TIGHT LINES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE RABUN CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

JANUARY 1992

PRESERVATION 2000 will be the subject at our next TU monthly meeting - January 21, 1992. That's on a Tuesday evening, at the Rabun County Library. Social hour will begin at 6:30. At 7:00, Jeff Durniak will present "Preservation 2000", including a 15 minute video.. If you want to be informed about this subject read the article from GEORGIA OUTDOOR NEWS and Steve Burch's editorial [attached]. This only concerns those of you who like to hunt or fish, or use our State's natural resources. IMPORTANT VITAL INTERESTING INFORMATIVE IMPERATIVE TIMELY SPELLBINDING AN EVENT!!!!!

MEMBERSHIP AND MONEY

Mike sez we have \$2477 in the bank (just wait till he gets the postage bill for this issue of the newsletter. I'm working on a special freight deal with Overnite that may save us some real money.)

We have a new member from Blairsville - Curtis Colwell. Welcome to you Curtis, we look forward to seeing you soon. Mike Blakely knows a good thing and has renewed. These members also know a good thing and are in the process of re-upping anyday: Kyle Burrell, Fredrick Hooper, Rodney Kilby, Howard Page, Catherine Ritch, Bob and John Singleton and Henry Williamson.



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

	Carl Chambar Chamber 1	
Tues Jan 28	Chattooga Coalition Mesting (Two reps for Rabun TU will Attend)	USFS Stumphouse
Sat Feb 8	RABUN RENDEZVOUS 1992	Dillard House
Tue Feb 18	Monthly Meeting	Rabun County Library
Tue Mar 17	Monthly Meeting	Rabun County Library
Fri Apr 24 Sat Apr 25	MEETING & CAMPOUT Work Project - Structures	Reed Creek Reed Creek
Sat May TBD	Kids Fishing Day	Nancytown Lake
Sat Jun TBD	Trout Day	Mcccasin Creek SP
Sat Jun TBD	Kids Fishing Day	Tallulah River
Tue Jun 16	Monthly Meeting	Rabun County Library
Tue Jul 21	Monthly Meeting	Rabun County Library
Fri Sep 18 Sat Sep 19	MEETING <u>8</u> <u>CAMPOUT</u> Work Project - Structures	Tate Branck CG Charlie's Creek
Sat Oct 3	Work Project - Electrofishing	Tallulah River

RABUN RENDEZVOUS is almost upon us and Jim Kidd's Committee needs to know what items you have collected for the auction and raffles and door prizes. If, Neptune forbid, you aren't coming to the meeting, give Jim a call, or Pat Hopton, at 782-3320. We must know what we are going to have.

We then need to make some duty assignments for the Rendezvous. Think about which one you would like to grab by the horns and help us with: Bucket Raffle, Sign-In Table, Fire Place, Outdoor Cooking, Silent Auction, Social Hour Snacks, Video/TV, Pre-SetUP.

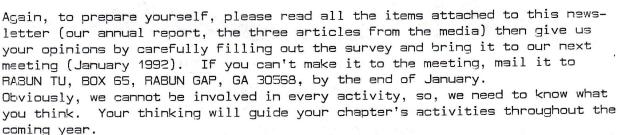
Are we overlooking anything?



EVERY MEMBER EVERYWHERE!! ARE YOU OUT THERE?? WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!!

If you need some suggestions as to what you could MAKE - BUY - OR BEG - A pickup load of fire wood; a bird house or feeder; a book; fishing tackle that you made or bought or begged; items for the home and/or kitchen; an item for the garden; a check made out to Fly Fisherman or Rod & Reel for a subscription (an example); Ice Box, Cooler or other camping equipment. You get the idea - use your imagination. Just Do It.!!!

- 1. Our position on the managment of the Chattooga will be confirmed with the membership. (The Chattooga Chapter of TU will be represented)
- 2. Clem Defino will report on:
 - a. Stekoa Creek Study
 - b. Upper Chattahoochee Planning
 - c. Wilderness Management Planning
- 3. Chapter Resources: At the last meeting, we put together a list of items of concerns that face the Rabun TU Chapter. ENCLOSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER IS THAT LIST. Now, we need a consensus of opinion of our members on the most urgent items. We are also asking Ken Henderson USFS to ask his staff to rate the items and the Georgia DNR fisheries people are being asked for their input.



If our <u>urgent</u> concerns as <u>resource users</u> are not the same as the professionals, (USFS and GA DNR) then we will either enlighten them or be enlightened by them so that we are all pulling in the same direction. We will accomplish more and better results for our mission through this better understanding.

If <u>ALL</u> our members (including Yankees, Floridians, Metro Atlantans and other foreign lands) will give us their opinions, we will have the best consensus and more "CLOUT FOR TROUT"!!!

SCME INTERESTING STUFF FROM OUR LAST MEETING

- 1. We donated \$25 to the Rabun County Library.
- 2. We donated \$200 to the Georgia Council for helicopter stocking. (The GA TU Council donated \$700 for helicopter stocking)
- 3. We learned that BOBBY BELL will be the Chairman for the Geogia Council of TU for 1992 GOOD CHOICE CONGRATULATIONS TO US AND BOBBY!!

Exitois Note: There was so much information to put in your hands there was no space for the usual willy and duler-timing B5 you have aske to expect. This issue does contain some good, some wital, and, yes some duel information - read it all and be informed! Whe



HOOKED ON FISHING, NOT DRUGS

We are collecting photos for possible inclusion in the Trout Untimited Youth Education Handbook. We need black and white photos that show kids involved in any of the various youth activities sponsored by our chapters. Include a short note explaining the activity depicted in the photo. Send photos to the national office, attention: Development Department.

ADDRESS CHANGE

NEVER DELIEVE YOUR COMPASS

Trout Unlimited moved into its new national headquarters one year ago. We continue to receive mail addressed to the old 501 Church Street address. Under new U.S. Postal Service regulations, the Postal Service will no longer be able to forward mail to us once our forwarding order has expired! Please ensure that Chapter newsletters and other mail and correspondence are addressed to: Trout Unlimited, Suite 250, 800 Pollin Lane, SR, Vienna, Virginia 22180-4959. Please make sure your Chapter members are aware of this change.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Open Letter to the Members and Friends of Rabun TU

Enclosed with this newsletter is our Annual Report for 1991. I continue to be amazed each year when I review the summary of our stream activities, our donations, our input to resource management planning, and along the way we have had a lot of fun together. I want to take this opportunity to recognize and say "THANKS" to the folks that made it happen:

Pat Hopton Jerry Burrell Tom Landreth Jeff Durniak Allan Ramsay Charlie Wharton Monte Seehorn Bill I Fredry Steve Dave Mike I Tom N	Kelly Walt ick Hooper Wayr arris Mont Littrell Ted Jensen Davi Blakely Geor ixon Bob	t Landreth ne Hubbard t Meadors Vance id Gomez rge Reynolds Brockman	Mike Hogelin Jim Kidd Glen Littrell Jim Nixon Steve McCall John Duncan Henry Williamson Alan Hooper Pete Malik
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These are the people I nominate for <u>The 1991 Honor Roll</u>. These people gave of themselves to drive the steel, to bait the kids hook, to tote the buckets, to work on committees, to coordinate the work outings, to run the raffles, to buy the grub, to set up the work camps, to plan the programs, to write the letters, to cook the meals, to drag the logs, to investigate the concerns, to suggest the solutions, to teach others, to clip the fins, to untangle the kid's lines, to meet the public, to roll the rocks, to clean up the work camps, to prepare the newsletter, to run the saw, to balance the books, to teach kids respect for the resource, to make the music, to weigh & measure, to pay the bills, etc. etc. etc.

All of our members help give us "Clout for Trout", and we need that. Members of the Honor Roll give us more; they give of their time, their talent, and their sweat, and we appreciate each one of you.

I'm looking forward to continuing in 1992 our working together to preserve, protect and enhance cold water resources here in northeast Georgia.

