

Arkansas Sierran

Arkansas Chapter, Sierra Club

Summer 1990

Only YOU Can Prevent Forest Service Clearcuts

The Bad News Is...

...If the Forest Service has its way with its amended Land and Resource Management Plan for the Ouachita National Forest, each year the agency will subject 7,900 acres of YOUR public land to various forms of clearcut logging (even-aged management) and will chemically poison 24,492 acres in the Ouachita and Ozark National Forests so that our native woods can be managed as commercial pine farms.

Already, the U.S. Forest Service has clearcut and turned into pine farms 500 square miles of YOUR national forest. This is...

- 320,000 acres
- one-third of the Ouachita Forest's timber management lands
- almost eight times the size of Lake Ouachita

Under the new plan, although the Forest Service will log 15,000 acres or more per year by environmentally preferable selection management, they would also log 7,900 acres per year by various forms of clearcutting, **in addition to the 320,000 acres already clearcut.**

In just the next 5-10 years under the new plan, the Forest Service would clearcut and commit to pine farms roughly as much acreage as all the wilderness we've set aside to preserve our natural heritage... 40,000 to 80,000 acres... one to two times the size of Lake Ouachita.

Even-aged management includes clearcutting and its relatives, seed tree and shelterwood cutting (2- and 3-stage clearcutting). The end result of all three is destruction of most of the forest canopy and creation of even-aged pine farms. It diminishes recreation and tourism opportunities, erodes soil, silts streams, and hurts fish and wildlife habitat. It converts our mixed hardwood and pine forest into pine crops, robbing us of our natural heritage.

Clearcutting gives the Forest Service a severe chemical dependency, so the government continues poisoning hundreds of thousands of acres of our native woods to kill hardwood trees that compete with pine crops. And, the Forest Service actually uses "wildlife habitat improvement" as an excuse to clearcut

so the resulting pine farms can benefit common species at the expense of others that need undisturbed or mature forest areas to survive.

The Good News Is...

...We live in a democracy. The Forest Service and the President who oversees the agency ultimately answer to Congress when it comes to carrying out the will of the people, and Congress answers to you.

Congress already took a good first step in 1988 when Oklahoma Congressman Wes Watkins and Senators Don Nickles and David Boren passed a bill protecting almost 100,000 acres of Oklahoma's portion of the Ouachita National Forest from clearcutting, forever.

YOU and the majority of the public, who support chemical-free all-species selection management instead of even-aged pine farming for public lands, can make yourself heard through Arkansas' congressional delegation urging them to support H.R. 4602, the Ouachita Mountains National Recreation Area Act. All of the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas would be designated as a national recreation area with this bill's passage.

H.R. 4602 is a good, tough bill that would protect the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas from clearcutting and other forms of even-aged management. It would permit individual-tree selection logging: uneven-aged management. H.R. 4602 would also prohibit the use of pesticides in the Ouachita National Forest. (The entire bill is printed in this newsletter on page 5.)

It happened for Oklahoma; it can happen for Arkansas' Ouachita National Forest if enough people write letters **NOW** showing they want action in Congress to permanently protect our national forest from clearcutting.

For four years now, we have jumped through the Forest Service's hoops trying to save the Ouachita National Forest from being managed as a pine tree farm — four years and 60,000 more clearcut acres later, we're still jumping, but now we've been able to add another arena — Congress. Let's stop the Forest Service now with H.R. 4602. Your letters are important — please write today.

Your Action List of Letters to Write

•Urge Rep. Bruce Vento, chairman of the Interior Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, to hold hearings on H.R. 4602 as soon as possible. (Rm. 812, House Annex 1, Washington D.C. 20515)

•Urge Interior Committee Chair, Rep. Mo Udall to report H.R. 4602 out ASAP. (1324 LHOB, Washington, D.C. 20515)

•Urge Rep. Harold Volkmer, chairman of Agriculture Subcommittee on Forests, Family Farms and Energy, to hold hearings on H.R. 4602 ASAP. (the bill has been referred to both committees in the House.) (1301 LHOB, Washington, D.C. 20515)

•Urge Agriculture Committee Chair Rep. Kika de la Garza to report H.R. 4602 out ASAP. (1301 LHOB, Washington, D.C. 20515)

Write your elected representative, especially John Paul Hammerschmidt and Beryl Anthony, encouraging them to cosponsor H.R. 4602.

•Thank Congressman Tommy Robinson for giving us a tool to fight with in Congress to permanently keep the Ouachita National Forest from becoming a pine tree farm.

•Thank Senator David Pryor for

writing the U.S. Forest Service on April 12 requesting a moratorium on clearcutting in Ouachita National Forest. Urge him to support the substance of H.R. 4602 and to introduce a similar bill in the Senate. (As a ranking member of the Agriculture Committee, he's in a good position to introduce a bill.)

•Urge Senator Dale Bumpers to support the substance of H.R. 4602 and to introduce a similar bill in the Senate. (As a member of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and chairman of the subcommittee on Public Lands, National Parks and Forests, he is also in a good position to introduce a bill.)

•Write Ray Thornton, a candidate for the Second District Congressional seat, urging him to support the substance of H.R. 4602 and, if elected, to reintroduce H.R. 4602 in the next session of Congress, if necessary.

•Write Rep. Jim Keet, also a candidate for the Second District Congressional seat, urging him to support the substance of H.R. 4602, and, if elected, to reintroduce H.R. 4602 in the next session of Congress, if necessary.



Arkansas Democrat Steve Scalfon

From the Conservation Chair Arkansas Chapter

While a large part of the chapter's efforts lately have been directed toward political campaigns and events, conservation endeavors have been very active also.

Many Sierra Club activists participated in the Wild and Scenic Rivers study conducted in the Ozark National Forest. We (the public) were told in October, 1987 that this was a long-term process, likely to take between two - two and one-half years. I have recently learned that Forest Service indeed finished the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on November 8, 1989, but the document is still (over six months later) being circulated internally and is unavailable for public inspection. Meanwhile, the 13 streams in question are being quietly managed as if (unacceptable) Forest Service recommendations had already been adopted by Congress. This all

seems to me pretty poor behavior for an agency that supposedly operates under public accountability. When the FEIS becomes available, "probably sometime this summer or fall," we can expect the usual 60 or 90 day period to present our views to Congress, while Forest Service people have been quietly lobbying for the past year. Think about it.

