfilled canoe back to shore, the duffel became pretty well slashed in the current, unfortunately soaking our camera and ruining all our film.

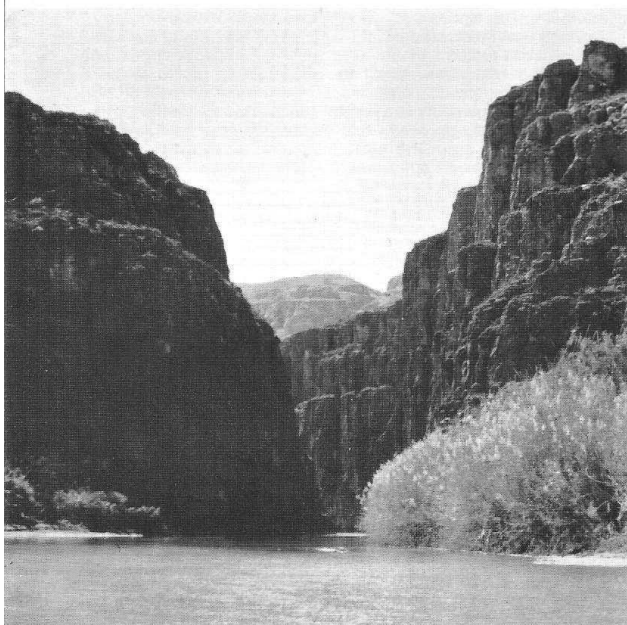
Not everyone may want to canoe the Rio Grande, but the rewards of the wilderness are certainly worth the effort. Big Bend is a land of many wonders. As the Park Service brochure says, it "is a wild kind of scenery that is more like that of Mexico, across the river, than that of the rest of the United States. The desert is gouged by deep arroyos . . . that expose colored layers of clay and rock . . . rugged mountain ranges, near and far, give assurance that the desert is not endless." And from the peaks of the Chisos (which means "enchantment"), one will find few views more exciting than that southward across the

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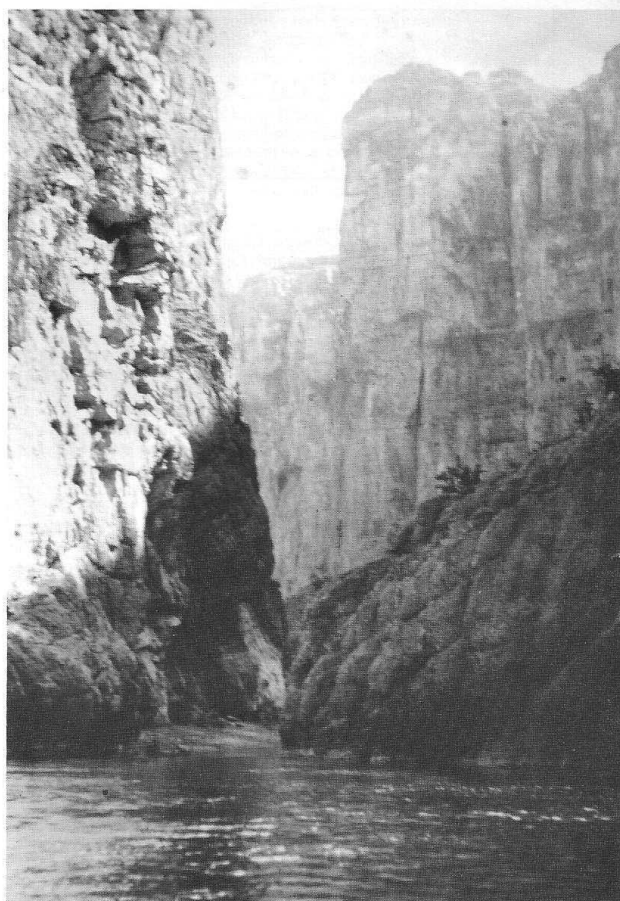
RIO GRANDE TRIP (Continued)

Big Bend into Mexico—where it is said that “you can see into the day after tomorrow.” Fortunately, the newness and remoteness of Big Bend National Park has so far protected it from the heavy pressures that so many national parks now sustain. And I surely hope that this remarkable park will be spared too many roads and too many “improvements.” To my mind, it—and its rangers—are just right as they are.

Rio Grande Photos by Paul Kendall 1978



Below Mariscal Canyon



Downstream end of Santa Elena Canyon

Indian Nations Canoeists

below
Mariscal Canyon



CADRON CREEK

The Dam Controversy: One point of view

by Lil Junas
Of the Log Cabin Democrat, Conway, Arkansas

Point Remove Creek (Conway County) was a free flowing stream prior to 1963. Its two major forks, meandering approximately 80 miles from Van Buren County to its confluence with the Arkansas River four miles northwest of Morrilton, flowed uninterrupted in its natural environment.

Then the Soil Conservation Service entered the scene, beginning a \$1,897,845 project to build 32 floodwater retarding structures. Two later were canceled. The final structure was completed in 1973.

With the addition of 30 dams came the death of Point Remove Creek as a free-flowing stream with public recreational uses. Earthen impoundments measuring from 26 to 100 feet in height mar the landscape and interrupt the water flow on several of the creek's tributaries.

In the drier months, these tributaries are like worn cow paths, hardly visible in the fields below the impoundments. The East and West Forks are nothing like they used to be since man gouged into its banks.

Cadron Creek, approximately 75 miles flowing through Faulkner County, faces the same dilemma that forever altered Point Remove Creek in the 1960s. Ten years ago the SCS proposed a plan for putting 23 dams on the Cadron and its tributaries. That number is now 14.

Of the five original goals set for the project, "drainage" was removed in the final draft, "municipal and industrial water supply" should be removed since the SCS admits no such benefits from the project, "watershed protection" was 68 percent completed in 1974 and will be obtained regardless of the dam project, and "fish, wildlife and recreation" benefits have been questioned.

The other goal, "flood prevention," has received the most discussion and is the goal to which dam proponents cling.

In reality, however, less than 52 percent flood REDUCTION is predicted and, according to the SCS Final Work Plan, much lower percentages of flooding were predicted for the Lower Cadron, where flooding periodically occurs.

For example, in what the SCS calls Reach E-2 (east of Highway 65 to Highway 287 Terry Bridge) is given a 20 percent flood reduction prediction by the SCS, and Reach L-1 (Gleason to west of Wooster and Highway 285) is predicted for 26 percent. (A section of the floodplain is called a reach.)

On Point Remove Creek, the reduction of floodwater damage by structural measures was predicted by the SCS to be 70.5 percent on Point Remove's East Fork (11 dams) and 58.6 percent on its West Fork (19 dams).

In periods of heavy rains, despite 30 dams, flooding still occurs in the lowlands of Point Remove Creek. And even with 14 dams, flooding will continue in the lowlands of Cadron Creek.

What benefits did the almost \$2 million SCS project create on Point Remove Creek? The landowners who wanted or agreed to have one of the earthen structures on their lands now have their own private, fenced-in "lake" in which to swim or fish, or from which their cattle can drink. "No trespassing," "Private," and "Keep Out" signs are nailed to trees and poles around these "lakes."

"I don't know what other benefits they can get—nothing much," said one SCS employee. "Just a place to fish, boat and enjoy a lake."

It seems like selfish benefits, satisfying a few landowners while robbing thousands of other citizens of recreational benefits and natural pleasures once provided by the free-flowing Point Remove Creek.

Some of the earthen dams stretch 520 feet across the base, creating a lump of grass-covered dirt in a previously rolling terrain. Not all landowners in the Point Remove watershed (like many in the Cadron Creek watershed) were willing to give up many acres of their land for the dams and the sediment and detention pools behind them.