Thank you & Tight Lines, Doug

7 January 1992

RABUN CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT

Summary of Activities for 1991

I. Membership:

(14 Family)	ps (3 Family)	(4 Family)	(15 Family)
78 Memberships	(-15) Membershi	22 Memberships	85 Memberships
1 Jan. 1991	Lost	Added	31 Dec. 1991

II. General Meetings: (3rd Tuesday of Month, 7 PM)

Attendance	100 + 50	23	19		27		16		19		18			15	17		E
			v														
Program	Rabun Rendezvous	Jeff Durniak - GaDNR	David Gomez - St. Park	"Kids Fishing Days"	Open Discussion		Chris Martin - GaDNR	"Aquatic Education"	John Baiegi - GaDNR	"Lanier Tailwaters"	John Daly - USFS	"Road Const. & Maint."	' Again)	Open Discussion	Jeff Durniak - GaDNR	"Chattooga Update"	Open Discussion
Location	Mtn. Valley Inn	Tate Br. C/G	USFS Office	8	Ridley Cr. C/G	(None - Gone Fishin')	Library	¥ 1	Library		Mort's Place		(None - Gone Fishin' Again)	Sarah's Cr. C/G	Library		Library
Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.		Apr.	May	June		July		August	,	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.		Dec.
Ą.																	

B. Board of Directors Meetings - Rabun Chapter

Feb. - 7 Present Dec. - 13 Present

III. Communications:

A. Rabun Chapter Newsletter:

Tight Lines: 9 issues - Regular 2 issues - Special Notices

Chapter Letters Advising Concerns, Expressing Views, Requesting Assistance, etc. .

- 7 to U.S. Forest Service 3 to Ga.DNR 2 to Congressmen 2 to Senators 2 to State Representatives 2 to Other Conservation Organizations

Received Letters & Notices on Resource Protection ن

- 31 from U.S. Forest Service
 14 from Ga.DNR
 4 from Congressmen
 7 from Senators
 1 from State Representatives
 15 from 10 other Conservation Organizations

D. Publicity

Mentioned in 6 articles in the <u>Clayton Tribune</u>, the local newspaper. Cover photo - <u>Guide to Georgia 1991 Trout Regulations</u> - GaDNR Several Photos at Jimmy Carter Center for "The Tie That Binds" - GaDNR display.

Activities: IV.

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Month	Description	Participants
Jan.	Committee to Study Montgomery Property.	2
Jan.	ation of Pr Meeting w/	m
Jan.	Sales & Land Exchange. Meeting at USFS office to Review data	2
Jan.	proposed Timber Sal	2
	rnell Creek w/USFS.	
Feb.	ng at resen	7
Feb.	Mtg. Chattooga River Coalition Annual Meeting	4
F.	Ga., S.C. & N.C. Meeting to Develop	m
	urvey Forms	
Feb.	ted in Community Mee	_
Feb.	thouse: Subject eting in N.C. to	2
March	Cooperation on Joint Projects Conservation Fair Booth	=
March	in Planning of h	m
April	Improvements in squars or wyosis. Fin Clipping of 12,000 Brown Trout at	13
April	Pack-in (bucket) Stocking of Tallulah	7
April	River w/Ga.DNR. Committee to Study Management of Upper	2
	River Area w/USF	o
April	on Parterships w/Chamber of Commerce & USFS.	n
April	Stream Structure Construction on Reed Creek w/USFS (5 new structures &	14
	s of existing).	,
May	rided Program	29
June	A ck-in (backet) Stocking of Panther	4
June	Trout Day & Kids Fishing Day at State Park	œ
June	w/Ga.DNK. TU Presentation at Jimmy Carter Center in	10
June	Atlanta W.Vas.DNK. West Fork of Chattooga Study, Electrofishing	m
June	W/USFS. Kids Fishing Day at Tallulah River	4
July	W/USFS & Ga.UNK. TU Presentation/Workshop to Student Conservation	က
July	Association (SCA) Workgroup (15). Committee Participation in Study of Flooding	2
	Problems on Stekoa Creek w/City, County, Chamber of Commerse, USFS.	
Aug.	Visited TU Meeting in N.C. to Develop	_
Sept.	Fin Clipping of Browns for Chattooga w/Ga.DNR. Pack-in (bucket) stocking of 7000 Rainbow	22
	in Panther C	Ĭ.
Oct.	Creek w/USFS (7 new structures).	2 .
Dec.	Ga TU/USFS/Ga DNR Planning Meeting - Dahlonega. Ga.	ص
	,	

\$1,206	\$ 25	\$ 50	\$ 81	\$200	\$600	\$ 50	\$100	\$100	Amount
Total	School Cash	TU Memberships to 1 County & 4 High	Printing of Creel Survey Lards -	Helicopter Stocking - Chattooga K.	Summer Intern in Fisheries - College Sr.	Kids Fishing Day - Black Rock Mtn. LK.	Kids Fishing Day - lallulah K.	Kids Fishing Day - Nancytown Lk.	Reason
	Co. Library	Libraries	051.5	I COP O	USES	UC. Park	20070	GaDNR	Agency

? Miscellaneous Activities:

Numerous telephone information exchanges w/USFS, GaDNR, Renew America, Other Conservation Organizations, & Newspaper/Magazines.

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Social Hours w/Refreshments & Videos Preceeding Meetings.
Rabun Rendezvous w/Bluegrass Band & Fish Fry (100+ Participants)
Campouts w/Fish Fries & Fishing (23, 27 & 15 Participants)
Day Fishing Trip to Smokies w/Camping (20 Participants)
Cookouts w/Fishing (8 & 18 Participants)
Day Wyoming Fishing Trip w/Camping (16 Participants)
Banquets at Other TU Chapters (4 & 5 Participants)

\$ 689.13 0.00 \$ 373.00 \$ 102.50 \$3.040.19

500.00 250.00 200.00 80.88 50.00 25.00 45.00 45.00 543.00 39.00 39.00 39.00 39.00 14.00

668.46

Status Summary for 1991:

- -Reed Creek — Fishery has had measurable improvement since project started. Work continues with additional structures & maintenance of existing
- 2 Chattooga River - Helicopter stocking continues with sub-adult rainbows and browns. Hold-over rate improving with higher rainfall the last 2 summers. Chapter volunteers will manage the creel survey program in '92.
- ω Sarahs Creek — Erosion control & instream habitat work should improve the fishery in the Apple Valley area.
- Panther Creek Georgia DOT construction of new 4 lane highway crossing must be monitored carefully to prevent excess erosion. Put & grow stocking should provide improved fishing in '92.
- Ç Darnell Creek - Special Use permit for trail rides on USFS lands may be causing excess erosion & siltation. Situation is being investigated
- 6. Charlies Creek - Preliminary planning is underway for instream habitat improvement structures for fall of '92.
- 7. Tallulah River - USFS and GaDNR plan to study the characteristics of the fishery in sections of the stream. TU will provide labor to assist in Oct. of '92.
- 8 Stekoa Creek - Possible study to determine the sources of pollution
- 9. Upper Chattahoochee River - Development of USFS Management plan continues. Rabun TU will continue to stress protection of the watershed through minimum soil disturbing activities and proper use of erosion control
- 5 King Creek - The USFS study of Seasonal Fish Movements will provide data on the importance of small tributaries to the Chattooga Fishery. Chapter volunteers will assist with daily trips to service the fish trap.
- = Wilderness Area Management — The development of the USFS Management Plans for the Raven Cliffs & Tray Mountain Wildernesses continues with direct input from Rabun TU members concerning fisheries management.