Meanwhile, I attended the Chapter Conservation Chair Conference over Memorial Day weekend held in the Texas hill country. This was a great opportunity to network with other chapter conservation chairs, as well as several national Sierra Club officers and staff. It was very interesting to learn about issues facing other chapters, and how they are handled. As a 560,000 member organization we have enormous power and resources available to us.

Mike Faupel

Sierra Club Council Report

You would think by now I would have learned how our local group and chapter work. You can volunteer for one job, and within a short time you have five.

Within my varied Sierra Club career, I have also volunteered to be the Alternate Council Delegate. At the April Chapter meeting, I was informed that I would go to the San Francisco May "circus" within three weeks. I have never been to a "circus" before, and was totally unprepared for the whole weekend.

Before I give a report of the meetings, let me explain the role of the Council.

Twice a year the Sierra Club national organization calls members to San Francisco to offer training sessions and various organizational meetings. Hundreds of Sierrans rush around an area central to Sierra Club headquarters. Intense energy pulsates at every meeting. One delegate reported to me that he was so happy his local group did not have this much energy or nothing would get accomplished.

Issues addressed in the Council meetings are suggested by the Board of Directors, the Council executive committee, chapters, groups and staff. These issues are passed to the Council committees. The committees discuss the issues and develop proposals. These proposals are then presented by the chair of the committee to the full Council for a vote during the business meeting. The resolutions passed by the Council body are then presented to the Board of Directors during their business meeting. Two and one-half days are allowed for the meetings and discussions. The board of directors began their business meeting at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Some of the issues discussed in the open sessions included "infiltration" in the membership, prior notification for

legal actions, international coordination, calendar sales competition, calendar issues regarding recyclable paper, state lobbying funding, training and other lobbying efforts, and the Sierra magazine converting to recycled paper. Training sessions included Centennial Planning, Policy Making Process, Elections Procedures, Club Resources, Chapter Staff Management and Effective Meetings.

I joined the committee for "Groups and Chapters." Some of the issues discussed were Group and Chapter Size, Group Needs, Needs Assessment, Assisting the Ailing Group and Disaccreditation: How to Handle.

The Sierra Club is an organization which has its foundation on volunteer leadership. It includes an internal organization of staff personnel who direct this leadership to achieve the maximum level of productivity. They act as consultants, resource persons, and teachers to all chapters within the organization.

If any of you have questions regarding issues you feel need to be brought to Council awareness, or any questions regarding internal Sierra Club machinations, please feel free to contact me.

Juliann King
758-6280

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Arkansas Chapter Initiates Major Awards

In honor of John Muir, the founder of the Sierra Club, the Arkansas Chapter voted recently to institute an annual John Muir Award to be given to the person(s) or entity that has done the most to protect the environment. The chapter also voted to present an annual James Watt Award to the person(s) or entity that has done the least for the environment.

The chapter is pleased to announce that the first John Muir Award in Arkansas goes to four devoted conservationists from Hot Springs: Stan Heard, James Norman, Mike Crawford and Jerry Williams — known collectively as the Concerned Citizens of Hot Springs. They

received the award for their untiring efforts during the last four years to stop clearcutting in the Ouachita National Forest and to bring the forest under true multiple-use management.

"The chapter expresses our admiration and thanks for their efforts," said George Oleson, chapter chairman. "Through their work, they are guaranteeing that the citizens of Arkansas will have a national forest replete with hardwoods, clear streams and spring and fall colors rather than vistas marred with clearcuts and a forest full of straight rows of pine trees."

They each received a specially engraved medallion with the Club logo.

Harry Hastings, Jr., of Little Rock, is the recipient of the Arkansas Chapter's first James Watt award for his unrelenting and, fortunately, unsuccessful efforts to construct a marina on Rosenbaum Lake.

"In seeking to destroy those wetlands, Mr. Hastings displayed his blindness for nature's beauty, his contempt for the public and his total disregard for the environment," said Oleson, speaking for the chapter.

Hastings received a James Watt-styled turkey mounted on a trophy base, with the appropriate engraving.

James Norman and Jerry Williams, John Muir Award Recipients.



Photo by Donna Beard

From the Chapter Chair

The Arkansas Chapter recently announced its first major political endorsement slate. We endorsed in the Democratic Primary for governor, lieutenant governor, and two State Senate positions.

We also made early General Election endorsements for one additional State Senate seat and two General Assembly positions.

Your chapter chair has since fielded early-morning phone calls from irate members, answered complaints from disgruntled political operatives, explained to the press, and accepted the loss of a few members who could not abide the positions taken by the chapter.

These questions have been asked:

—Why endorse against an incumbent?

—Why endorse candidates likely to lose?

—Why didn't we endorse Republicans?

—Why endorse at all?

—Why endorse so few deserving candidates?

They are questions deserving of straight answers.

Why Do We Endorse?

We endorse because we can. Of all the nationwide conservation organizations, only the Sierra Club makes political endorsements. This is because we are a non-profit entity that is not tax-exempt. The Club lost its tax-exempt status in the late 1960s as a result of our victorious struggle against the proposed damming of the Grand Canyon. Since then, we have proudly maintained our status under 26 U.S.C. §501 (c) (4) and have vigorously participated in the political process as no other similar organization can. We believe the loss of tax-exempt status is worth our unique position in the conservation community. We can speak when others must stand silent. In doing so, we speak for many Americans who are not Club members but who respect the environmental ethic.

Why Endorse So Few Candidates?

The Arkansas Chapter is a relatively

small organization. Our activists (those who can be counted on to do more than pay dues) number less than 150. Our Political Committee winnowed the candidates for several key races and decided to limit our efforts to a limited number of contests in which it was felt we could have a realistic impact. It is better to work within our means and be truly active in a few contests than to make paper endorsements in many races at the expense of our credibility.