"If a farmer wouldn't give the OK to use his land, the SCS just

went down the road and found another farmer. They didn't care where the dams went, as long as they went somewhere," said a state official who asked not to be identified.

Landowners pay taxes on the dam and the land under the dam pools in the Point Remove watershed. In other words, the pools are theirs. The fences and locked gates spell "Private Property." Through easement, landowners must allow the county conservation officials to come in and adjust, test or inspect the dams, to open the valves when necessary, or to furnish technical assistance in operation and maintenance.

Similar arrangements and results can be expected if the Cadron Creek project is approved. Real estate interests now advertise "lots for sale" near the structures on Point Remove Creek. Already, construction sites near the proposed dams in the Cadron watershed are being offered for sale.

Can we in Faulkner County allow Cadron Creek to fall prey to a few private interests and to the bulldozers of the SCS? Do we want commercialization to clutter the stream banks, replacing redbuds, dogwoods, black gums, river birches and dozens of other plant species now part of the Cadron ecotone?

As the 30 dams killed the free-flowing Point Remove Creek, so will the 14 proposed dams kill the free-flowing Cadron. Just as public recreation was eliminated and the ecology of the stream altered on Point Remove, so will it be on the Cadron. And just as in the Point Remove area, the dams proposed for the Cadron will be privately owned, with no public access, although constructed with public tax dollars.

The striking parallel between Point Remove Creek and Cadron Creek (both with two major forks and of similar length, both merging into the Arkansas River, both with about 25,000 acres of floodplain, and both once provided unique creek-type recreation) suggests a frightening outcome should 14 dams be constructed on the Cadron and its tributaries.

The less than 52 percent flood reduction predicted for the 14 proposed dams hardly justifies the \$16 million cost, moreover covering 5,085 acres of land and roads that will be lost forever.

Central Arkansas is more than blessed with highly rated man-made recreational lakes: Greers Ferry, Beaverfork, Lake Bennett, Overcup, Harris Brake, Lake Conway, Lake Atkins, plus 3,238 farm ponds, many of which are well stocked with fish.

Providing more flatwater through the damming of Cadron Creek and its tributaries is senseless, especially when it means losing the Cadron as the area's only free-flowing creek that provides opportunities for recreational diversity of a type unique to such streams.

In its environmental impact statement, the SCS writes that "...no recreational benefits are claimed for the floodwater retarding structures." In a contradictory statement in its Final Work Plan for the Lower Cadron, the SCS states: "If Lower Cadron Creek is managed for maximum environmental quality, it will become an increasingly valuable recreational water resource due to the growing scarcity of high value free-flowing streams in Arkansas," implying its approval of the death of free-flowing streams and the addition of more flatwater "lakes" of which we have plenty.

Several conservation organizations and concerned citizens support the need to preserve the remaining free-flowing streams in Arkansas for their hydrologic, aesthetic, historical, unique recreation (different from what the many lakes offer), scientific and other values, as well as to perpetuate environmental diversity and quality.

Just as open areas in the country's cities are being covered with buildings, so are our streams gradually being wiped away by man-made impoundments. Dam opponents are fighting to stop this trend.

The Arkansas National Heritage Commission is one group that recognizes the need to preserve natural areas in the Cadron Creek watershed. The commission last year purchased more than 200 acres of land in the spectacular lower reaches of Cove Creek, a

major Cadron tributary.

Two dams proposed by the SCS in the Cove Creek area will alter the water regime and biological habitats, negating a major purpose of the Natural Area System.

Data provided by the U.S. Geological Survey Water Resources Division show that because of exposure of surface waters collected behind the 14 proposed dams to solar radiation and wind action, evaporation from the impounded waters on the Cadron will be at least equal to the annual rainfall.

As a result, water which normally would flow downstream maintaining ground water tables, normal stream flows and flow patterns, normal water temperatures and biological communities will be lost through evaporation into the atmosphere. Nonetheless, the SCS contends that downstream flow on the Cadron will be improved.

Losing and altering the aforementioned values is extremely crucial to a healthy life of any creek.

The Arkansas Coalition of Conservation Organizations reiterates that major flood problems in the lower Cadron Creek area, primarily agricultural, are radically affected by backwater from the Arkansas River, resulting from major impoundments built on the river for navigational purposes.

The Corps of Engineers, realizing that this would happen, acquired more than 2,000 acres in flowage easements within the Cadron Creek watershed. Therefore, the Cadron Creek damming project will have little effect in reducing flooding in the area affected by backwater from the Arkansas River. Point Remove Creek is similarly affected by the river's backwater.

The SCS admits that no agricultural benefits will be provided in the lower Cadron region by the dams. In its Final Work Plan for the East Fork, the SCS states: "Because of backwater from the Arkansas River and the Conway water supply weir, the flooding in Reach E-2 (east of Highway 65 to Terry Bridge on Highway 287) will not be reduced to an extent that will allow enhancement of agricultural operations."

Later in the plan, the SCS repeats that "Arkansas River backwater will not allow enhancement of agricultural operations in those reaches above where flood reduction is less than 50 percent."

The areas that the SCS says will be most benefited by the dams (the Cadron lowlands) are predicted by the SCS to provide much less than 50 percent flood reduction, thus no increased agricultural benefits. These are areas of the Cadron Creek watershed that would most likely experience flooding.

Further, the SCS states: "Alternate structural measures studied indicate that it is not feasible to provide an acceptable level of protection in these reaches."

In addition to the flood prevention controversy concerning the Cadron project, the fish, wildlife and recreational benefits cited by the SCS are disputed.

The SCS says that the dam proposal will provide maximum possible protection for fish and wildlife resources by suggesting low flows in streams in the watershed and managing areas for wildlife habitat.

The Arkansas Wildlife Federation counters that there is little evidence that "augmentation" of "low flows" will benefit the fish population, but that much evidence provided by the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission proves that the Cadron is a high quality fishing stream, with high quality water conditions, which will not benefit from manipulation of hydrologic cycles.

The SCS says that "temperatures between 68 and 93 degrees Fahrenheit are recommended as being compatible with the well-being of many freshwater fish." Research projects done at the University of Arkansas demonstrated that young catfish began to die when water temperatures exceeded 90 degrees.

The SCS also states that the aquatic habitats of the Cadron Creek watershed are somewhat limited in the productive capacity because of sporadic and low seasonal flows as well as turbidity, and that the pools are isolated by dry riffle areas, severely curtailing production.

However, surveys conducted by the G&FC indicate standing crops (fish) totaling 614 and 131 pounds per acre for pools in the East and North Forks of the Cadron.

The Cadron is known as a high quality fishery with a variety of stream species. Further data from a fish kill in 1974 on the North Cadron showed an estimated 115.6 pounds per acre, with 50 percent of the fish killed being game fish—suggesting high quality fishing.

Biological data state that ducks, songbirds, furbearers, wading and shore birds depend on natural habitats which would be re-

duced by the effects of the dam project developments.

The fact that forest lands, wetlands and grasslands will be lost as a result of the project means that wildlife resources will be damaged. Also, there is no substantial evidence that land in the watershed (privately owned) can be given any degree of management to augment wildlife population.

Land uses in the Cadron watershed are forest lands (43 percent), grasslands (48.3 percent) and crop land (5.2 percent). The AWF says that forest and grassland are not seriously affected by periodic flooding and the effects of loam deposits, etc., may be beneficial to the land.

These uses constitute 94.8 percent of the watershed, thus leaving less than 6 percent where actual benefits may be obtained.

Since more than 5,000 acres of land will be permanently altered by the dams, this would have adverse effects on wildlife resources which will not be compensated.

The Department of Interior has asked the SCS to provide adequate mitigation land for wildlife to compensate for these inundated acres to be damaged by the proposed project.