1991 OPERATING STATEMENT

\$2,578.00 \$202.00 \$468.00 \$130.00 \$3,708.65

110.00 91.50 129.15

Income:

Expenses: NET GAIN Liabilities: Summer Intern - Fisheries - USFS Sarahs Creek - Stream Restore - USFS Chattooga River - Stream Protection Reed Creek - Stream Restore NET FUND EQUITY Rebate from National TU Interest on Checking Account Fund Raisers: Summer Intern in Fisheries - USFS 3 Kids Fishing Days - GaDNR, USFS, St Helicopter Rental For Stocking - USFS Donations Creel Survey Forms for Chattooga - USFS 5 TU Memberships - Libraries Stationery from National TU Postage (includes Newsletter) Newsletter Copier Costs Bank Account 31 December 1991 Accts. Receivables, Real Estate, Equipment, etc. Fund Raisers: Namebadges (for Cons. Fair & Carter Cen.) Trout Magazines (for Cons. Fair & Carter Cen.) USFS - Georgia Ga. Game & Fish Div. Helicopter for Stocking - USFS Ga. USFS Accts. Payable - Summer Intern 1992 - USFS Taxes Due, Other Registration Fee - Symposium Cash Donation - Library 4 Campouts 4 Raffles at Meetings Rabun Rendezvous 4 Raffles at Meetings (Donated Items) 4 Campouts TU License Tag Sales Rabun Rendezvous TU License Tags Game & Fish Div ESTIMATED TOTAL NON-TU DOLLARS LEVERAGED DURING 1991 1991 BALANCE SHEET St.Pk.

\$2,516.30 \$ 0.00 \$2,516.30

\$1,916.30

600.00

\$2.500.00 \$ 800.00 \$ 700.00

\$1.500.00

600.00

\$3,000.00

Preservation 2000

Miller Unveils Funding Plan For 100,000-acre Acquisition to Cost Sportsmen \$87 Million.

By Steve Burch

Concept

Governor Miller announced his plan to protect 100,000 acres of Georgia's best habitat at least as early as April of

Acquire critical habitat and protect Georgia's best but dwindling wild lands.

Overview 1. He appointed his Blue Ribbon

Establish a three part coalition of Sportsmens funds, public funds and private donations to acquire 100,000 acres of land (about one-quarter of one percent of Georgia).

> Council to date and has attempted to track the progress of the Governor's plan In his April announcement, Miller lic and private funds to make Preservation 2000 a reality. There were rumors about a license fee increase then, but

Preservation 2000 Council in late May. GON has attended both meetings of the Use of land

said he envisioned a partnership of pub-

since it was announced.

special geologic site (granite outcrop or a one-acre pitcher plant bog, to a 40-acre granite outcrop, to a 100 square mile By definition, a Natural Area contains munity (pitcher plants, etc.) or some Natural Areas. A very imprecise term that can apply to an area as small as -usually some type of plant comswath of the Altamaha River flood plain. something natural that is worth preservlime sink, etc.)

In fact the funding of Preservation ber 23 when Governor Miller called the

nothing was said officially

2000 was not announced until Decemoutdoor press to a meeting at the Man-

Gov. Miller and DNR Commissioner Tanner invited the outdoor press to the Mansion

generate about \$3.8 million each year for bond debt retirement. boat registration. According to Department of Natural Resources estimates, the proposed license fee increase will

licenses and a 50 percent increase on

percent increase on hunting and fishing

The Governor is proposing a 20

this year, and for each of the next two years, those three bonds to produce \$60

million for land purchased under Pres-

ervation 2000

the public contribution or about 30 per-cent of the total cost of Preservation 2000. He went on to say that he expected Governor Miller indicated that the under Preservation 2000 would be open sportsmen would be paying for half of 80 to 90 percent of the land acquired to hunting and fishing.

The other half of the public money Fund - in other words "by all would be paid for from Georgia's Gencra

Georgia's sportsmen and boaters would pay more to fund his program and that Gov. Miller acknowledged that only he needs sportsmen's support.

available, some of these acres will be developed and the number of acres open

to hunting likely will be reduced.

ical habitats for wildlife such as wood peckers, gopher tortoises or indigo stork rookeries, red cockaded wood-Wild Lands. Special areas or critsnakes, etc.

defined concept except that the notion of building conference centers and golf Parks. To this point, a very poorly courses seems to have fallen out of faWildlife Management Areas. Tracts of special land large enough to

Strips of land (ideally on both sides of a water course) wide enough to protect the stream bed and riparian zone plus Stream and River Corridors associated wetlands and floodplain. support some public hunting.

Trails and Green Ways. Linear strips of land that provide some habitat and travel corridors for wildlife as well as recreational facilities for hikers, bik ers, joggers, etc.

of land. He calculates the value of this land to be about \$100 million. His fund-

the acquisition of at least 100,000 acres

Governor Miller has set as his goal

ing plan calls for \$40 million of donations of money or land, from the private

sportsmen and the state.

plan calls for \$40 million of donasector. The remaining \$60 million is to come from a partnership between the The Governor plans to ask the General Assembly for a \$20 million bond

What the concept is not. to unveil their funding plan for Preservation 2000.

they agreed to pay 100 percent of the cost. The purpose of that plan was to purchase good wildlife land across the quisition II. Five years ago, when sportsmen initiated a land acquisition program A plan to acquire special land for life and plants, and/or land of geological or ecological importance. The primary serve and protect some of Georgia's preservation of wild lands, streams, critical habitat for certain species of wildintent of Preservation 2000 is to pre-What the concept is. special natural areas.

In accomplishing these goals, most tracts will be suitable for multiple use to 90 percent of the land will be open to hunting and fishing when the land is and some tracts will be large enough to support some types of hunting. The Governor and his DNR staff suggest that 80 initially acquired.

state for the primary purpose of recreation, specifically hunting and fishing.

The main goal of Preservation 2000 is not public recreation. There will be Preservation 2000 is not to purchase hunting land — it is designed to pur-The salient point for sportsmen to understand is that driving force behind public recreation on the vast majority of this land. Hunting or fishing will be only lands and clearly, some of the lands one aspect of public recreation on these purchased will not be open to hunting. Later, as development funds become

iors would reject the first year's request Governor Miller's vision is sub-

goals of Preservation 2000, to protect and preserve the best wild lands and streams and unique and rare wildlife in Georgia? Those goals fit perfectly with door News heartily supports both the lime. Who wouldn't support the lofty God, Mom and Apple Pie. Georgia Outgoals of Preservation 2000 and Governor Zell Miller's plan. attempt to explain Preservation 2000 to you as we understand it - warts and all. In the section that follows, we'll attempt to explain why we support the program despite the problems that we address

MONEY - THE 50-50 DEAL THE PROBLEMS

gram, Miller suggested a partnership men and \$30 million coming from the with \$30 million coming from sports-In outlining the funding of his pro-If it sounds too good to be true... general fund - a 50-50 partnership.

over 23 years, the total pay-back being million each year for debt retirement of Over the next 23 years, it is projected that annual debt service on these bonds we'll borrow \$60 million and spend it now (over three years) and pay it back the sportsmen's license fee increase is projected to generate an additional \$3.8 the three \$20-million, 20-year bonds. will be \$120 million. In other words, \$120 million.

Preservation 2000 is not Land Ac-

Sportsmen are not getting a 50-50 year for the next 23 years, we will have sportsmen will be paying 70 percent of the public financing of Preservation deal. If we contribute \$3.8 million each paid in \$87.4 million of the \$120 million required. Under the Governor's plan, 2000, not 50 percent.

MONEY - THE GUARANTEE

they go up April 1 of this year. It is tee sportsmen have in this whole deal is hat their license fees are going up, and Interestingly, the only real guaran-

Preservation's Problems

have the legislature reject Miller's request for the bonds. In that event, the entire \$3.8 million would go into the General Fund and could be spent for anything. It is unlikely that the legislacould become a rambling wreck, its course aimed straight at the wallet of The vision of Preservation 2000 gleams like a shiny bright new hood ornament but the vehicle it sits atop Georgia's sportsmen. because they are going to get \$3.8 million but they are only going to have to spend \$2 million. (First bond is \$20 million and debt service on that bond will be \$2 million each year for 20 years.) The state profits by \$1.8 million the first year under Preservation 2000. They will likely fund another \$20-million bond the second year because they only have to spend \$200,000 to pay off

and some of what has been said has been port to you that some of what the Governor has said has not been the whole story But our research compels us to re-

has to get that third \$20-million bond passed. Now the legislature will finally have to cough up their share - \$2.2 said that he will be a one-term Governor. So, in his last year as Governor, he million — and commit to paying that sum for the next 20 years. In this section of our report, we will

es, that is a done deal. As for the \$60 When the license fee increase passmillion in bond money to go buy land, sportsmen will be betting on the come. I

And, as it has been explained to us to date, there is no provision for a li-Assembly fail to pass the bonds over the cense fee roll-back should the General may happen and it may not. next three years.