Why Not Endorse Republicans?

We'd love to. The Sierra Club is a nonpartisan conservation organization. We believe that the environment is no longer a partisan issue but one of truly national interest that grips the attention of all informed citizens, regardless of their party preference. As the Arkansas Republican Party matures as a strong force at all levels of public affairs, we hope that it will produce candidates who are interested in our endorsement and who are receptive to the issues that we raise. The majority party sometimes needs a strong challenge from a competitor to shake it from its complacency on issues of public concern. A vigorous two-party involvement in environmental issues would do a great service to the people of Arkansas.

Why Endorse Losers?

Several of our endorsees in the Primary Elections fell short of their expectations. Some of them were distinct underdogs when we made our endorsements. All of them made measurable gains after we endorsed. Yes, the Sierra Club likes to win, but sometimes we have to get people's attention first. Most important of the several factors considered by our Political Committee was the likely effectiveness of the candidate as an advocate for the environment. Our endorsees all made the environment a keystone of their candidacy. They boosted conservation issues to the forefront of public discourse and aided immeasurably in raising consciousness among all competing candidates. This heightened level of interest will pay dividends for years to come as the chapter continues to articulate the conserva-

tion concerns of the people of Arkansas.

Why Endorse Against An Incumbent?

This is probably the most difficult question of all. In the Democratic Primary for governor the chapter preferred the challenger over the sitting incumbent. We were acutely mindful of the substantial power and influence of an established incumbent. We were also aware of those times when the incumbent and his staff have been open and receptive to our views. Yet we could not ignore an eight-year record of inattention to environmental matters. We are pleased that the incumbent has declared his concern for the environment. We hope to be able to help mold that awareness. At the same time, we could not ignore a vigorous challenger who not only pressed environmental issues into the forefront of the campaign, but also addressed solutions to those issues. The Sierra Club has a duty to recognize and support our friends in the conservation movement. In doing so, we often awaken concern in neutral actors who can later on work with us toward the goals that a majority of our citizens support.

How We Endorse

In making our political endorsements, the Club requires a separate two-thirds vote of two entities for each endorsement. In the Arkansas Chapter, we have a Political Committee (appointed from the membership by the Executive Committee), and an Executive Committee. The Political Committee does the initial screening and recommendations for endorsements. Upon the recommendation of that committee, the Executive Committee makes the final decision.

In making its recommendation, the Political Committee considered the voting records of candidates, their non-political activities on behalf of the environment, their current expressions of commitment to the cause of conservation, and their electability. When no clear distinction can be drawn between candidates, no preference is shown.

Among the methods of assistance that we can give to an endorsed candidate are volunteer help, mailing lists, money (specially designated funds only), and assistance in drafting speeches and position statements.

How We Did

In the recent primary elections, only one of our endorsees prevailed (John Pagan, Arkansas Senate District 22, Democratic Primary).

Our other preferences, Tom McRae, Governor, Democrat; Hampton Roy, Lieutenant Governor, Democrat; and Alfred Smith, Arkansas Senate District 32, Democrat, fell short of their goals. A .250 batting average is usually not noteworthy, but in this case, we can be proud of our role in raising the environmental issues that helped to define each campaign. National Forest clearcutting, Pollution Control and Ecology Commission restructuring, and solid waste management issues are now noticeably in the public domain. These issues will color the General Election campaign, and they won't go away until they are dealt with. The chapter can be proud of its impact in defining these important issues and helping to direct the candidates toward constructive solutions.

At this time, the chapter's political endorsements are:

— James Lingle, Democrat, for Senate District 1

— John Pagan, Democrat, for Senate District 22

— Jim Argue, Jr., Democrat, for House District 56

— Jim Lendall, Independent, for House District 61

The Political Committee has the option of recommending further endorsements for the General Election.

The Arkansas Chapter is pleased with the impact it has had on the political discourse this year. Its leadership would welcome comments, recommendations and complaints from members. Please send them to your chapter chair. All will be earnestly considered and responded to.

George Oleson

Yosemite: The Broken Promise

Yosemite National Park, the spiritual home of the Sierra Club, needs our help. Its famed centerpiece, Yosemite Valley, continues to suffer from unabated commercialism. A plan to improve the park and reduce commercialism has been put on hold due to corporate pressure.

Over the years we have seen this valley that John Muir called "a grand hall, its walls covered with fine paintings and perfect in every way" transformed into a crowded resort. Some days thousands of vehicles pour into the valley, and what do visitors find there? . . . a small city with traffic jams, air pollution, pizza stands and video rental shops. This is hardly what our forefathers envisioned for the jewel of the National Park System.

However, a solution to Yosemite's problems was developed in 1980 when the Park Service issued a General Management Plan (GMP) for Yosemite. This plan, arrived at with much public input, boldly outlined action to achieve five goals for the park: 1) allow natural processes to prevail; 2) reclaim priceless natural beauty; 3) reduce crowding; 4) reduce traffic; 5) promote visitor understanding and enjoyment.

Reducing nonessential commercial, residential and administrative structures in the Valley was one of the key actions of the GMP. Reducing traffic congestion with the eventual elimination of private automobile use in the Valley was another.

Ten years after its inception, the GMP has not been implemented. During the Reagan years, funding was a real problem. Now this obstacle can be overcome but the plan faces another barrier. The Yosemite concessionaire, Yosemite Park and Curry Co., a subsidiary of MCA, Inc. has balked at GMP plans and has embarked on projects that deviate from the plan. The company is carrying out an aggressive lobbying campaign to thwart the eventual implementation of GMP. Unfortunately, the Park Service appears to be influenced by such pressure.

You can help Yosemite by expressing your support for the GMP in a letter to your congressional representative and to the director of the Park Service, James Ridenour. Write to your representative at: Hon. U.S. House of Representatives, Washington DC 20515.

Write to the Park Service at: James Ridenour, Director, National Park Service, 18th & C St. N.W., Washington, DC 20240.