The 1,262 acres of wooded swamps in the Cadron watershed are highly important wildlife habitats and relate directly to these surface waters and the water table. If the SCS wildlife goal is achieved, waters maintaining this habitat will be lost.

As for recreation, all the impoundments on the Cadron and its tributaries will be on private land, under private control, without public access and without public facilities. The only potential for recreation in the "lakes" created by the dams would be fishing—and that only by permission of the landowner.

The SCS in written response to the Department of Interior states: "We agree that all floodwater retarding structures with a potential for recreation and public access should be developed. . . However, no provisions are available under Public Law 566 to provide for public access without sub-sponsors. The sponsors (area water district commissioners) decided not to provide public access. The single purpose floodwater retarding structures are not designed for public recreation."

While those favoring the Cadron damming project continue to accept the predictions of the SCS for flood prevention and better fishing, those opposing the dams contend that the projected benefits are insufficient to justify the cost of the project, believing that the project would provide benefits to very few people (not to those whose land would be lost to the dams), and with no benefits to others outside the area who will be taxed to cover project costs.

Further, the dam opponents say that the project will have adverse effects on environmental quality and fish and wildlife resources.

More importantly, the project opponents are concerned about the loss of another of the few remaining free-flowing streams in Arkansas and the unique recreational, historic, aesthetic, hydrologic and other values that exist in this stream system.

Even the SCS, in its Final Work Plan, says that the "aesthetic value of the North Fork needs to be permanently protected," yet its project will result in tainting the aesthetics of the creek.

It is hard to justify using \$16 million on a project that has been riddled with proven errors and contradictions and that will benefit less than 6 percent of the watershed.

It is harder to justify and accept turning a beautiful creek into something it never was meant to be and leaving behind something it never will be again.

CADRON ALERT

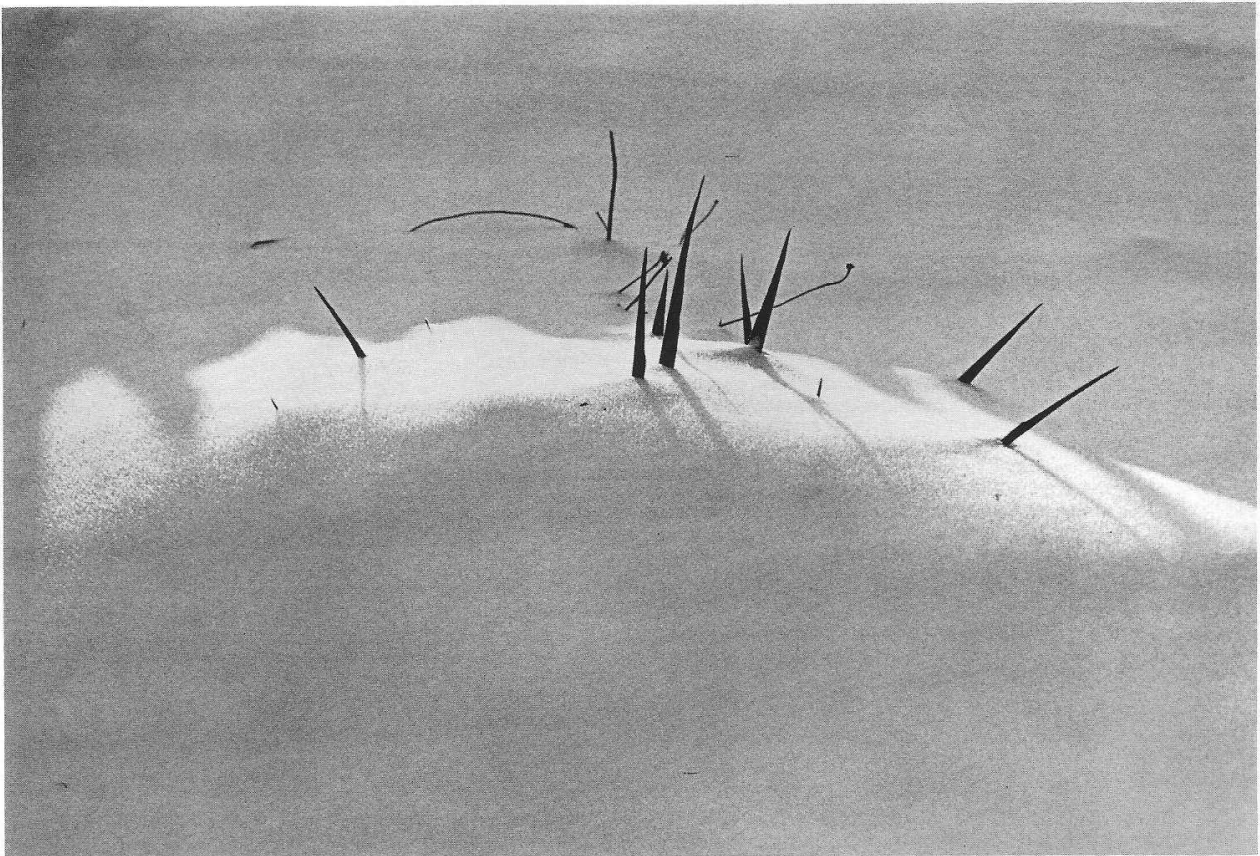
The disposition of the Cadron will probably be decided by the Senate Public Works Committee in March. Please give your views to

Jennings Randolph, Chairman of the Senate Committee, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Dale Bumpers, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator David Pryor, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative Ed Berthune, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515



Snow Scene Lil Junas

Ozark Nature Notes

by Almyra Love
From the Washington County Observer

The sunny morning of Dec. 22, a small bird flitted nervously about the tip-top branches of the soft maple tree. It was always among the small branches and paused now and then as though sipping something. Then I noticed the branches where it always stopped looked wet. It flew away and then returned with another bird.

They were drinking maple sap that was running down the branches, possibly from holes drilled by a sapsucker. Several days before, after a cold night in the low twenties and then a warm sun I had seen drops, sparkling like jewels, falling at intervals from the maple tree. Several years ago I had seen small maple sapsicles hanging from the branches.

These small birds (5-6) with slim bills, yellow breasts with dark streaked sides and yellow rumps were myrtle warblers. They are now known as the yellow rumped warbler - combined with magnolia warblers who also have a yellow rump. The myrtles

are winter resident birds.

Those of you who watch for eagles at Beaver Lake, watch also for herring gulls that winter there. The word mantle, is used in describing gulls. It means the upper surface of the wings and across the back are a solid color. The herring gull is the largest of our gulls (23-26) gray mantle, black wing tips and flesh colored legs.

The other common gull on the lake is the ring-billed (18-20) with the same markings but yellowish or greenish legs and a black ring around the bill. The adult birds of both these species have white heads and white rounded tails. Terns have forked tails.

There is a group of birds listed as the lively singers. It includes mockers, thrashers, catbirds and wrens. In northern Illinois where I grew up there were no mockers and the rest were summer resident birds. Here most of them are permanent residents.

Mockers are with us always. We can find 2 or 4 or more quarrelling among themselves or feuding with the jays or driving all birds from the nandina and the drinking pan.

The thrashers nest in the multifloras. Two were at the feeder the shortest day of the year. I saw my first catbird in Arkansas this fall in the forsythia bushes but they had been reported less than a mile from me. Now this Christmas I have learned that they

winter in low wooded areas in the vicinity of Winslow.

The permanent wren is the Carolina. We have very few for they were almost phased out in the ice storms of 1975. Now a pair has been reported near Beaver Lake. No winter wrens have been reported. They are strictly winter birds. Look for a hyperactive, wee brown bird (4-4.5) with a very short perpendicular tail and very inquisitive!