THE PRIVATE MONEY

Governor Miller has said that, in private donations that will produce about addition to ...e \$60 million of state funds there will be some federal money and \$40 million worth of land.

How'd he come up with \$40 mil-

ly to come from the recently passed Transportation Bill and it will be used The only new federal money is likeprimarily to acquire trails and travel corridors

are contributing, I think the legislators might be too embarrassed to renege on bution. Why not \$20 million or why not of the legislature actually passing the \$60 million in bonds. If private entities tion of how \$40 million became the The private sector could be very productive and is the most likely insurer the plan. But there has been no explanaestimate of the private sector's contri-

projects Preservation 2000 as a \$100 million program. Three years from now it could be anywhere from \$40 million to \$120 million. Meanwhile, sportsmen will be paying \$3.8 million each year, From a money standpoint, Miller just like clockwork.

NO FISH - NO PAY

erated by the license fee increase will come from fishermen and boaters. What will Preservation 2000 do for them di-About half of the \$3.8 million genreculy?

Not much. The Governor's press Under the federal government's policies protecting wetlands, it is very ."Perhaps acquire lands for the construction of new public fishing lakes. packet lists only these five benefits.

> a \$40-million bond debt-remember, each year the license fee increase will generate \$3.8 million. The crunch will come in the third year. Miller has often

"By protecting river corridors from development, the water quality will be improved which will ultimately which floods wetlands. benefit fishermen.

difficult to get a permit to build a lake

"Buy river corridors containing oxbow lakes

"Improve fishermen's access to nivers." 5. "Purchase additional trout streams."

HUNTER'S WINDFALL?

Preservation 2000 could be a sort of windfall to Georgia's hunters. At this point, there are no guarantees and, the way this program is being sold, there could be a rude awakening for hunters.

quired, 80 to 90 percent of these lands will be open to hunting and fishing. That The Governor says that when acis believable. But many hunters think that these same lands will still be open to hunting 20 years from now.

The Governor has appointed a Blue Ribbon board to something called the GON has The Governor hasn't said that Preservation 2000 Council.

attended the meetings of this Council

and we applaud their work. It seems a very good group. But their goal is not to hunting recreation. Don't read this Preservation 2000 is not pro-hunting as was the case when hunters asked for and received the 1987 license fee increase to given the state. Rather the goal this time is to buy habitat for habitat's sake with identify prime Wildlife Management Area land for recreation, specifically wrong. This Council and this Governor are not anti-hunting. But the goal of this go buy the 62,000 acres we've already

JANUARY 1992

GEORGIA OUTDOOR NEWS

chase the best natural land available

dangered plants or animals in Georgia. special emphasis of unique areas or en-

at the Governor's press conference, the following question is asked, In an information packet distributed and an-

portunities are non-existent? acreage where hunting and fishing opthat the state will not buy a bunch A .- "The goal of Preservation 2000 - "What guarantees do we have 2 Arca

chances of getting what they want are greatly increased." to elected officials and to DNR, their is to purchase a wide variety of quality When citizens make their opinions known best guarantee is to become involved. habitats support wildlife populations. The opportunities, including hunting and fishhabitats with a wide array of recreational throughout the state. Most quality

tively narrow strips of river corridor? It public hunting be permitted along relaare excellent wildlife habitat. Would is not necessarily true that hunting opitat is purchased. Bottomland hardwoods portunities exist when good wildlife habhabitats support wildlife populations. It It is true that most quality wildlife

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tunity need exist for the state to make Further, how much hunting oppor-

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25,152 acres of Wildlife Management good on its assertion that hunting oppor-This is public hunting opportunity on hunters and 60 turkey hunters each year. Island hosts a maximum hunting? One week of hunting? Ossabaw funities do exist on this land? One day of of 375 deer

on some of these Wildlife Management portunities and that the squeaky political wheel gets the grease. What happens 10 people don't like hunting as a recreation or 20 or 30 years from now when some are no guarantees regarding hunting op-The answer above suggests that there

newly acquired lands will be open for public hunting and fishing, sportsmen will get far more lands for hunting and packet it says, "Since 80-90% of all the new acres for hunting and fishing than you will get more than twice as many land acquired. Under Preservation 2000, tion program, sportsmen paid for all the program. During the last land acquisiishermen are coming out ahead on this purchased." Then later, "Hunters and fishing than their license fees will have In another part of the information

viewed in the short term. They become These statements are true when

your license fee will pay for."

Consequently, the perception that Preservation 2000 is a plan designed to preserve 80,000 to 90,000 acres of hunting when sportsmen get through paying for this excellent wildlife habitat. neous perception 23 years from now and fishing land is likely to be an erroless likely to be true as time passes

THE FATTED CALF

cost but only our taxes are being raised be some general funds to help pay the stand alone. Yes there will, hopefully, burden of Preservation 2000 -- and we men to bear 70 percent of the financial for this program. Governor Miller has tapped sports-

only sportsmen's fees increasing? game habitats and programs, why are protect valuable wildlife habitat, pro-vide park land and hiking trails and non-If the goal of the program i protect valuable wildlife habitat, is to

only sportsmen's fees increasing's lution or loss to development, why are protect these valuable habitats from polcause of this habitat loss. If the goal is to is losing 300,000 acres of wildlife habitat each year. Sportsmen are not the DNR figures indicate that Georgia

The information packet continues. - "Have any revenue generat-

ing options besides raising hunting and fishing license fees been explored?"

cred in the immediate future." ever, given the present state of the econ-omy, it was decided that a license proach. Other user fees will be considincrease was the most practical considered to fund this purchase: how-A. — "A number of options were ap

MEMBER

Q T

RABUN TU

my is in better shape than the rest of the that the state of the sportsmen's econo-Apparently the Governor believes

the construction of parks more quickly?
NO, friends, Zell Miller picked does that mean a roll-back in license fees, an increase in acres purchased, or And if other user fees are collected

Miller Appoints 15-Member Panel Says Acquire 100,000 acres for Preservation 2000

Back or April 26 at the Goorgia J. I. Other Council members include diffe Federation Awards Banquet, Charles Smithgall, former owner of the Zell Miller outlined a plan he called Gainerville Times.

ast Tuesday he appointed a 15-ber panel and assigned them the job chase 100,000 acres of Georgia's

Aka lery McCollun, Escoutive VP
of the Cocytia Wildlife Federators; James
C. Kencely, Charana and Chell EscouUTE Ufficer of Cost Encepties; Bill
Murly, dean and taket cacculive officer
of Civilizat of Cost Encepties; Williams
Murly, dean and taket cacculive officer
of Civilization of Encepties; Manual Language
Neahuser, sealor vice president of the

ing the plan work, a stiff ass aring a period of severe state

ouncil's first step is to devise

sportsmen to ante-up the front money without getting Zell bloody. the only ones he thought he could bleed for Preservation 2000 because we are He was right

RECOMMENDATION

eks 100,000 more acres

ed above, in the end, this program should be supported. Please turn to page 57. If gram for Georgia's sportsmen, fishing buggy. If we can't, we're likely turn it in to a pretty good hunting and linker with this rambling wreck, we can Preservation 2000 is to be a good propoints are to be found there. If we can Despite all the negative points listthe key

Other members include Dr. Eugene m, the father of modern ecology and

epartment of Natural Re-member, is chairman of

Oher members are Jim Piene, relired vice chairman of Union Camp;
Dublin Newspaper publisher Dubose
Porter who also serves as Gov. Killier i
Floor Leader in the House; and Charles.