Suggestions for your letter are to mention that resource protection should be given greater priority than visitor convenience, implementation of the GMP should proceed, expansion of the shuttlebus service and relocation of administrative offices is a priority, and education of park visitors should be stressed. Yosemite serves as a prototype of our National Park System. How we solve its problems will also show the way to better management of other magnificent places Americans love.



Rising more than 3,000 feet, El Capitan dominates the scene from the center of Yosemite Valley.

Photo by Andrea Jackson

Ozark - St. Francis National Forests and Conservation Groups Reach Accord on Land Management Plan

An agreement has been reached resolving a three-year-old appeal of the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Land and Resource Management Plan. Jim Stanley, attorney for the Arkansas Chapter of the Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society and the Newton County Wildlife Association, along with Lynn Neff, supervisor for the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests, announced the agreement recently.

The major terms of the settlement agreement include:

- Reduced clearcutting in hardwood and pine.
- Increased uneven-aged management in pine and hardwood.
- Reduction in maximum regeneration stand size.
- New guidelines for herbicide use on the forest.
- Increased management of mixed hardwood/pine forest.
- More protection for forest trails.
- Thorough inventory of all forest roads and a limit on new road construction.
- Increased water quality protection and monitoring of same.
- Identification, protection and study of proposed new special interest areas.
- Consideration of new management indicator species on the forest.
- Conducting a study to determine mountain lion existence within the forest.

The agreement concludes almost three years of negotiations between officials of the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests and the Appellants of Appeal 1748 (Sierra Club, Arkansas Chapter; The Wilderness Society and the Newton County Wildlife Association).

Stanley and Neff readily acknowledge that this agreement, and the corresponding amendment to the Forest Plan, will not satisfy everyone or all interests. It is a compromise. The settlement does recognize the importance of establishing a continuing amicable working relationship between the Forest Service, the Appellants, and other interested parties.

Many people and diverse groups use and value the forest. "Our goal has been to achieve a balance of resource use and management," Stanley said, "It never was the intent of the Appellants to exclude anyone or any interest in the settlement negotiations and agreement."

"A significant part of the agreement will be the establishment of a Forest Interest Group, which will provide continuing dialogue between those citizens interested in forest management and Forest Service officials," said Stanley. "The Forest Interest Group will include interested organizations, other state and federal agencies and individuals," Neff said.

Stanley pointed out, "This agreement does not resolve all issues of Appeal 1748." The remaining unresolved issue concerns the method by which particular forest stands, throughout the forest, containing mixtures of hardwood and pine, will be classified for management purposes. Upon completion of the amendment process (within 120 days) this issue of the appeal record will be identified. The Chief of the Forest Service will then make a decision after submission of appropriate argument.

The appeal was filed in September 1986, following the publication of the

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Land and Resource Management Plan. "The action was taken because the Appellants sought more balance in use of various resources of the forest," explained Stanley. "They wanted more emphasis on the recreational values of the forest and less on commodities. We didn't get everything we wanted in this settlement," Stanley said, "but we achieved a great deal in compromise that will be in the best interests of all concerned."

The Appellants are entering into this appeal resolution agreement to allow all parties to go forward with implementation of the changes it represents such as: the establishment of the Forest Interest Group; uneven-aged Management Study Committee; protection of special interest areas; and strengthened herbicides mitigation measures.

The settlement agreement resolving Appeal 1748, will result in an amendment to the Land and Resource Management Plan being issued within 120 days. This amendment will be presented for public review and is subject to appeal.

If unappealed, the amended plan will guide forest management for the remaining six years of the 10 year planning period.

The agreement will not cause significant changes in the original plan objective. It does contain innovations in the methods used to achieve the objectives.

101st Congress
2d Session**H.R. 4602**

To create the Ouachita Mountains National Recreation Area.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE

This Act may be referred to as the "Ouachita Mountains National Recreation Area Act."

SECTION 2. OUACHITA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

(A) Area Included. The Ouachita Mountains National Recreation Area (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "recreation area") shall comprise approximately one million three hundred and forty thousand acres as generally depicted on the map entitled "Ouachita Mountain National Recreation Area - Proposed," dated April, 1990, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

(B) Administration. In each timber stand within the forest, the Secretary of Agriculture shall preserve substantially the relative abundance and dominance of species, ecological communities, and intraspecies genetic diversity that approximates long-term natural succession that occurred before management techniques favoring one species over another. Any timber management practice in the area shall be by uneven-aged management, except that the Secretary is authorized to use even-aged management practices only where they are essential to promote public safety or to mitigate the effects of fire, insects, and disease; and at his discretion, the Secretary may continue to manage by even-aged management those stands presently in the zero to twenty-five year age class as of the date of the enactment of this Act which have resulted from clearcuts, seed tree cuts, or shelterwood cuts under Forest Service direction. The Secretary may continue to use his discretion to establish openings in the forest for wildlife food plots or other wildlife purposes, except that the Secretary shall limit wildlife openings to a size and number no larger than necessary to meet the biological requirements of the species that benefit from early successional stage vegetation, and the Secretary shall maintain such wildlife openings permanently in early successional stage vegetation in that location where they were established, excepting those located in areas subsequently designated by Congress or the Forest Service as management areas prohibiting such removal of vegetation. The national recreation area shall be managed without the use of pesticides.

(1) For the purposes of this subsection -

(a) the term "uneven-aged management" means the application of a combination of actions needed to simultaneously maintain continuous high-forest cover, recurring natural regeneration, and the orderly growth and development of trees in a range of diameter or age classes to provide a sustained yield of forest products. Cutting is regulated by specifying the number or proportion of trees of particular sizes to retain within each stand, thereby maintaining a planned distribution of size classes. The cutting method that develops and maintains uneven-aged stands is individual-tree selection. "Individual tree selection" means removal of trees periodically from areas that do not exceed one-tenth acre in size.

(b) the term "stand" means a plant community with enough identity by location, topography, or dominant species to be considered as a unit, not to exceed 100 acres; and

(c) the term "pesticides" means all chemical herbicides and pesticides.