Late on Christmas day a friend phoned. He had just returned from Topeka through prairies of Kansas and Oklahoma and reported counting 144 hawks. Big birds were perched to telephone poles, posts and halfway up in trees. Smaller birds were on fence posts, wires and tree tops. Some were soaring and others diving into the grass for field mice. The large brown hawks were probably red-shouldered and red-tailed for they are permanent resident birds but there may have been many others for it is a wintering area for hawks. One was very large with a wide wing expanse, possibly a golden or immature bald eagle. Another gray with a white rump - a prairie or marsh hawk. The smaller blue hawks were Cooper's or sharp shinned, the many elegant little hawks were kestrels (sparrow hawks).

The sun was bright, temperature 54°, not a white Christmas, but one to be happily remembered because of the heavy concentration of wintering birds.

Botanical Notes

Maxine Clark

(Reprint from Winter 1968-69)

You may question the wisdom of scheduling an Ozark Society outing to explore Boen Gulf and "Terripin" Branch of the upper Buffalo on December 17th and 15th. Isn't this a bit risky at this season of the year? Luck was with us; each day dawned bright and clear, and although the temperatures at sunrise were 17 and 9, we were never uncomfortable, being warmly dressed and protected from the wind as we descended deeper into the narrow gorges.

Our leaders, Harold Hedges and Dick Murray, directed us from the wooded upland where we followed a seemingly insignificant ravine which progressively became unbelievably spectacular. The stream plunged down 1000 feet in a distance of two miles. Series of waterfalls cascaded over solid rock into the bluest of pools. We picked our way carefully around the huge rounded boulders and under the overhangs, avoiding going under the line of icicles which could come crashing down. Never have we seen more beautiful ice formations. Water seeping from the crevices of the bluffs formed cascades of ice; icicles that started as stalactites met the ground to form an ice column. Small riffles were bordered with pendulous ice beads that resembled segments of a crystal necklace.

Although this is a description of a frigid scene, actually we were walking through a beautiful rock garden of mosses and lichens. Mosses lend an elegant touch to the winter landscape, covering the rock surfaces and bare soil with a greenness that is intensified by its contrast to the somber grays and browns. Because of their minuteness we walk casually over these green carpets unaware of their infinite variety and beauty. To really examine them closely a 10x or 14x magnification hand lens is essential.

Mosses belong to a group of plants *Atracheata*, lacking specialized water conducting cells, tracheids, which ferns and larger land plants possess. They are anchored to the substrate by rootlike filaments and have a stemlike axis to which the leaflike structures are spirally attached. A new plant starts with the germination of a spore, a one celled reproductive structure. At first the plant resembles an alga, but it soon grows into the plant we recognize. The mature plant produces male and/or-female germ cells. The fertilized egg cell does not grow into a leafy moss plant, but into a spore capsule on a stalk. The capsule carries with it a delicate membranous cover or cap, called the calyptra, which conceals the capsule until it is ripe. A large number of spores is produced. Remove this and you will see a delicate fringe, called peristome teeth, arranged in a single or double row bordering



the mouth of the capsule. The number of teeth in each row may be four, sixteen or sixty-four, always a multiple of four. They respond to slight moisture changes in the air and have the function of regulating and assisting the escape of the spores. Collect several mosses that appear different and spend an exciting hour examining the intricate structure and variety of form of the peristome teeth. Some mosses can only be identified to species by the help of their spore capsules. I recommend: *A Book of Mosses* by Paul Richards, The King Penguin Books, 57, and for further study, *The Mosses and Liverworts* by H. S. Conard, Picture Key Nature Series.

A lichen, a most unusual plant, is actually the partnership of two plants, a fungus and an alga. They live together in an intimate association which appears to be beneficial to both partners. The term botanists use for this relationship is symbiosis. The fungus surrounds the alga providing structural support, and is capable of absorption and retention of water. The alga, usually a green or bluegreen alga is capable of the manufacture of food by photosynthesis. This permits the plant to flourish in situations where neither could exist alone. In the lab-

oratory the alga can be reproduced and live alone, but the fungus cannot.

There are three principal forms of lichens (some authorities list five). Crustose lichens form a hard granular crust on rocks or trees. These seem to be painted on the rocks and produce the beautiful mottling of the boulders we skipped across in the stream bed. Colors of gray-white, yellowish-green, brown, or black may be seen on the same rock. Orange and yellow crustose lichens often cover a large surface of a vertical bluff.

Foliose lichens are flattened, often leaf-like bodies which are loosely attached to a rock surface and usually easily removed. Generally the color is gray-green.

Fruticose lichens (not misspelled, means woody, not fruiting) may have flattened or cylindrical branches and occur as stiff upright forms or may be pendulous from the branches of trees. The latter are quite common on the junipers (commonly called cedars) on the bluffs of the Buffalo. Sometimes these are mistakenly called Spanish moss which is not a moss but a flowering plant belonging to the pineapple family. Reindeer moss is a fruticose lichen and not a moss.

T.R.E.E. Has Sprouted

by Bill Fulton

The four Environmental Education summer workshops, co-sponsored by the Arkansas Department of Education, U.S. Forest Service, the University of Central Arkansas, the University of Arkansas, and Oklahoma State University, gave birth to a new Environmental education organization—T.R.E.E. (Training Resources in Environmental Education).

Following the advanced training Environmental Education resident workshop August 7-11 at Camp Clearfork, a small group of trainees decided that there was a need to give additional support to summer workshops of this kind.

On October 14, 1978 a group of past workshop trainees met at Y.C.C. Camp Clearfork, 20 miles west of Hot Springs, to form T.R.E.E. The purpose of the organization is to continue developing expertise in teaching Environmental education and to aid in providing summer Environmental Education workshops for teachers and resource people.

Groups represented at the meeting were the U.S. Forest Service, Arkansas Department of Education, Arkansas Parks and Tourism, Pine Bluff Parks and Recreation, Museum of Science and History, and Des Arc, Stuttgart, Fayetteville, Springdale, Star City, Lake Hamilton, Fort Smith and Belleville Public Schools.

Elizabeth Hargis, Science teacher at Star City Public Schools, was elected President of the organization. She states, "T.R.E.E. is an organization which will be performing a definite service. A need exists in Arkansas for a group that can provide impetus to environmental education. T.R.E.E. will do this by offering training in teaching techniques for interested persons, by assimilation of available environmental materials and names of resource personnel into usable form, and by acting as a source of information to the State Advisory Council on Environmental Education."

Other officers in T.R.E.E. are: Vice President—Arnold Hearn, U.S. Forest Service, Mountain View; Secretary—Judy Moe,

Science teacher, Des Arc Public Schools; and Treasurer—Joanie Ellison, Arkansas State Parks, Little Rock.

The Executive Board consists of the above officers and four committee chairpersons. The committees and chairpersons are: Membership—Hal Brown, Director, Lake Fayetteville Environmental Study Center; Public Relations—Cliff McDonald, Science teacher, Des Arc Public Schools; Finance—Vaughn Black, Director, Pine Bluff Parks and Recreation; Curriculum Development—Susan Muha, Coordinator of Environmental Education, Y.C.C., Arkansas State Parks.

Membership in T.R.E.E. is to be limited to people in past U.S. Forest Service workshops and summer workshops conducted by the Arkansas Department of Education or by a recommendation of a member of the organization. Membership dues will be used to support the present summer workshops and a newsletter.

As stated above it was the U.S. Forest Service Resident Facilitator Training workshop that led to the formation of T.R.E.E. The workshop marks a new plateau for environmental education in Arkansas in that the workshop served as advanced training for those involved in Environmental Education.

The activities of the workshop offered lesson plan design, facilitator's role—do's and don't's, group dynamics, how to conduct training sessions, "New Games" and value clarification strategies. Fishing, hiking, swimming and canoeing were also available plus 3 hours of graduate credit for one week in the woods.