Varion, University of Georgia ecology

complete the purchase of Cabbage and Little Tybes islands.

Emeritus at the University it; Jane Yam, former member until on Environmental Onali-

This is an impressive and diverse group of business leaders, environmen-talists, academicians and politicians. Still they face a challenge as difficult as spin-

There may be other cheerful philandropists who will help to ease the
sungist of the Project 2000 Council, but
the Governor did say he expected to use
II public finds to help require hands.
Though the Council that yet to meet,
the project inten his tempaign days. The
spectation has teen august only some
that a source of Project 2000 revenue.

CON

UNE 1991

V.P. of Atlanta Gas Light

Editoria

cost \$65.40 - up \$10.80. As of April 1, those same licenses will Georgia resident hunting and fishing icenses sold this year, you spent \$54.60. If you purchased one each of all the

This increase is to be used to buy No one else's taxes will be increased

to fund Preservation 2000. the same amount and purchased 62,000 lands was to provide hunting and fishing land and recreation. The 1987 plan was ry reason to buy these good wildlife the clear understanding that the primaacres of "hunting and fishing" land with In 1987, we raised our fees about

a sportsmen's program.

Preservation 2000 is a habitat plan. ervation 2000 are secondary benefits. and fishermen that will arise from Prestion program. The benefits to hunters It is different from the last land acquisi-Should sportsmen bear this tax in-

crease alone Yes, I think we should. I think there

program in this state and we firtally have needs to be a sound land acquisition fice that thinks so, too. some leadership in the Governor's of-

Is Preservation 2000 the plan we

can be a launching pad for the program we do need. No, I don't think it is. But I think it

future Governor can turn what is presently a WMA into a prison site or a toxic on these preserved lands. Once protectable to protect these lands. They can be and can be used for any purpose the state deems appropriate. With the stroke of a preserve is the 62,000 acres of land we ed, public hearings and an Act passed by stated as appropriate forms of recreation preserved under the Heritage Trust Act chooses. There is a simple method availwaste site or to any other purpose pen on an executive order, this or any right now, those lands belong to the state the Georgia Legislature would be re-Hunting and fishing can be explicitly have already purchased. As things stand I think the first thing we need to

on this license fee increase, and the one serve is our money. A sunset provision quired to change the use of these lands. legislature in later years cense fees back once these bonds are retired, rather than simply funding 1987, would automatically roll The second thing we need to pre-

With these protections in place,

JANUARY 1992

state for help. a strong leadership role in the environcan accept Preservation 2000 and say to preserve wildlife habitat. In other words, dollar we spend on license fees goes to the rest of the state that 40 cents of every just for huntin' and fishin', we can claim is. And, because we're not buying land we have put our money where our mouth mental community and then petition the

acquisition? Who should help pay for this land

portunity. Son, there are many targets of op-

E. Georgia's sportsmen and cannot contincharge. This situation is not equitable to them. If they are on these properties, watchers, photographers, you name bikers, horseback riders, campers, bird vious target is the people who use these Wildlife Management Areas free of allowed to enjoy all these benefits on As things stand now, these folks are he establishment of these public lands they need to have contributed directly to ands but don't have to pay. Hikers For instance, the first and most ob-

0.10% tax. A 20 percent increase in this of real estate sold. That equals only a fer tax in this state is only \$1 per \$1,000 port that this option was considered but license increase. Informed sources reof money generated by the Governor's per \$1,000 but would equal the amount worth reconsideration. rejected by the Governor. I think it is ax would raise the tax rate to only \$1.20 For instance, the real estate trans-

we place an excise tax on every yard of concrete poured or asphalt laid in this program based on the federal P-R and D-J programs that have served wildlife tat, I believe the state should institute a one of the major causes of loss of habistate - and ear-mark those funds for an 11 percent excise tax on all our huntso well. Under D-J, P-R, sportsmen pay wild land acquisition? returned to wildlife programs. Why don' ing and fishing gear and that money is For instance, since development is

are required to have a permit to do this to pay and why can't that money be used permit, nor is there an annual fee for holding this permit. I have to pay for a waste water into our streams and rivers discharging into. Why don't they have license to fish in the waters they are but there is no charge for acquiring this preserve good wetlands For instance, industries who dump and other

industries and municipalities And while we're at it, there who

surcharge funneled to land acquisition. should be added to EPD's fine and the the law. I think a 20 percent surcharge Georgia's EPD fines them for breaking the law allows. When they are caught late permit limits, polluting more than

or a turkey hen or a striped bass or a mailard drake? If a hunter spodlights a with taking game illegally, the fine paid ment catches a poacher and charges him equal to a spotlighter who shoots and the dollar value of an eight-point buck ly, and that money should go toward dollar value of the wildlife taken illegaltreasury. I would add to the fine paid, the by the poacher goes into the county higher the cost the way I see it, the bigger the deer, the should go toward land acquisition. And investment in that deer and that money them. The poacher should pay for our sportsmen have had a deer stolen from can still hunt that deer. If he kills it, kills the deer. If he misses, sportsmen deer, shoots at it and misses, his fine is and acquisition. For instance, what As to poachers, when law enforce-

wildlife habitat, not simply hunting and The goal would be to buy and protect Governor Miller's plan and you have something that can dwarf ous to list here. Roll them all together My plan is like the Governor's plan.

There are other options, too numer-

can defeat Preservation 2000. If we sportsmen get up in arms about this license increase, I believe we fishing land.

programs and funding strategies in place. it open and put some more ambitious open a small crack in the political door. quisition and preservation program. while and self-sustaining wildland by the horns and drag it into a worthto Georgia's sportsmen to take this state stream corridors and such, it will be up outcrops and wood stork rookeries and protect pitcher plant bogs and grante candle. I think that if we are going u think we should pour gasoline on his He has given us the opportunity to kick Miller has used our money to wedge But Zell Miller has lit a candle. ! 30

one's land. cash register that will pay for every. Miller's horizons, then we are just If we don't push this program 7

gram, then we are Sportsmen at our best else's money for a change. Next month If we do it, we'll be spending someone 'Il tell you If we do push for a grander how we can do it.

GEORGIA SPORTSMAN MAGAZINE FROM JAN 92 ISSUE

more often asked among fishermen than any other. But to truly understand how the fish are biting, it is necessary to Georgia Sportsman decided to check in with the "How are they biting?" It's a question that is probably know what shape the overall fishery is in. For that reason

Resources' Director of and have him tell us about Department of Natural Fisheries, Mike Gennings the present outlook for Georgia's angling re-

Here's what he had to

the challenges to fisheries GS: What do you see as managers in the 1990s.

nants in fish. But I think for are concerned about acute pollution, fish kills, this thing. They're are fairly well under Gennings: I think they're going to get people who are concerned about different set of For the most part, people concerned about contamithe most part, those issues concerns environmental type of

about, for example, are What I'm concerned

things like global warming. There are projections right now saying that if we continue to get atmospheric warming at the current rate, trout populations will be eliminated all the way up to Virginia. Now I'm not hitting any panic button, but I'm saying in order to avoid this, if it's possible, we've got to take a very responsible approach and get about the business of averting it.