SECTION 3. MAPS AND DESCRIPTIONS

As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, the Secretary shall file the maps referred to in section 2 of this Act and legal descriptions of the area designated by section 2 of this Act with the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate. Each such map and legal description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act; except that correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal descriptions and maps may be made. Each such map and legal description shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

SECTION 4. FISHING AND WILDLIFE

Nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction or responsibilities of the State with respect to wildlife and fish in the area designated by this Act.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Act shall not apply with respect to any contract to harvest timber which was awarded on or before the date of enactment of the Act. However, the provisions of this Act shall apply to decision notices for individual timber sales issued by the Forest Service after the date of enactment of the Act.

SECTION 6. ACREAGES

The acreage specified in the Act is approximate and in the event of discrepancies between cited acreage and the lands depicted on reference maps, the maps shall control.

SECTION 7. AUTHORIZATION

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such monies as are necessary to implement the purposes of this Act.

OWL Appeals Herbicide Decision for Arkansas' National Forests

The Ouachita Watch League (OWL) has filed an administrative appeal challenging the U.S. Forest Service's recent decision to chemically poison more than 24,000 acres annually to destroy hardwoods in the Ozark and Ouachita National Forests in Arkansas and Oklahoma.

The five-state coalition of citizens' organizations said the government's decision, known as a "vegetation management plan," would alter the native species diversity of the woods and would subject the national forest and its visitors, inholders and wildlife to chemical risks.

The coalition sent its 20-pound, 1600-page appeal document opposing the agency's decision to the Chief of the Forest Service in Washington, D.C. on June 4. Among the organizations appealing the decision are the Sierra Club, Defenders of the Ouachita Forest, Concerned Citizens of Hot Springs and Newton County Wildlife Association.

"For the past 25 years we have seen an unprecedented onslaught against the hardwoods in our native forests in Arkansas and Oklahoma," said OWL Chairman James Norman of Oden, Arkansas. "The Forest Service wants to continue poisoning our woods with herbicides, ignoring the wishes of an overwhelming majority of the public who commented on the Forest Service proposal last fall. We do not intend to accept this massive, unmonitored experiment now being conducted on the public and our public lands with chemical formulations neither tested nor known to be safe."

Among the reasons OWL listed for appealing are: 1) the Forest Service has completely ignored the expressed will of the public; 2) proposals are vague, not site-specific; 3) the decision allows con-

tinued conversion of mixed hardwood and pine forest to pine tree farms; 4) the decision allows the possibility of health risks to the public, workers and wildlife from the use of untested formulations of chemicals; 5) the decision poses a clear threat to long-term productivity of the soil and water resource.

OWL said the Forest Service's Vegetation Management Environmental Impact Statement violates the National Environmental Policy Act because it is merely a "general estimate of some environmental impacts of various management tools depending on how, when and where they are utilized."

Norman said the administrative appeal is required before citizens can file a federal lawsuit. However, he said that after four years of appeals and negotiations with the Forest Service, citizens' groups have become skeptical of obtaining meaningful forest reform through the administrative appeals process.

"The courts and Congress appear to be the only likely arenas if citizens are going to stop the Forest Service from poisoning and pine farming our public lands," said Norman.

Norman said the issue could be partially settled if H.R. 4602, introduced in April by Rep. Tommy Robinson (R-Little Rock) were to pass in Congress. That bill would prohibit herbicide use and alteration of native diversity, and would allow only selection logging instead of clearcutting, in the Arkansas portion of the Ouachita National Forest.

Regional Volunteers Meet in Oklahoma

The Southern Plains Regional Conservation Committee of the Sierra Club met recently in Oklahoma City. States represented were Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas.

Administrative discussions included the budget, the application for grants through the Discretionary Fund, and choosing suitable topics for the Special Discussion program.

Conservation issues included Tallgrass Prairie, Forestry, Waste Management, Recycling and the Mississippi River Basin.

Other items included a discussion by Barb Conover, Missouri Chapter, regarding her letter to national Sierra Club about a recycling resolution for *Sierra* magazine. Mike Faupel is attending the Chapter Conservation Chair Conference at Bamberger Ranch, Johnson City, Texas. There was also some discussion regarding interest from national Sierra Club in expanding to international levels other than Canada. Jerry Aker, Texas chapter, discussed the United Nations Association, saying that this may be a way to expand by using an international group to have workshops and meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled July 21-22, 1990 in Kansas City, Kansas.

Juliann King

Who to call

Here is how to get in touch with various political leaders to express your opinions:

President George Bush, The White House, Washington, D.C., 20500.

U.S. Sen. Dale Bumpers, 3229 Dirksen Senate Building, Washington, D.C., 20510. (202-224-4843)

U.S. Sen. David Pryor, 248 Russell Senate Building, Washington, D.C., 20510. (202-224-2353)

U.S. Rep. Beryl Anthony, 1117 Longworth Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515. (202-225-3772)

U.S. Rep. John Paul Hammer-schmidt, 2207 Rayburn Building, Washington, D.C., 20515. (202-225-4301)

U.S. Rep. Bill Alexander, 233 Cannon Building, Washington, D.C., 20515. (202-225-4076)

U.S. Rep. Tommy Robinson, 1541 Longworth Building, Washington, D.C., 20515. (202-225-2506)

Gov. Bill Clinton, State Capitol, Little Rock, AR 72201. (682-2345)

Loggers and Conservationists Protest Forest Service Scheme

The Sierra Club, and other conservationists, and sportsmen joined independent loggers recently to protest in a letter to the U. S. Forest Service that the agency has **not** logged 4,700 acres in the Ouachita National Forest.

Four independent loggers and three conservation organizations sent a letter recently to the Chief of the Forest Service exposing and protesting a Forest Service scheme to hurt small loggers in the Ouachita National Forest.