Elizabeth Hargis says "The facilitator workshop * * * was one of the most useful sessions I have attended. It provided not only interesting subject matter, but also a nearly painless method of imparting this subject matter to students. It is material and method that can be adapted to any grade level and incorporated into any class, not just science. Don't miss any future workshops of this type!"

Next summer's workshops will be held at U.C.A., Conway, and O.S.U., Fort Smith, during the month of June. The University of Arkansas workshop and the O.S.U. facilitator workshop will be held at Camp Clearfork in August. **For additional information write: Bill Fulton, Specialist in Environmental Education, Arkansas Department of Education, Little Rock, AR 72201 or call 371-2791.**

Dues for T.R.E.E. are \$10.00 a year. T.R.E.E. is not proud; it will accept donations from environmental groups or individuals.



Harold Alexander of Conway, right, one of the nation's pioneer proponents of stream preservation, accepts a plaque from Ozark Society immediate past-president Steve Wilson honoring him as the Society's "Neil Compton Award" recipient. Alexander, a professional wildlife biologist and former chief of research for the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, is known as Arkansas' "conservationist-philosopher" for his many scientific writings stressing the "intangible benefits" of preserving free-flowing streams. He was instrumental in formulating the philosophies that guide the stream preservation effort in the South and many of his concepts were incorporated into the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act drafted by the Craighead brothers. Alexander has lectured widely on riverine ecology and is also an authority on the management of deer and other wildlife.

News Media Conference

January 4, 1979 — Russellville, Arkansas
Ozark — St. Francis and Ouachita National Forests

ROADLESS AREA REVIEW AND EVALUATION (RARE II)

On behalf of the Ouachita and Ozark-St. Francis National Forests I would like to welcome you to this briefing session to discuss the status of RARE II, the Roadless Area Review and Evaluation.

I'm Jim Crouch, Forest Supervisor of the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests, and with me is Wayne Kelley of the Ouachita National Forest.

You probably know that RARE II has been a highly controversial issue from the beginning, especially in the counties of Northwest Arkansas near the Ozark National Forest. Over 4,700 inputs including 11,500 signatures were received for Arkansas and Oklahoma. Of these the Ozark-St. Francis received 3,400 written comments and the Ouachita 1,100. Another 200 comments about the two National Forests were sent to our Regional and Washington offices.

Our purpose today is to announce the final recommendation from RARE II for the National Forests in Arkansas and Oklahoma and to answer questions you may have concerning the RARE II process leading to the final recommendation.

Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland and Forest Service Chief John McGuire began a press conference in Washington one hour ago to release the Administration's recommendations on RARE II for the entire National Forest system. The Regional Forester for the Southern Regional National Forests is holding a similar conference in Atlanta. Forest Service people from the Ouachita and Ozark-St. Francis Forests are holding a concurrent news conference in Poteau, Oklahoma.

Before discussing final recommendations for National Forests in Arkansas and Oklahoma, let me review some background on RARE II.

RARE II is a process, instituted in June 1977, to identify roadless and undeveloped land areas in the National Forest System, and to determine their general uses for both wilderness and other resource management and development.

The primary goal of RARE II has been to select appropriate roadless areas to help round out the National Forest System's share of a quality National Wilderness Preservation System, and at the same time, maintain opportunities to get the fullest possible environmentally sound use from other resources.

The roadless area inventory phase of the RARE II process was completed in the fall of 1977. In this phase the public participated with the inventory and suggested criteria to be used. From workshops, written suggestions and administrative suggestions, twenty-six areas on the two National Forests were listed for further evaluation. Each National Forest had 13 areas. This included three Wilderness Study areas designated for study under previous legislation. Based on this response and other resource information, a draft environmental statement was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and issued to the public on June 15, 1978. It included a series of alternatives for allocation of the inventoried areas, and the public was asked to comment on three things:

1. What individual areas should be allocated to wilderness, nonwilderness, or further planning, and why.
2. What approaches should be used by the Department in reaching a decision on allocating the total roadless areas inventory, and
3. What decision criteria should be used in developing a proposed course of action.

The public response exceeded expectations. More than 264,000 replies from almost 360,000 people were received. I said earlier that we received over 4,700 replies from the public in Arkansas and Oklahoma.

The RARE II Final Environmental Statement describes the proposed action and lists the roadless areas with recommendations for future use. This environmental statement was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency this morning. It is about 700

pages long. Copies can be studied in Washington and Forest Service Regional Offices. We should have copies in the Forest Offices in about two weeks. You and the public are most welcome to review it there.

This massive document has been summarized into eight pages of narrative plus the tables needed to show the recommendation for each of the 2,686 roadless areas in the National Forest System. An advance copy of this summary is in your press kit. Printed copies should be mailed about January 10 to all the people who helped out last summer.

The Final Environmental Statement recommends 15,088,838 acres in 624 identified roadless areas for wilderness classification. It allocates 36,151,558 acres, contained in 1,981 areas, for nonwilderness and 10,796,508 acres in 314 roadless areas for further planning. On the Ouachita and Ozark National Forests in Arkansas and Oklahoma, 43,726 acres in 4 roadless areas are recommended for wilderness classification. Nonwilderness classification is recommended for 139,884 acres in 15 areas, and 41,358 acres in 7 areas are recommended for further planning.

The exact areas and acres are in your RARE II Summary. Remember that we are talking about areas in both Arkansas and Oklahoma. So you have to be sure to look up the tables for both states to see the full list and total acres.

RARE II Recommendations January 4, 1979

OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FOREST

Wilderness	Acres
Buffalo Addition	1,504
Hurricane Creek	17,522*
	19,026

*Hurricane Creek will require additional boundary adjustment which will reduce the area by about 2,500 acres.

Further Planning	
Richland Creek Wilderness Study Area	2,100
Richland Creek Addition	10,143
	12,243

Non Wilderness	
Leatherwood	17,138
Indian Creek	7,836
Dismal Creek	9,612
Gee Creek	7,948
Pedestal Rocks	21,604
Penhook	6,579
East Fork	23,677
Devil's Canyon	1,810
Clifty Canyon	2,051
	98,255

RARE II Recommendations January 4, 1979

OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST

Wilderness		Acres
Upper Kiamichi River	(10,800 ac., Okla. - 300 ac., Ark.)	11,100
Black Fork Mountain	(5500 ac., Okla. - 8100 ac., Ark.)	13,600
		24,700

Further Planning	
Little Blakely	5,140
Belle Starr Cave Wilderness Study Area	6,036
Belle Star East	5,900
Belle Star West	5,560
Dry Creek Wilderness Study Area	6,479
	29,115

Non Wilderness	
Bushheap	5,200
Bear Mountain	2,720
Bread Creek	3,900
Blue Mountain	9,500
Rich Mountain (Mostly Okla.) (5800 ac., Okla. - 3100 ac., Ark.)	8,900
Beech Creek (Okla.)	11,400
	41,620

(Continued)

NEWS CONFERENCE (Continued)

The proposed action was selected through an evaluation of 10 alternatives displayed in the draft environmental statement. It is different from any of the 10, but is built from two of those alternatives. Alternative C emphasizes high resource outputs and considers areas rated high in wilderness attributes. The other alternative is alternative I where emphasis is on adding areas with high wilderness attributes to the Wilderness System, with secondary consideration given to areas of high resource production potential. The proposed action is a combination of Alternatives C and I modified in response to public comment received on the draft environmental statement, decision criteria, existing laws and regulations, identified public needs, and professional judgment by Department of Agriculture decision makers.

The roadless areas allocated to wilderness will be proposed to the 96th Congress for legislative action. In these areas, no activities which might alter wilderness qualities of the land will be allowed, unless permitted by law or prior right. Entry for development purposes will be prohibited.