I'm concerned about non-point source pollution. I'm projects. The General Assembly has recognized that and passed laws to prevent it and has delegated that authority to some of them aren't doing a good job at all. Local anglers are going to have to work closely with their counties to keep concerned about things like silt. There are tremendous amounts of soil being lost off farms and around construction the counties. Some of them are doing an excellent job, and

got to be dealt with, because that soil entering the water is not only heating the water. It's smothering trout nests and We have not really done enough work to realize the full reminding them that it's an extremely important issue that? eliminating food organisms for trout.

we're working cooperatively there with Alabama, Florida and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We've contracted with a New York university medical geneticist to tell us whether that separate strain has been changed by early efforts to stock the

slightly different fish. It's the Gulf Coast strain of the striped bass, and

> warmwater species, but I'll affects warmwater species guarantee you it adversely impact of silt on as well.

ment of anglers can we get decline in the support we need to I'm also concerned participation, because only through the involvehave a good management

Gennings: The striped couple of problem areas GS: Let's talk about population in the striped Savannah River. First

the springs and being pulled up through hot water and killed. There are five springs on Lake Seminole where fishing is not allowed during

> constructed in the adversely affected by the the purpose of catching tidal inflows and diverting Savannah Back River for them through a canal that Savannah River has been tide gate, which bass . population

> > नीहिनीता प्रांताक पोतानाकोन नीहिन्दार पुरित्तीकाम प्राप्ता नीहिन्दार पुत्रित प्राप्ता

LA Red Serian

below Albany, in Spring Creek and in Columbus lock and dam. It is also

Chattahoochee River

on striped bass in the Flint River

now illegal to spearfish in there during GS: Let's take a look at some of the other reservoirs. Let's start with Gennings: We're stocking about 10 stripers per acre per year in that

the closed season. The regulation also established a summer closed season

> niver to the front niver so that the currents would scour the was cut from

found the fish are still attempting to spawn in the same location but that the salinity was higher now and eggs were Corps of Engineers to remove that tide gate and to fill that alt from the shipping channel in the front river. Researchers being diverted rapidly into an area where they were being cut to restore that area to its original condition as near as killed by the salinity. Now there are immediate plans by the We are stocking the river in an effort to rebuild that

years ago, but you are seeing a lot of

and looking good. You don't see a lot of the big fish like you saw several

> population. The University of Georgia also is doing some work to tell us where the natural nursery zones for stripers are, so that we can protect them.

GS: What about the Flint River? Gennings: We're dealing with a JANUARY 1992



Atlantic strain. So far he's telling us

we did not damage it.

So it is being stocked as well to rebuild that population. The population of large fish is down in the

Flint River from what it was a few years ago, but the population of young to protect those fish have closed the niver to fishing in the summertime to avoid these fish being caught out of

fish is much higher. New regulations

Mike Gennings, chief of fisheries for Georgia, checks the lure that he used to zatch his 32-pound, 4-ounce striped bass from Lake Lanier in 1984. The lure was made from a section of broomstick by Russ England of the DNR's Gainesville. office. Photo by Bill Schutz.

arger every year. I think most of the oiggest fish now are getting up to about 30 pounds

accumulates nutrients as it ages. It's expect to accelerate One of the things happening on the condition of striped bass in the fall anuary to regain their body weight. pollution. A lake naturally fishermen have heard of it. When you start having people living around Lanier that has us concerned is that is not good. It takes them until lakes and start developing the land, What's the significance of this? to non-point eutrophication, comes back called

eutrophication with nutrients that wash off the land — that wash our of people's yards that have been fertilized, out of fields that have been fertilized, out of horse pastures and chicken yards where animal waster have accumulated.

and cool water and food they need the summertime. I know the water is not cold enough, because What bearing does this have on of these fish are showing poor body condition in the fall, it tells me that these fish aren't getting the oxygen there's plenty of food and cool water, but where there's plenty of oxygen, striped bass populations? Since mess during

substitute for stripers when the water gets too warm. We've got places just isn't enough cold water to sustain we've quit stocking stripers. For years we've tried to stock stripers and have fishery there. We finally found there Sinclair to try and establish a trophy lumped most of our stock into Lake Gennings: Hybrid bass are a good GS: What about hybrid bass?

warm water, as is the case and all provide that habitat. Seminole you've got water habitat in it, and also in Lake points south, with the exception of suited for stripers, uliette. It's got some pretty good cold Oconee is a lake that's not well ited for stripers, because of the Springs

is a lake that hasn't got much oxygen in the cold water. The hybrid The Lake Allatoona prognosis for stripers on the short haul is good, but to put stripers in there to control the have gizzard shad, not enough food in we didn't stock it because it didn't stripers the last few years. Prior to that prognosis on Allatoona remains good on the long haul it is not good at all. It short term, bluegill fishery. Now we're obligated here. When someone put gizzard shad. It has a good prognosis for the thad in there, they destroyed a good Carters has just been stocked with at and the

think it would remain a good lake for lake and still is. It doesn't have a lot of development on its watershed, so I'd ntermediate term. longer period of time Nottely has been a real good striper

ad good growth there. it's been a good striper lake. We put a anpers to 10 per acre on it, and we've We recently raised the number of itw stripers and a few hybrids in it. The same is the case for Hartewell

He've reserved it for trout. People Aussell doesn't get stripers because

FISHERIES ... Continued

haven't learned to catch them yet, but they're there. It also has a good oxygen and cold water, as has Clarks

areas this year? GS: What about the public fishing

renovating and reconstructing some of the lakes down at Paradise. We plan on opening Dodge County Public Fishing Area, Steve Bell Lake and Albert Glass Forest around next with an engineer to develop plans for County that we'd like to start plans for June. We're trying to buy land at several different locations for different akes, and we now have land in Burke eycloping a lake on. Gennings: We have contracted

contribution to all of this? S What's the sportsmen's

Georgia famous, the largemouth bass. How is that fishery this year? Gennings: Our largemouth

long-term prognosis for largemouth bass is good. It's a well-adapted fish populations are good, and I think the it's increasing all the time.

GS: Now for the fish that made

probably less than five percent, that are really into catch-and-release, but have only a small portion of them,

of programs, including law enforcement, education and fisheries federal funds. That goes for all forms budget before any cuts was \$6,750,201. Of that, \$2,620,490 is Gennings: Fishing license brought in \$5,336,432. Our total

doing, particularly about getting kids into fishing? Apparently they've turned around a little bit. What is the department falling fishing license sales Last year you mentioned

in kids' fishing events. We stocked 28,000 trout for that reason in the first there was a slight upturn in license sales. We've always taken an interest involved in the far majority of them 7,000 kids went to fishing events in the first half of the year. We were department, who provides the fish and the technical advice. We had our ready for the fishing event; and the will take fish, feed them and get them event; a sponsor, such as an individual, a church or a club who his lake as a place to have a fishing in real numbers as well. Last year ground there, but we're losing ground increase the portion of the population that fishes. Not only are we losing tremendous increase in events; over first events in 1990. In 1991 we had a is between a pond owner, who offers came up with a three-way contract. It half of 1991 alone. But we felt like we had to be more aggressive about it and Gennings: What we want to do is ourselves, "What are we trying to do with our trout program?" A lot of

two caught limits of five fish. there during National Fishing Week, and all the kids caught fish and all but

stocking program is very important. It's what carries the casual angler.

Only after you've had several

degrade the very resource we enjoy by overuse. Maybe we need to look at

some other alternatives. I think the

to persist in demanding that type of and into a wilder experience. of a farm pond or a public fishing area from the very controlled environment catching a bigger fish, getting away forego the chance of being assured of catching a fish for the chance of large reservoir for an event where kids challenges, more surprises. For example, we might bait up an area in a fishing where there are to create a more intermediate type of rain barrel fishing. We're challenged metro area. But we don't want them the program has been out in the rural more of those unreachable kids. So far plus kids had never catching fish and know it's fun, might that have had the experience before. Now we would like to reach About 30 percent of those 7,000but we're moving into the been fishin

and-release for trout.

Out of 200,000 trout anglers,

We

some fish and enjoyed catching them been in it a while and have caught to risk more, to be willing to turn fish loose. We hope those folks who have successful fishing trips are you willing

and eating them will consider catch-

going to need a lot of help from the public is in the metro area. We need going to need a lot of help from local can get into those metro areas. We're we'll be on to something special if we care of the environment. So I think to hurt themselves and how to take them how to treat each other, how not hem down for a few minutes to tell we need to take those kids and set the tackle, we need the people, then One of the places where we are

we're going to have good largmouth bass fishing for a long time to come. One of the things that we're seeing

take place that is going to make fishing better and better is more and

release largemouth bass. We've seen more people are willing to catch and pollution, especially silt, will have an effect on largemouth bass. I think

and striped bass. Nevertheless, I think

impact on them as they will on trou warming or the silt, have nearly the for this area of the country, and I don't

hink threats, such as the global

about the trout stocking program? GS: Let's go back to trout What

the state to do is to get involved in the Stream Watch Program the Environmental Protection Division is report it. it. If anything goes wrong with it, you developing. In its simplest form, you What I encourage people all across threatened by the long-term picture. adopt a stream and go out and watch Gennings: Trout also are

of the largemouth bass are being released voluntarily. That extends to legal-sized fish. I think there's a real

released by anglers. That's the situation around the state — over half 60 percent of the fish are being Walter F. George, where as much as

good prognosis for largemouth bass.