The letter pointed out that Ouachita Forest personnel have improperly and arbitrarily withheld from their timber sale program 2,029 acres of the agency's own proposed individual-tree selection cuts and 2,725 acres of thinning even though they were not challenged by conservationists through administrative appeals. It also pointed out the agency has already delayed these cuts for up to 18 months merely because they were part of timber sale packages that included clearcuts that **were** challenged by conservationists.

The Sierra Club and 57 other citizens' organizations comprising the Ouachita Watch League advocate all-species single-tree selection logging in the national forest instead of clearcutting be-

cause it is less damaging to soil, water, wildlife and recreational resources. It produces more timber jobs, roughly equivalent amounts of wood, and stronger, higher-quality wood because the trees grow more slowly.

Selection cutting sales typically are more attractive to the small independent loggers operating throughout the Ouachita Forest area in Arkansas and Oklahoma than large timber corporations based out-of-state that often prefer highly mechanized, less-labor-intensive clearcutting.

Based on the Club's investigation of the Forest Service's handling of these timber sales, the Club concluded one thing: What this fight is really about is whether the federal bureaucrats with their big, easy-to-administer clearcut sales and the large timber corporations will win out, or whether the independent loggers and the general public working together can convince the Forest Service to use less damaging selection logging that keeps our locally based work force working.

The Forest Service's improper behavior in the case of these sales begs the question: Are the bureaucrats willing to be flexible enough to give these small

loggers suitable volumes of selection cuts and manage the forest the way the public wants, or will they stubbornly stick to their big, easy-to-administer clearcut sales until they change the entire forest into a pine farm and drive every last small logger out of business?

The Club's letter pointed out that the selection cutting sales advocated are ideal for small loggers and the loggers will gladly bid on them if the Forest Service would move forward with its selection logging program. The Forest Service is using bureaucratic red-tape excuses to harm small loggers by holding up their own proposed selection logging sales when it's plain to see that neither loggers nor those who appealed the clearcut portions of the sales have any problem with selection logging.

It makes no sense that the Forest Service didn't just settle these appeals months ago by substituting selection cutting for the clearcutting as the appellants have offered. But what really makes no sense is that they didn't even move ahead with the selection logging portions of the sales that the agency itself had decided on.

In a separate letter, an Oklahoma sawmill owner pointed out that because

selection logging has been used recently on the Oklahoma side of the Ouachita, small sales have increased, price of timber has increased, more small operators are working, and there are more pulpwood yards. He said that in Oklahoma, the district rangers have set up plenty of selection sales with small volumes suitable for local small operators, and he said it's a shame that his counterparts in Arkansas seem to be treated unfairly.

The comments of the Oklahoma loggers who are being given small selection sales indicates to us that the national recreation area bill that passed for Oklahoma in 1988 is providing great benefits to the public and small loggers. The Sierra Club and OWL say it's time for Arkansas to move forward with such a bill. It's been long believed that Congress is the only place to really settle this issue permanently to everyone's satisfaction, because the Forest Service clearly intends to keep on clearcutting.

Beth Johnson

New Sierra Club Board Members Elected

The Sierra Club recently announced the newly elected members of the national board of directors who will join President Sue Mero on the board's executive committee.

Freeman Allen of Claremont, California, is the new vice president of the Sierra Club. Allen, a member of the 560,000-member organization since 1970, brings to the position many years of experience as a volunteer leader. In addition to serving on the board of directors, Allen has been the chair of the Baldy Group and the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, as well as the first chair of Sierra Club California. He joined the Sierra Club to become more active in skiing and mountaineering, but soon became a leader on the issue of air pollution.

"My association with the Sierra Club has made me a much more effective activist than I could have been on my own," said Allen. "I look forward to serving the many Sierra Club activists, who through their daily, persistent efforts make a world of difference." Allen teaches chemistry at Pomona College and is an avid backpacker, hiker and ski mountaineer. He succeeds Susan Mero, the new president, as vice president.

Richard Fiddler of Seattle, Washington, is the new treasurer of the Sierra Club.

Fiddler, an energy conservation analyst, has been a volunteer leader of the Sierra Club for many years. He began his activist work in 1972 as the chair of the Puget Sound Group of the Sierra Club. Since then, he has been a regional conservation leader for the Pacific Northwest and has served on several national committees, focusing on everything from wilderness protection to electoral poli-

tics. Fiddler has served as a member of the board of directors from 1978-1984 and from 1988 to the present, including a two-year term as vice president from 1980-1982.

"I'm looking forward to helping lead the Sierra Club into the environmental decade of the 1990s," said Fiddler. "Never before has the Club's ability to fight conservation battles at all levels — be it local, national or international — been so needed."

H. Anthony Ruckel of Denver, Colorado, is the new secretary of the Sierra Club.

Ruckel, who has been a member of the Sierra Club for 23 years, brings extensive experience to his new position. As a staff attorney for the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund from 1972-1986, Ruckel litigated wilderness and national park issues in all of the Rocky Mountain and Southwest states, as well as energy and water projects, clean air and wildlife issues. Most recently, he has served as the chair of the Denver Group of the Sierra Club.

"This decade will see unprecedented

attention to environmental matters and the Sierra Club will be in the forefront," said Ruckel. "I will do all I can to make the Club a respected leader both nationally and internationally. Unremitting, informed advocacy is our charge."

Ann Pogue of Solana Beach, California, is the new fifth officer of the national Sierra Club.

Pogue, who is president of Ann Pogue & Associates, Inc., a worldwide chemical consulting practice, has worked at the local, regional and national levels of the 560,000-member organization. She brings her extensive management skills as a businesswoman and volunteer leader, which includes expertise in financial management, electronic communication and fundraising, to the Sierra Club Board of Directors.

"Solving the environmental problems faced by our world today will require the concerted efforts of people from all walks of life," said Pogue. "I am excited about serving the many Sierra Club volunteers and staff who will play a vital role in leading the world toward a sustainable future."

Stop Junk Mail

The junk mail Americans receive in one day could produce enough energy to heat 250,000 homes.

Background

We don't usually think of junk mail as an environmental hazard — just a nuisance. But if you saved up all the unwanted paper you'll receive in the mail this year, you'd have the equivalent of 1-1/2 trees. And so would each of your neighbors. And that adds up to about 100 million trees every year.