Those areas allocated to nonwilderness will become available on April 15, 1979, for multiple resource use activities other than wilderness. Entry for nonwilderness type activities and development will be described and controlled by existing or future land and resource management plans. These plans may permit harvesting and other management activities involving timber.

The roadless areas allocated to further planning will remain essentially undeveloped until forest land and resource management

plans, as prescribed by Section 6 of the National Forest Management Act, or other specific project plans meeting NEPA requirements are completed. Exploration and leasing for oil, gas, and energy minerals will be permitted under rigid stipulations as described in the Final Environmental Statement. No harvesting of timber will be allowed from these areas other than for emergency reasons.

Many people in Arkansas have been concerned about the possible impact of RARE II. We said from the beginning that public response would be a significant factor in the final recommendations, and it was. We also said that our requests for public input would not turn the RARE II process into a vote count, and it didn't.

The public concern expressed about private land being included in the inventory on the Ozark National Forest caused us to look again at the boundaries of the inventoried areas in September—resulting in the total private land being reduced from 5,846 acres to 1,587 acres. There is only one 120 acre tract of private land included in the wilderness recommendation.

Most of the 4,700 public responses in Arkansas preferred non-wilderness. This partially accounts for only 4 of the 26 areas being recommended for wilderness. On the other hand, Congress formally established a National Wilderness Preservation System with the passage of the 1964 Wilderness Act. There were also goals for wilderness in the Resource Planning Act amounting to some 30 million acres nationwide. National direction from these acts had some weight in the RARE II recommendations.

THE ROADLESS AREA EVALUATION BY THE FOREST SERVICE

Wilderness W
Nonwilderness NW
Further Planning FP

Gross Acres — Total area within the roadless area

Net Acres — National Forest lands within the area

AREA NAME	ALLOCATION	GROSS ACRES	NET ACRES	AREA NAME	ALLOCATION	GROSS ACRES	NET ACRES
<u>STATE: LOUISIANA</u>				<u>STATE: MISSOURI</u>			
FOREST: KISATCHIE N.F.				FOREST: MARK TWAIN N.F.			
KISATCHIE HILLS	W	9120	9120	BELL MOUNTAIN	W	8530	8230
CUNNINGHAM BRAKES	NW	2100	2100	PADDY CREEK	W	8888	6728
SALINE BAYOU	NW	6470	6479	PINEY CREEK	W	8430	8387
				ROCKPILE MOUNTAIN	W	4170	3970
				DEVILS BACKBONE	W	6830	6830
				IRISH WILDERNESS	FP	17562	17322
				ANDERSON MOUNTAIN	NW	2622	2622
				SPRING CREEK	NW	4910	4750
				SWAN CREEK	NW	6945	6945
				BIG CREEK	NW	8890	8850

Tennessee apparently fared badly, getting one wilderness area and six areas for Further Planning out of twenty-one recommended areas.

From the People

SHORTCHANGED ON WILDERNESS LAND

(from the Arkansas Gazette)

To the Editor of the Gazette:

In Arkansas, tourism is our third largest industry and outdoor recreation, in its myriad forms, has almost assumed the stature of a religious experience among our citizens.

Much of this outdoor recreation is experienced on two magnificent parcels of public land—the Ozark and Ouachita National Forests, comprising about 2½ million acres, including a portion in Oklahoma. The value of this land to Arkansans and visitors to our state is incalculable. Unquestionably, the state's tourism industry would scarcely function without it.

Therefore, it was deeply disappointing to many Arkansans to see that efforts to set aside tiny portions of this vast acreage as representative samples of a natural Arkansas were sabotaged by the U.S. Forest Service.

The second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II) study had gleaned 26 choice areas in the Ozark and Ouachita forests for protection from exploitation by designating them as wilderness. A

sportsmen-conservationist coalition had recommended 129,533 acres in the Ozark Forest and 95,435 in the Ouachita Forest. The Forest Service, in turn, recommended only a pitiful 19,026 acres in two areas in the Ozark and 24,700 acres on two areas in the Ouachita. Combined, the four recommended wilderness areas represent only 1.7 per cent of the approximately 2½ million acres of national forest land in the state.

Is this all of our magnificent national forest lands that we can guarantee to our children will not be chainsawed, sprayed, injected, bulldozed and "managed" into the mindless conformity of the forest products industry? Is more than two million acres not enough for the manipulators to play with?

We should be ashamed, every hunter who's ever longed to lure a turkey gobbler into range safe from the snarl of vehicles, every angler who challenges the small-mouth bass away from power boats, every camper who doesn't want his neighbor's tent pole in his lap, should all rise up in outraged indignation!

The forest Service admits to being influenced by misinformed landowners

within the forest and pressure from special interest groups who make a buck out of the forest. It's time they heard from urban dwellers and Arkansans from throughout the state who depend on these public lands for hunting, fishing and other forms of outdoor recreation. After all, it's our land too.

The Forest Service's failure to grasp the significance of RARE II lends credence to those who say the national forests are too valuable for purposes other than growing wood to be entrusted to foresters interested only in a higher timber yield. Administration of the nation's forest lands should be transferred from the Agriculture Department to the Department of Interior. Perhaps, then, we will have true "multiple use" management instead of "multiple abuse."

The final decisions on RARE II are up to Congress. Let's be sure our senators and representatives hear from outdoor recreationists as well as timber and mining interests.

Mike Dolomeui.
Little Rock.

Bill Coleman's News Release

January 4, 1979

The Ozark Society representatives attending Thursday's Rare II announcement hosted by the Forest Service expressed disappointment that only two areas in the Ozark National Forest and two in the Ouachita National Forest were recommended for wilderness designation. Four areas in the two forests were recommended for further planning.

The Ozark Society, after a lengthy review of the 26 proposed areas, had recommended five areas in the Ozark National Forest and seven in the Ouachita National Forest be designated as wilderness.

As a result of the decisions made at the national and regional levels the Society feels that future generations of Arkansans are being denied a chance for wilderness experiences on some beautiful and unique areas of public land that were not recommended for wilderness.

The Ozark Society representatives stated that they were going to take an additional hard look at the decision-making process which led to the omission of certain high-quality areas. This process may have excluded some potential wilderness lands on the basis of arbitrary criteria. The Society feels that each parcel of public land should have been evaluated primarily on its individual merit as potential wilderness, and that undue weight was given to arbitrary factors such as geographic distribution, accessibility, and total (RPA) acreage goals.

For further information contact:

Bill Coleman, Conservation Chairman
371-4127

REPEATING MIKE DOLOMEUI, "the final decisions on Rare II are up to Congress." Let's be sure our senators and representatives hear from us.

THE MULBERRY RIVER SUIT is expected to go to court early in March. When available, the results will be given in the Bulletin.

From Whitewater News, HR Schoolcraft Chapter:

W. L. McIlroy has sued the Ozark Society, and Wayfarer Expedition of Springfield and Wilderness Company.

McIlroy claims he owns the river where it flows past land he owns at three different locations and that any canoeists are trespassing. He also asks the court to rule against the Ozark Society's sale of "The Mighty Mulberry," a guide to the river written by Harold and Margaret Hedges, Boxley, Ark.

Attorneys of the various defendants will attempt to make three points: The the river is navigable, which would mean the state owns the river bed and the public has the right to use it. That if the judge rules the Mulberry is not navigable, the public still has the right to use it for floating as it uses any other rights of way.

That the public has acquired the right to use the river because of "prescriptive easement." Under this somewhat confusing terminology, if a piece of privately-owned property in Arkansas is used freely by the public for a period of seven years or more, then the persons using it have established it as a right of way. Therefore, the owner cannot close it to the public.