So if you don't reuse some of those fish, there are only five trout per trout and in special regulations for have about 200,000 trout fishermen. about a million trout a year and we neck of a mess, because we stock trout. If there weren't, we'd be in a people that are interested in trophy I think there are more and more

> the state record being broken? nobody has broken it. A lot of people high when we set it. In over 50 years Gennings: Well, we set the mark

Mainly we've got a long growing Georgia in the first place, and those trying to get them fat so that they can.

I. think the conditions are right in say California will, but they keep we are looking for. subspecies that makes the trophy that Florida subspecies and the northern season and an excellent food supply and we've got the intergrade of the eeding those fish trout out there and

Continued on page 60

8

Lazer, we had about 116 kids down Our goal is to have every child catch a ish. Where the event is well planned

people begin to question whether

I think at some point we have to ask

GS: That being the case, do you see

JANUARY 1992

Coalition wants part of Forest marked scenic

By Beth A. Holcombe

The Rabun County Coalition to Save the Forests is trying to get approximately 60,000 acres of National Forest lands designated as a "Scenic Area," which would restrict the land from logging but leave the roads open to public use.

Bob Alexander, president of the coalition, said the group hopes to get the Warwoman Management Area, as well as a sizeable portion of the surrounding Chattooga River watershed lands, approved for the federal designation.

The land in question includes the approximately 15,000 acres in the Warwoman Management Area, as well as about 45,000 acres of surrounding land - stretching from the northeastern section of the county southward to U.S. 76.

A more restrictive designation , than "Scenic Area" would be that . of "Wilderness," which would require the closing of the roads in the area. But Alexander said he doesn't believe most Rabun Countians would want the roads closed to public use.

Already, the coalition has written letters to U.S. Congressman Ed Jenkins, as well as Sens. Sam Nunn and Wyche Fowler.

Nunn responded in a letter dated Nov. 14 that he would keep the interests of the coalition in mind and express its concerns before the appropriate committees should the opportunity arise.

Alexander said he hasn't yet re ceived word from Fowler, and that Jenkins responded he would like to wait and see how a recent wilderness designation for other lands in north Georgia is accepted initiative he proposed - before proceeding with a similar action in Rabun County.

The coalition president said he doesn't expect the group to achieve its aims immediately, and that he isn't discouraged by any lack of action displayed thus far by the legislators.

Jim Kidd, resource assistant for the Tallulah Ranger District, U.S. Forest Service, said he doesn't believe the Forest Coalition initiative is a viable option in managing the land.

"A lot of people would not want that in a Scenic Area," Kidd said about the acreage. "Hundreds of people get firewood from that area, and there are people who make their living by gathering ivy and galax there.

He said loggers and those involved in the timber industry wouldn't be the only ones opposing the designation. Though he doesn't agree with the coalition's aim, he supports its involvement in the management process.

"We want that kind of input from people." But he said the group's initiative wouldn't cause the Forest Service to go running to the lawmakers. "We probably won't take action or steps as a result of this," Kidd said. "Our supervisors are always in contact

North Carolina Ellicot Rock Dillard Mtn. City Clayton Warwoman first priority Coalition's Scenic Area" proposal The Coalition's second priority, Bob Alexander says, would be the area represented by lighter shading: the Warwoman and Scenic Upper Chattooga River area. The proposal is not a viable option, a Forest Service See related story on page B-10 spokesman says.

with the legislators, and they'll be advising one another of any developments."

Alexander said the Forest Service's timber harvesting in the Warwoman and surrounding areas has had a detrimental affect on the Challooga River.

"The Chattooga is just about dead from the Forest Service's clearcutting and road building. It has raised the temperature of the river, and the fish are disappearing," he said.

But Kidd refutes the claim. "The trout fishery in the river is much better than it was five years ago. There's never been a lot of good, natural reproduction in the river because of the sandy, silty soil that occurs naturally.

"Before the river was designated Wild and Scenic 20 years ago, it was stocked year-round with 10- to 12-inch fish. But after it was designated Wild and Scenic, the only access points were at the bridges, so there was not as much stocking going on."

He said the Forest Service has been involved for five years in the Chattooga River Project, a joint study and trout-stocking project conducted with the assistance of the Department of Natural Resources and Trout Unlimited.

The group's studies, according to Kidd, don't support Alexander's claim of a dying river. "We've got a lot of data on the river, and it's as healthy as can be. I would have to see scientific evidence that that's happened," he said, referring to Alexander's claims.

In his letter to the Congressmen, Alexander wrote, "The Chattooga River has so much silt and slime in it now that the fishery is close to total ruin. It was evident this past summer that the river bass "Red Eyes" and river perch were

severely hurt and not spawning as usual

"Miles of river that held thousands of these fish in past years had none this year. Fish beds were not in evidence throughout the summer. Our trout in the Chatlooga River are no longer in abundance. To even see a trout is a micacle in itself.

Scenic Area designation would put a stop to the clearcutting and road construction... It would protect our streams, and sensitive and rare plants. Perhaps

within a number of years the trout streams would wash themselves of he massive amounts of silt, and egenerate themselves."

Alexander said most of the ounty supports the coalition's im. "We've got 90 to 95 percent of the people behind us," he said, citing the 2,000-plus names collected earlier this year on a petition to stop clearcutting in the Warwoman area.

But Kidd said he believes the coalition's support constitutes only a fraction of the public at large.

Dutchwest





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YOU MAY THINK YOU AFFORD A HOM YOU CAN'T AFFORI HINK THAT W



r 10, 1981, revised Decocer conted in the Office of the Superior Court in Plat Book Said survey is incorporated nee for a full and complete e above described lands. pted and excluded from the tract Two 0.38 acres at icted upon a plat of survey Villiam F. Rolader, dated 1983 and recorded in the rk of Rabun Superior Court Page 127.

excepted from the above ity, the following lots which axed by Brevard Federal Association from the lien of re Debt: Lot 6 Block B, Unit d 4 Block C. Unit II: Lot 1 I and Lot 3 Block E, Unit II lat of survey by William F. anuary 16, 1983, and recorce of the Clerk of Superior County, Georgia in Plat 242, said plat being incory reference for a more comn of said property.
ured by said Security Deed

en and is hereby declared f non-payment hereof. The in default, this sale will be irpose of satisfying the same

of this sale.
will be sold as the property tain Investments, Inc., and standing ad valorem taxes nents and/or restrictive aring of record if any.

ned will execute a deed to t said sale as provided in the ed Deed to Secure Debt. h day of December, 1991. VARD FEDERAL SAVINGS

ND LOAN ASSOCIATION.

As Attorney-in-fact for d Mountain Investments, Inc. inder power of sale contained in Security Deed recorded in Deed Book U9, Page 194, Rabun County Records.