Did You Know

- Americans receive almost 2 million tons of junk mail every year.
- About 44% of the junk mail is never even opened or read.
- Nonetheless, the average American still spends 8 full months of his or her life just opening junk mail.
- Junk mail is made possible by U.S. Postal Service policies that enable bulk mailers to send presorted batches of mail for their minimum rate — 10.1 cent per piece.
- If only 100,000 people stopped their junk mail, we could save about 150,000 trees every year. If a million people did, we could save some 1.5 million trees.

Simple Things To Do

•Write to: Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, 11 West 42nd St. PO Box 3861, New York, NY 10163-3861. They'll stop your name from being sold to most large mailing list companies. This will reduce your junk mail up to 75%.

•Recycle the junk mail you already get: If it's printed on newsprint, toss it in with the newspapers. If it's quality paper, make a separate pile for it — many recycling centers accept both white and colored paper. Envelopes are recyclable, too — as long as they don't have plastic windows in them.

Group Meeting Times & Places Arkansas Chapter Sierra Club

Central Arkansas Group (CAG) meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1818 Reservoir Road in Little Rock.

Ozark Headwaters Group (OHG) meets the first Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Lake Fayetteville Environmental Study Center at 511 Lakeview Drive, Springdale.

Ouachita River Basin Group (ORBG) meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Union County Courthouse in El Dorado.

Volunteer Needed to Coordinate Group Extravaganza in December

The Central Arkansas Group is planning a December extravaganza and awards banquet. The ideas are already pouring in, and we are in need of a coordinator for this event. This special person will be assisted by a committee to handle the details of the banquet. No experience necessary. This person will have the satisfaction of a job well done in throwing a big Christmas party.

Wouldn't a party with good food and

friends be fun? Wouldn't it be great to have a party where heroes of the environment within and outside the Sierra Club receive awards? Wouldn't you like to be involved with this? If you answer yes to any of these questions, contact Eileen Ellis for details (phone 666-1716). Other volunteer positions in membership, fund raising and conservation are also open. We'd love to have YOU involved.

More Volunteers Needed

I know, you've heard this before, right? Well, in a volunteer organization, there is a constant need for volunteers. Since we don't get paid for our efforts, people often volunteer and then lose interest or decide on other priorities. The bottom line? A never-ending process of identifying needs and a search for people willing to help meet those needs.

The Central Arkansas Group always welcomes volunteers of any type, but currently we have major needs for help in fund raising, membership and volunteer recruitment, and participation in the development of our own radio show.

Please contact me if you can give any of your time. We have trained volunteers waiting to assist you in learning your role so novices and the uninformed

are welcomed with open arms. Call me at 562-6893 (H), 568-4294 (W), or write me at #4 Monica, Little Rock, Arkansas 72204. You can also tell any other member who is active, and they'll help you get started. Thanks to those of you who have already volunteered and to those of you who are considering it, go for it!

Glen White
Central Arkansas Group
Volunteer Coordinator

Group Members Attend Trail Dedication

Four Central Arkansas Group members attended the Ozark Highlands Trail dedication on April 21 at Fairview Campground on Highway 7. The ceremony was planned and organized by the U.S.D.A. Forest Service. Speakers included Lynn Neff, supervisor, Ozark-St. Francis National Forests and Mike Curran, supervisor, Ouachita National Forest. Miss Arkansas sang the National Anthem. It was the kind of entertainment that few Sierrans would want to experience.

Earth Day Picnickers Survive Mother Nature

The Earth Day Picnic on April 20 was not a total washout — as expected by many. Jim Rawlins installed a tarp in the backyard, and the hardy group of eight managed to have a wonderful time. The sun did arrive in time for sunset.

Juliann King

Help Wanted

Volunteer editor needed for the Arkansas Sierran beginning with the next issue — in September. Training available, job requires about 25 hours of work per issue, four issues per year. Call Andrea at 661-9617 or George at 636-7899.

Clearcutting and Recycling: A Chicken and Egg Story

We have been gearing up to recycle in our stores. We want to use recycled products when we can (this and future issues of our newsletter will be on recycled paper), and we want to be able to turn in paper and other materials that can be reused.

One thing that we have learned in doing research for this project is the market for recyclable paper is very soft. In ordering recycled paper for this newsletter, we learned that it is not only more expensive, it is hard to come by. At a time when the public outcry to stop clearcutting in the National Forests is loud and clear, one wonders why there is not a better market in recycled paper products. The answer is in the production cost of recycled versus virgin paper products.

The Forest Service sells timber from the forests at prices that are below market value. They also provide roads and other services that amount to a subsidy to companies that harvest pulpwood. This provides a substantial incentive to not invest in recycling. If the market or demand for recycled products was stronger, and the cost of producing from virgin materials higher, more paper would be recycled.

We saw during the Earth Day events that plenty of people want to recycle. We frequently are asked about recycling by our customers. It is frustrating to hear about the need to recycle, be willing to participate and then learn that there is no market for recyclable paper because it is cheaper to clearcut the National Forests and make paper from pulpwood.

We should all stand fast in insisting that clearcutting be stopped in the Ouachita and Ozark National Forests. We should also do everything we can to enhance the market for recycled paper. It will mean paying more and doing some shopping — at least for a while. As time goes by and the demand increases, the price should come down and availability should increase. In the meantime, the extra effort and cost involved in using recycled paper products should be considered an investment in our forests and an excellent opportunity to put our money where our mouth is.

Frank Barton
An editorial reprinted from *Take A Hike* newsletter.

Editor's note: The search is on for recycled newsprint to be used to print the *Arkansas Sierran*.

Sierra Club to Hit the Airwaves

Plans are now in the works for a Sierra Club radio show on KABF.

Here's a chance for you to get in on the ground floor of a project. Have an

idea, technical skills in radio, an issue to push? Contact Glen White or Steve Heye for further information.

Hey, It's Picnic Time!