So the Ozark Society and the other defendants are trying to prove that the public has used the Mulberry between the Wolf Pen Recreation Area and Turner's Bend for seven years or more. Those who did are asked to contact T. Bay Fitzhugh, 116 Main, Augusta, ARK 72006 (attorney for the Society) or Paul Means, Office of the Attorney General, Justice Building, Little Rock, ARK 72201.

Information needed includes name, address and telephone number, a list of float trips on the river, approximate dates, sites of put-in and takeout, and any information about a log or records of the trips. Names, addresses and phone numbers of others who know the trips were made are also needed.

Action Alert

The ATCHAFALAYA WILDERNESS must and can be saved . . . but only with your help!

The Atchafalaya Basin or Atchafalaya Spillway is by far the most magnificent possession that remains of Louisiana's once-rich natural heritage. It is a vast complex of bottomland forests, swamps, bayous, and marsh, covering more than a half million acres. It extends in a belt 130 miles long, about 17 wide, from Simmesport to the Gulf below Morgan City. Millions of people in Alexandria, Lafayette, New Orleans, and Baton Rouge are only a one or two hour drive away. But the great swamp is in danger. The long battle to rescue it is approaching its climax. If it is to be saved, you must help!

WHY IS THE ATCHAFALAYA IMPORTANT? See Ozark Society Bulletin Autumn 1978

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

The wetness (though not necessarily the wildness) of the Basin is threatened by billions of tons of sediment carried into the swamp by diverted Mississippi water. This "clogging" threatens the Basin's value as a floodway. The Corps of Engineers wants to alleviate the problem by widening the channel of the Atchafalaya River. Ironically, this will lower water levels, leaving much of the Basin high and dry. As this occurs, landowners will inevitably clear forests for soybeans; 82,000 acres have already been cleared in the west Atchafalaya Spillway, rendering it almost useless as a floodway.

WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?

There is only one remedy that will save the Basin both as wild area and floodway. The Corps of Engineers must buy the Basin at fair market value, as an integral part of its channelization project so it cannot be developed and destroyed. Landowners will retain their mineral and some other rights. The Corps must buy the land itself, or the last chance to save the best of our natural heritage will be gone forever.

WHAT CAN I DO?

Three things: (1) Write Senators Russell Long and J. Bennett Johnston (Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510) and your Representative (House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515) urging them to support Corps of Engineers purchase of the Basin as a part of its channelization project. (2) Be prepared to make a statement as a private citizen at one of the Corps hearings. If you can't make it, write Chief Engineer, U.S. Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160. Be sure to state that you want your letter included in the record of hearing. (3) Write to us, sending name and address, if you want to help. Also indicate if you have a group or club that would like to see our magnificent Atchafalaya film and we will try to oblige. Write: Atchafalaya, P.O. Box 18634, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70893.

Mandatory Deposit Legislation Fails

Two Bills that would have taxed most no deposit beverage containers were killed Tuesday, January 30 by the Arkansas House Revenue and Taxation Committee. Both bills were designed to reduce litter and would have used funds generated by the taxes for litter clean-up operations and enforcement of litter laws.

Among those testifying in favor of the bills were the Pulaski County Audubon Society, the State Federation of Garden Clubs, the Arkansas Wildlife Federation, The Ozark Society, and Arkansas Consumer Research.

Alaska Status Report

President Carter acts to protect Alaska's wildlands... he now ranks as one of the greatest conservation presidents in U.S. history

The Carter Administration took several actions on Friday, December 1 to protect over 100 million acres of Alaska's endangered wilderness areas. "By moving quickly and decisively to ensure that our last great wilderness frontier will be preserved. President Carter joins Theodore Roosevelt as one of the greatest conservation presidents in our nation's history," said Chuck Clusen, chairman of the Alaska Coalition.

*The President signed a proclamation under the authority of the Antiquities Act of 1906 designating 17 NATIONAL MONUMENTS, totaling 56 million acres.

*The President directed Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus to proceed with the process of designating an additional 40 million acres of NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES in 12 areas. These withdrawals are to be accomplished under Sec. 204 (c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA — also known as the BLM Organic Act).

*Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland also signed an order on Friday under Sec. 204 (b) of FLPMA to set aside for two years 11 million acres in the National Forests of southeast Alaska. (3.3 million acres of this area is also included in the total acreage figure of the National Monuments established by the President.)

These actions guarantee an even greater degree of protection than the emergency 3-year withdrawals of 110 million acres by Sec. Andrus on Nov. 16. However, these emergency withdrawals also remain in effect.

THE NATIONAL MONUMENTS — The 17 Monuments include 13 of the proposed National Parks areas (see table), two proposed Wildlife Refuges and two proposed National Forest Wilderness areas. In his statement the President said, "The Monuments I have created in Alaska are worthy of special permanent protections provided by the Antiquities Act. They will remain permanent Monuments until Congress makes other provisions for the land."

The boundaries generally conform to the Administration's legislative proposals with some exceptions, i.e. the elimination of parts of the proposed preserve in the Wrangells and Lake Clark to allow sport hunting, a cut in Noatak to allow the possibility of a transportation corridor, an increase in the area proposed for Yukon Flats.

All valid existing rights (State, Native, and private) within the areas will continue to be honored and reasonable access to in-holdings will be allowed.

The areas will be managed in three different ways. The National Park Service will manage all Monuments established in proposed Park areas, the Fish and Wildlife Service will manage all Refuge areas, and the Forest Service will manage the Admiralty Island and Misty Fjords Monuments. Subsistence hunting will be allowed in all areas except the Kenai Fjords, where there is no history of subsistence activities. Sport hunting will be prohibited in all National Park Service manager areas, but may be allowed in the areas under the jurisdiction of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service based on the regulations of those two agencies.

Mineral entry and leasing is prohibited except for valid existing claims, and all areas are closed to oil and gas exploration.

Monuments under the Park Service

1. Aniakchak	350,000 acres
2. Bering Land Bridge	2,600,000
3. Cape Krusenstern	560,000
4. Denali	3,890,000
5. Gates of Arctic	8,220,000
6. Glacier Bay	550,000
7. Katmai	1,370,000
8. Kenai Fjords	570,000
9. Kobuk Valley	1,710,000
10. Lake Clark	2,500,000
11. Noatak	2,500,000
12. Wrangell-St. Elias	10,950,000
13. Yukon-Charley	1,720,000

Monuments under Fish and Wildlife Service

1. Yukon Flats	10,600,000
2. Becharof	1,200,000

Monuments under Forest Service

1. Admiralty Island	1,100,000
2. Misty Fjords	2,285,000

THE WILDLIFE REFUGES — Sec. Andrus will now proceed with the process to withdraw 12 areas totaling 40 million acres. The Refuges will be under the management of the Fish and Wildlife Service and will conform to its regulations. These withdrawals will also afford permanent protection, in that only an action of Congress will be able to change the status once they are established.

1. Arctic Range	9,900,000	7. Nowitna	1,560,000
2. Copper River	690,000	8. Selawick	3,220,000
3. Innoko	3,720,000	9. Tetlin	770,000
4. Kanuti	1,480,000	10. Togiak	1,180,000
5. Kenai Range	160,000	11. Yukon Delta	13,710,000
6. Koyukuk	2,080,000	12. Alaska Marine	460,000

NATIONAL FORESTS — In addition to the National Monument status afforded Misty Fjords and Admiralty Island, Sec. Bergland has proceeded with an order giving two years of protection to an additional 7.5 million acres in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in southeast Alaska. This action will protect the area from mineral entry and State selections. In a related development, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Rupert Cutler has cancelled a permit which would have allowed U.S. Borax to build an 11.5 mile access road in the Misty Fjords area.