ABUN SUPERIOR COURT **DECEMBER 20, 1991** Y PRESENTMENTS (SUP-

and Jury of the July Term uperior Court, met Decem-Rabun County Courthouse. m the following persons: missioners - Johnny Ramey

inistrator - Jimmy Bleckley.
Advisory Board - Amold
ixon, Reta Dixon, Russell
eller, David Smith and Stacy

Department - Trudy DEPARTMENT:

nd Jury, recommend that the missioners appoint a new

Alexander: Threats won't stop Forest fight By Beth A. Holcombe Bob Alexander said a threat By Beth A. Holcombe Bob Alexander said a threat

Bob Alexander said a threat made by two loggers against his life won't cause him to put a lid on his actions in opposing clearcutting on the national forests. ' in his

"I take any threat seriously," he said. "But I am in no way letting it bother me. I have no intentions of stopping my work in opposing timber cutting and clearcutting.",

Alexander's name was cited by two loggers - James B. Smith and David L. Phillips - of Oconce County, S.C., following an alleged assault by the two men against Bruce Hare, an environmental advocate of Long Creek

Hare is the founder of Forest Watch, an environmental protection group that recently announced plans to study the health of the Chattooga River and its tributaries, including Stekoa Creek in Clayton.

The two loggers, who were arauthorities, allegedly issued a threat against the personal safety of both Alexander and Dr. Billy

Recreation Advisory Board according to the laws of the State concerning this Boards' appointment. Also, that a job description for the Director of the Recreation Department be issued, with chain of commands in place, so this Department can be run with greater efficiency as to programs for the people of Rabun County. DELINQUENT TAXES:

It is this Grand Jury's recommendation that an aggressive, on-going, process be set up immediately to collect all back taxes by the Tax Commissioner's Office.

We, the Grand Jury, recommend that if there is a County Ordinance regarding the lighting around places that sell beer, these establishments be checked to make sure that each place of business is in compliance with the Ordinance. If there is no County Commissioners pass such as Or-

dinance. A Market of A Language of As OrRespectfully submitted: The Astronomy of Thomas B. Coleman - Asst. Foreman Lynne Ramey - Clerk Logget A struck Ralph M. Pickens in make mention the set Danny L. Cannon had back to a specific of

James K. Turner beddie top see to yand R. Darnell A shahing to be a first to the fi James K. Turner bereitete te je berg fin

Ruth S. Bleckley

To D. Green The Help of the property of the Ira D. Green The Trick of White (C. Stephen R. Johnson, C. Stephen R

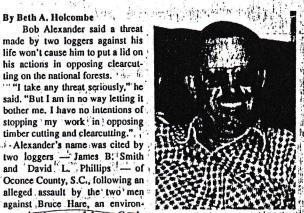
Bert T. Goodson 1946 Mrs. Alton Smith
Fritz M. Vinson
Estelle C. Goodson

1/1c PO#9060

Martha J. Rumsey
IT IS ORDERED, that Presentments be filed and recorded in the proper Minutes of this Court. That a copy be published in The Clauser Tell. e published in The Clayton Tribune, as that a copy be furnished to each Official

Statistica (1

Government Agency mentioned This the 23rd day of December, 1991. Robert Struble Judge Superior Court Mountain Judicial Circuit



ampbell, a resident of Oconee County and a member of Forest Watch.

Alexander! is president of the Rabun County Coalition to Save the Forests.

The issuance of the threats was confirmed in an investigation report, said Stanley Sheriff, the deputy who made the arrest. We dow'

"It was alleged that my name was mentioned, along with Dr. Billy Campbell's, for future retribution of death," Alexander said.

were both charged with assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, Sheriff said.

Smith, of Westminster, S.C." is an independent logger. Sheriff said his understanding was that Phillips works for Smith. Smith does some timber harvesting on Rabun County forests, according to U.S. Forest Service, Tallulah District,

The alleged assault occurred on Monday, Nov. 25, at about 8:15 a.m. at the Long Creek Restauranti Sheriff gave the following account of the incident: "There was a confrontation in the front dining area. Coffee was spilled in his (Hare's) face, and they went to the floor, Things were kicked around in the restaurant."

Hare was treated at the Oconee' Memorial Hospital emergency room for bruises and abrasions, said Sheriff.

Keith White, assistant solicitor for Oconce County, said he has referred the case to the FBI for review. It may be that the case should be prosecuted under a federal statute regarding politically motivated violence, White said.

"I'm taking this one a little more seriously than some assaults," White said. "I'm not a tree hugger,' but by God, I'll not, allow someone to treat someone. else like that because of a view

that person might not agree with the fance of the threatened persons.

The misdemeanor crime carries White said he hasn't yet decided

Campbell in the form of a restrain-it won't come up on the General ing order against Smith and Phil- 1 Sessions (criminal) Court docket lips, so the loggers are restricted y for six to eight months he said, from coming within a certain distribute to a backlog in cases. from coming within a certain dis-due to a backlog in cases and the second backlog in cases are second backlog in cases and the second backlog in cases are second backlog in cases and the second backlog in cases are second backlog in cases and the second backlog in cases are second backlog in cases and the second backlog in cases are second backlog in cases and the second backlog in cases are second backlog in cases and the second backlog in cases are second back

a maximum penalty of 10 years in whether the FBI or the Oconee Jail, White said the ITAM County Solicitor's Office or He said her intends to seek both should prosecute the case; protection for Alexander and if it is heard in Oconee County, it



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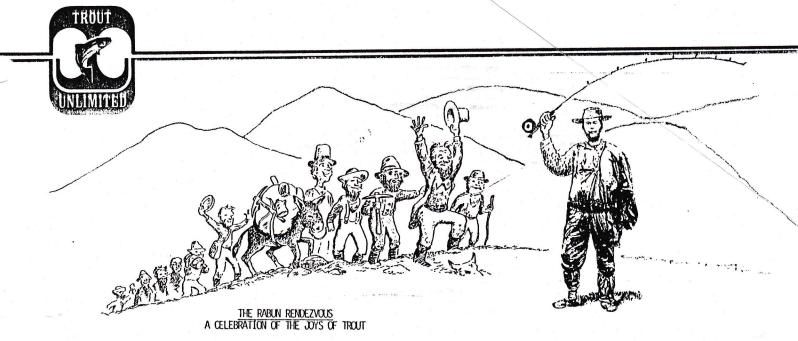
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Once again, the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited will host this annual gathering and want you to join with us in the celebration.

HEN:

Saturday evening, February 8, 1992, starting at 5:00

WHERE:

Henry's Playhouse, located in the Dillard House Complex in Dillard,

Georgia. Well signed - you can't miss it!

WHO:

Everyone who has a sincere interest in protecting our cold water resources — including TU folks, USFS people, DNR types their families and friends.

SOCIAL:

5:00 - 6:30 - For your musical entertainment, we'll have the genuine Foxfire Boys who will be a'pickin' an à'singing; we will have a bucket raffle and a silent auction; and snacks, cola & beer. We'll show some exciting trout fishing videos and we'll have a cozy fireplace to backup to while storytelling.

DINNER:

The Dillard House is widely known for their country vittles and they will start laying it in front of you at 6:30. You will enjoy the food!

PROGRAM:

At 7:30, Steve Burch, editor, owner and publisher of <u>Georgia Outdoor News</u> will editorialize on a current topic and after a short time we will give him the hook and bring on Ken Henderson, Supervisor for the U.S. Forest Service in Georgia. Ken will share with us his views on the value of partnerships and how they relate to the protection and enhancement of our cold water resources here in the Georgia Mountains.

COST:

When talking quality, talking price is vulgar, but you will want to know that it will be \$15.00\$ American, per person.

And John Dillard has said a big welcome to Rabun TU guests with a special rate of \$32 per night, single or double occupancy at the Dillard House Motel (404-746-5348) or the Dillard Best Western (404-746-5321), your choice. (Call for reservations & just show this invitation when you check-in).

AND WE ARE BRAZEN ENOUGH TO ASK ALL OUR TU CHAPTERS TO SEND SOME REALLY NICE STUFF OR BETTER YET, BRING IT WHEN YOU COME. YOU WILL BE GIVEN CREDIT IF IT'S GOOD AND WE WILL APOLOGIZE TO THE CROWD IF IT ISN'T.

haservations are not absolutely necessary but will help in our planning if you will call:

Doug Adams 746-5311 (W) 746-2158 (H) Jim Nixon 746-5311 (W) 782-3101 (H) Tan Landreth 754-9202