Come out to Pinnacle Mountain State Park, west lot on July 17th for a potluck picnic. We will start to gather at 6:30 with dinner around 7:15 or 7:30. Here is the breakdown of food to bring.

- A-F Dessert**
- G-L Meat (cold cuts, hot dogs, chicken)**
- M-R Veggy or salad**
- S-Z Bread, chips**

The Club will provide soft drinks and wine. We will also have utensils should you forget yours.

There will be demonstrations of new equipment from Ozark Outdoor & Take-A-Hike and outdoor/backpack cooking by Sandy DeBoer and Ray Hanley. (There may also be a game or two of volleyball!)

If you can only come to one or two meetings a year, don't miss this one. The picnic is the best time to meet and mingle with the Sierrans of Central Arkansas.

P.S. Rain? Don't worry! If raining, we have a huge pavilion to use!

Directions: Take I-630 west to the new Chenal Parkway. Take Chenal to Highway 10, turn north to Pinnacle Mountain State Park on Highway 300. Go to west side pavilions.



Montana 'Copter Logger — Ray Hanley ran across this postcard photo while in Montana recently.

Merrow Elected Club President

Susan Merrow, longtime environmental activist and Connecticut state lobbyist for the Clean Water Coalition and Common Cause/Connecticut, is the new president of the 560,000-member Sierra Club.

"It is a tremendous honor to serve as president of the Sierra Club," says Merrow, who has been a member of the Sierra Club Board of Directors since 1985. "The environmental problems facing this nation and world have never been greater; fortunately, this is matched by the people's desire to find lasting solutions. I look forward to working with the many talented volunteers and staff members who work long hours every day toward this end."

Merrow's time on the board of directors has been marked by a deep commitment to the individual volunteer. "As president, I will continue to work to keep the heart of the Sierra Club—the spirit of the volunteer—healthy and strong," she says. Merrow says she is particularly excited about expanding the Club's lobbying efforts at the state and local levels.

Merrow, her husband, Arthur, and daughter, Annie, live in a farmhouse built in 1813 near Colchester, Connecticut. Restoring the house is a family hobby, as is providing a home for their menagerie of three horses, two sheep, six chickens, two cats and one dog. Merrow is a graduate of Tufts University. She succeeds Richard Cellarius as president.

The Sierra Club is a non-profit, member-supported public interest organization that promotes conservation of the natural environment by influencing public policy decisions. In 1991, it begins celebrating the Centennial of its founding by John Muir.



Susan Merrow

A Note from the Outings Chair

I have arranged to have a combination First Aid and CPR course to be taught by the Red Cross if there are enough interested Sierra Club members. The course would be eight hours and would begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, August 25 at the Red Cross Office at 401 South Monroe (near the zoo) in Little Rock. The class costs about \$25 and will certify you in First Aid and CPR, skills important to trip leaders. For those of you already certified in First Aid or CPR, check to see if either certification has expired and think about renewing. Trip leaders (and those who promise to become a trip leader) have received a rebate of some of the fee from the Sierra Club in the past. This is an excellent opportunity since

the courses are normally taught separately and cost \$25 each.

Please call me at 224-7472 if you are interested. We have been limited to a maximum of 10 people for this class. If the interest is sufficient, a second session could be arranged.

Gordon Bartelt

-Another Note from the Outings Chair

I recently received this notice from our national office in San Francisco.

The Club's outings insurance does not cover private cars, and all car pooling is at the sole risk of the participants, both driver and passengers. Be advised the Club is not insured for such arrangements and assumes no liability for them.

*Keep close to Nature's heart yourself;
and break clear away, once in a while,
and climb a mountain or spend a
week in the woods. Wash your spirit
clean. . .*

John Muir

Sierra Club Outings Schedule July - September 1990

Date	Trip Type	Where	Leader
July 15	Boardsailing Optional Swim and Camp on Saturday	Greer's Ferry Lake Boardsailing intro. by Frank Barton of "Take-A-Hike"	Frank Barton, day 227-8096; evenings, Lois Walsh, 225-0776
July 21	Stargazing with Telescopes	Near Little Italy Meet at Pinnacle	Nina Goldman 666-8163
July 28-29	Cave Exploration	Ozark Mts.	Patrick Hollingsworth 227-4092 & Lance Lide 562-4053
Aug. 11	Early Morning Canoe	Little Maumelle River	Margaret Bartelt 224-7472
Aug. 18-19	Canoe	Spring River	Gordon Bartelt 224-7472
Aug. 25	First Aid Course	Red Cross Little Rock	Gordon Bartelt 224-7472
Sep. 15-16	Day Hike/ Birding		Debbie Jackson 663-4960
Sep. 22-23	Roadside Cleanup	Highway 10 L. Maumelle	Gordon Bartelt 224-7472
Sep. 29-30	Canoe	11 Point River Missouri	Margaret Bartelt 224-7472

This schedule is subject to change. Updated schedules are available at our monthly meetings (3rd Tues., 7 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 1818 Reservoir Rd) and are also listed frequently in both Little Rock newspapers in "calendar" sections of the sports pages.

A couple of members have volunteered to do some special duty related to outings. Both have led many trips for the club and know of interesting places to go. If you want to day hike or backpack during midweek, get your group together and call Marion Hines at 666-0726. If you want to day hike on a weekend, and there isn't a trip scheduled, or it isn't a day hike, call Glen White at 562-6893.

NOTES TO TRIP LEADERS:

1. Get First Aid Kit with Forms and First Aid Booklet
2. Get Two Signatures
 - Legal Release Form
 - Participation List (Give to Gordon Bartelt)
3. Collect Fees (Send to Treasurer)
 - \$3 from Nonmembers (\$2 for one day events)
 - \$2 from Members (\$1 for one day events)
4. In Case of Serious Accident Fill Out Form in First Aid Kit
5. Pass Around Sign Up Sheet at Meeting Prior to Trip

Newsletter Deadline
September 1, 1990
Please stick to deadline!!!



Arkansas Chapter
Sierra Club
3507 West 4th
Little Rock, AR 72205

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