In announcing his decision, President Carter pointed out that the areas protected include the nation's largest pristine river valley (the Noatak), the area where man may have first crossed into the new world (Bering Land Bridge), a glacier as large as Rhode Island and the largest group of mountain peaks over 15,000 feet in North America (Wrangell-St. Elias), an area where 2.1 million ducks and water fowl migrate each year (Yukon Flats), an area around the nation's highest peak (Denali), one of the world's largest dry volcanoes (Aniakchak), an area containing over 500 bald eagle nests and a huge bear population (Admiralty Island), and area where the archeological record of man's past in the Arctic goes back at least 4,000 years (Cape Krusenstern), as well as other areas of spectacular scenic and wildlife value.

In forestalling attempts by special interests to exploit Alaska's federal lands, the President has made sure that Congress will have a fresh opportunity to enact comprehensive legislation next year. In his statement the President called on Congress to act promptly next year to pass Alaska lands legislation.

CONGRATULATIONS ON WORK THAT BROUGHT RESULTS

The mailgram urging President Carter to act boldly was signed by over 1500 organizations from every state representing over 10 million people. It was a tremendous success thanks to all your hard work. Secretary of Interior Andrus used the mailgram in the President's press conference to show the press the broad support the President has for his action. That support has been generated by your dedication to protecting this last great frontier in Alaska during the past years.

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PREPARE FOR NEXT YEAR'S BATTLE...

- 1) We will be working to get Congressmen and Senators to co-sponsor strong Alaska legislation for next year. It is very important that you meet with your Congressman and Senators now while they are at home to confirm their support for protection of Alaska Lands next year.
- 2) Write your Representatives (House of Reps. Washington, D.C. 20515) and Senators (U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510) and urge them to co-sponsor strong Alaska legislation next year.
- 3) Thank President Carter for his bold and farsighted action in protecting Alaska lands from shortsighted development interests so that future generations can enjoy Alaska pristine wilderness.
- 4) It is essential to continue to expand the base of support for the Alaska legislation. Contact other organizations in your state (civic groups, unions, senior citizen organizations, consumer groups, etc.) and show them the Alaska slide show or one of the movies on Alaska and most important talk to them about what we are doing. This is a very effective way to get our message in their newsletters and educate their membership, as well as adding new members to the Alaska Coalition.

Alaska Coalition
620 C Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Ozark Society Activity Schedule

BOB RITCHIE, OUTING CHAIRMAN
1509 OLD FORGE DRIVE, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72207 RES. PH. 501-225-1795

Dates and trips are subject to change. Before you go on an outing, please contact the trip leader to confirm meeting times and places, and to let him know you are coming.

PULASKI CHAPTER

MAR. 10-11: Middle Fork, Little Red River canoe trip, Jack Downs, 663-0749.
MAR. 24-25: Richland Creek backpack, Ozarks, Bob James, 225-9360.
APR. 7-8: North Fork canoe trip, Illinois Bayou, Bob McKinney, 227-6163.
APR. 21-22: Lost Valley canoe trip and hike, Buffalo N.R., Leader to be announced.
APR. 28-29: Big Creek & Devil's Fork canoe trip, Dick Byrd, 225-7354.

INDIAN NATIONS CHAPTER

MAR. 3-4: Ouachita Trail Backpack Trip. Meeting place and section to be hiked will be announced in our Newsletter. Leader: Ollie Crosby, 742-1134. (Includes TCCC)
MAR. 10-11: Oklahoma Trails Association Symposium. Fountainhead Lodge on Lake Eufaula. This should be a very interesting and informative program. Bob Ferris, 747-4836.
MAR. 24-25: Caney Creek Backpack Outing. Meet at Bard Springs Campground, about 25 miles SE of Mena, Arkansas. Leader: Ollie Crosby, 742-1134. (Includes TCCC)
APR. 7-8: Redbud Valley Hike, **Sunday Only**. Meet at the Entrance to Redbud Valley at 1:00 P.M. Leader: Sondra Steinberg, 835-4071.
APR. 13-14-15: Buffalo River Canoe Trip, **Friday, Saturday and Sunday** - Easter Float Camp at Steele Creek Campground Thursday Night. Plan to canoe Ponca to Pruitt (water permitting). Leader: Paul Kendall, 939-1839. (Includes TCCC)
MAY 26-27-28: Open date for camping, hiking, etc. Memorial Day, May 28, Monday.
JUNE 7: Annual Indian Nations Chapter Picnic at River Park Area. No regular meeting this month - Our picnic is the First Thursday, June 7.

BAYOU CHAPTER

MAR. 3-4: Canoe Clinic 3: dayfloats on the Ouachita river, Ark. - intermediate level - Linda Allen, 865-0788 or 865-2279.
MAR. 24-25: Backpacking - Dayhiking: Azalea Trail near Alexandria, La. enjoy the natural beauty - Paul Donaldson 861-0240 and Linda Allen 865-0788 or 865-2279.
MAR. 31-APR. 1: Dayhiking: Ouachita Mts. - hike Winding Staircase - Bill Meier, 222-0685.
APR. 13-15: Canoeing: Big Piney river, Ark. - experienced canoeists - Chris Young, 378-4477.
APR. 28-29: Backpacking: Caney Creek area, Ark. - Randy White, 226-9018.
MAY 5-6: Canoeing: Glover river, Okla. - experienced canoeists - Irene Armstrong, 865-8302.
MAY 19: Canoeing: Bodcau-Red Chute - near Shreveport - Tom Carson, 949-0048.
MAY 20: Bicycling: near Shreveport - Lou Price, 861-0854.
JUNE 9: Canoeing: Cypress Lake near Shreveport - canoeing, swimming, catfish dinner - Leola Hofman, 861-1328.
JUNE 23-24: Paddle-wheel boat excursion - 12 mile bayou - near Shreveport - John Mailhes, 687-7225.
JULY 14-15: Canoe camping: Ouachita Lake, Ark. - canoeing, camping, swimming, a family outing - John Mailhes, 687-7225.

HIGHLANDS CHAPTER

MAR. 17: Hike - Quail Valley area of Devil's Den State Park (easy to moderate in difficulty). Meet at 9:30 A.M. at the entrance to Devil's Den Park on Hwy. 74 coming from Winslow - Gerry Graham, 751-4219.

10% Discount on Books

For Ozark Society Members, the Ozark Society Foundation now offers a 10% discount on all of its books. The 10% discount does not apply to the Hedges' Canoeing Guides, as they are published by the Society rather than the Foundation.

These books are available:

<i>Arkansas Natural Area Plan</i>	\$ 6.95
<i>Illinois River</i>	3.95
<i>Buffalo R. Country</i> (paperback)	7.95
<i>Buffalo R. Country</i> (clothbound)	12.50

Deduct the 10% discount from your total book order, and order from **Ozark Society Books**, Box 3503, Little Rock, AR 72203.

New TV Movie of Arkansas Streams

Susan Brentholtz, Administrative Assistant, Arkansas Stream Preservation Committee, appeared on the Arkansas Game and Fish program of AETV, Thursday evening, January 18, to show her recently produced film about Arkansas' Scenic Rivers. The movie is excellent, featuring the Big Piney, Buffalo, Cache, and Bayou De View and some dams and flat water. The movie was co-produced by Channel 4 of Little Rock and the Department of Natural and Cultural Heritage.

Dues Notice

Please send in your dues for 1979.

Fill out the blank below and send it with your check to Steve Shepherd,
Membership Chairman, The Ozark Society, Box 2914, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

Dues are for the calendar year. They are regular (and family), \$5; contributing, \$10; sustaining, \$25; life, \$100

Please check: new member; _____ renewal _____ Date _____

Last name _____ first names of husband and wife _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____



The Pinnacle, South from Sulphur Mountain in the Boat Mountain Group South of Harrison, Arkansas. Neil Compton