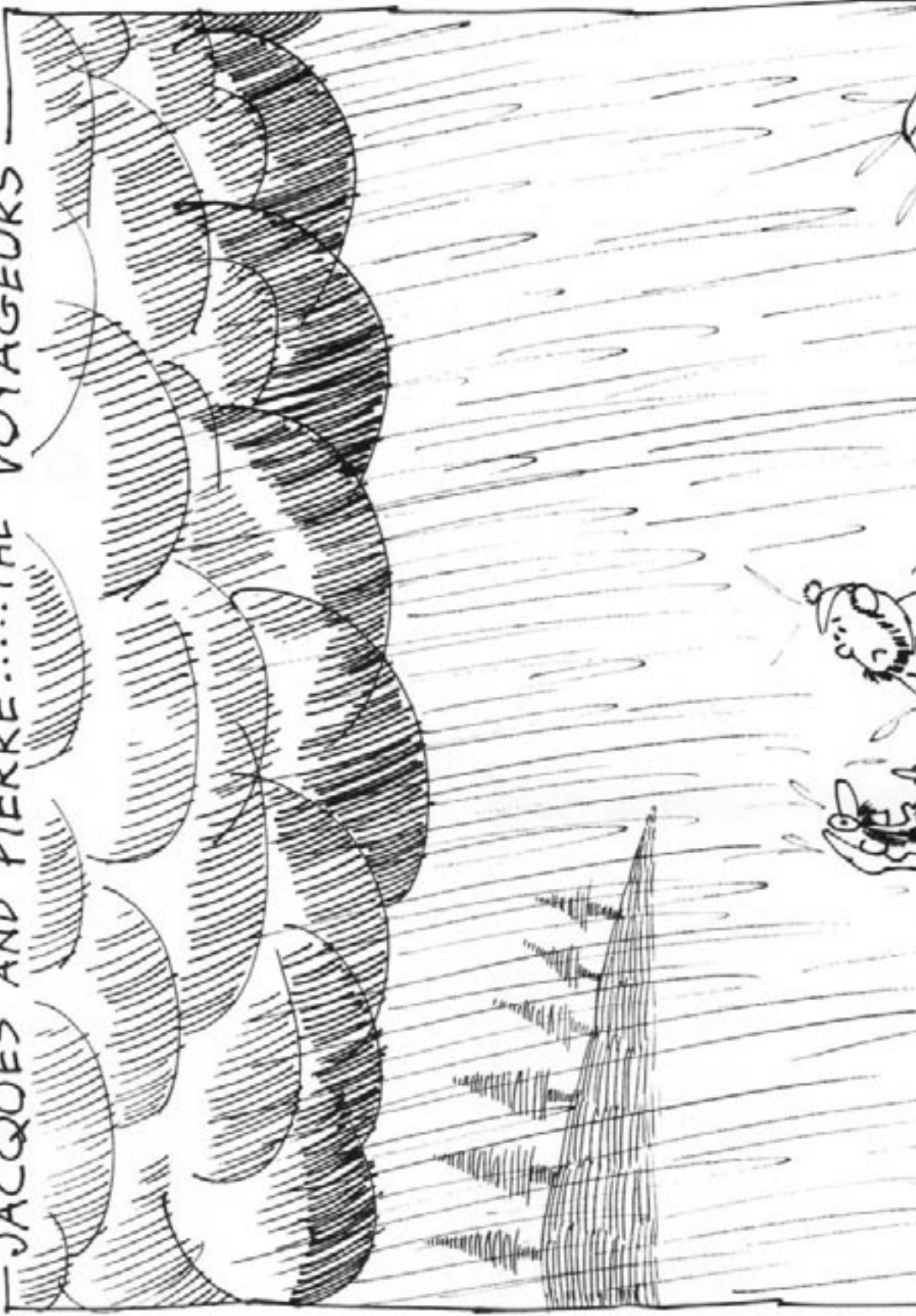


AMERICAN  
WHITewater  
23/6



JACQUES AND PIERRE.....THE VOYAGEURS



# American **WHITEWATER**

Sponsored by The American Whitewater Affiliation  
**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1978** Vol. XXIII, No. 6

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The Staff and committee members listed above are unpaid Whitewater enthusiasts who volunteer their time and efforts to bring affiliatemember subscribers this journal. Your contribution of articles, letters, race results and schedules, photos and drawings are essential for their continued efforts and the timely publication of the American Whitewater Journal.

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**COVER:** In this issue we have news on legislative efforts to keep wild rivers like this one free. See p. 188. Photo by Rick Freimuth.

**BACK COVER:** Al Chase in the Grand Canyon. Photo by Jim Henry.

# LETTERS

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Dear Sir,

As part of my Bachelor of Human Movement Studies (BHMS) degree at University of Queensland, I recently conducted a Biomechanical investigation of the effects of varying paddle lengths on performance of top Surf racing ski paddlers. The findings of this study have direct implications for competitive flatwater kayak racing.

While involved in the study it became obvious to me that very little (if any) scientifically-based research into the design and construction of paddles, kayaks or canoes, or into paddling technique is available in Australia.

I wrote to River World Magazine (formerly Down River) whose Associate Editor, Pamela A. Miller, recommended that I write to you in the hope of acquiring information related to any aspect of kayak paddling performance and training methods which may help me in conducting further, more conclusive research.

I hope to study various aspects of paddle and kayak design and construction, as well as paddling technique under Dr. B.D. Wilson, lecturer in Biomechanics at Univer-

sity of Q'ld. Also under Dr. B.M. Quigley (Exercise Physiology) I will be investigating the effectiveness of various kayak training methods.

I would be extremely grateful for any information (scientifically-based or otherwise) which may guide me in these research areas, and would be pleased to return the favour by sending you copies of my findings if you are interested.

Thanking you for your cooperation. In eager anticipation of your reply,

Yours faithfully,

Rob Dickson  
57 Wylie St.  
Graceville, 4075  
Brisbane, Australia

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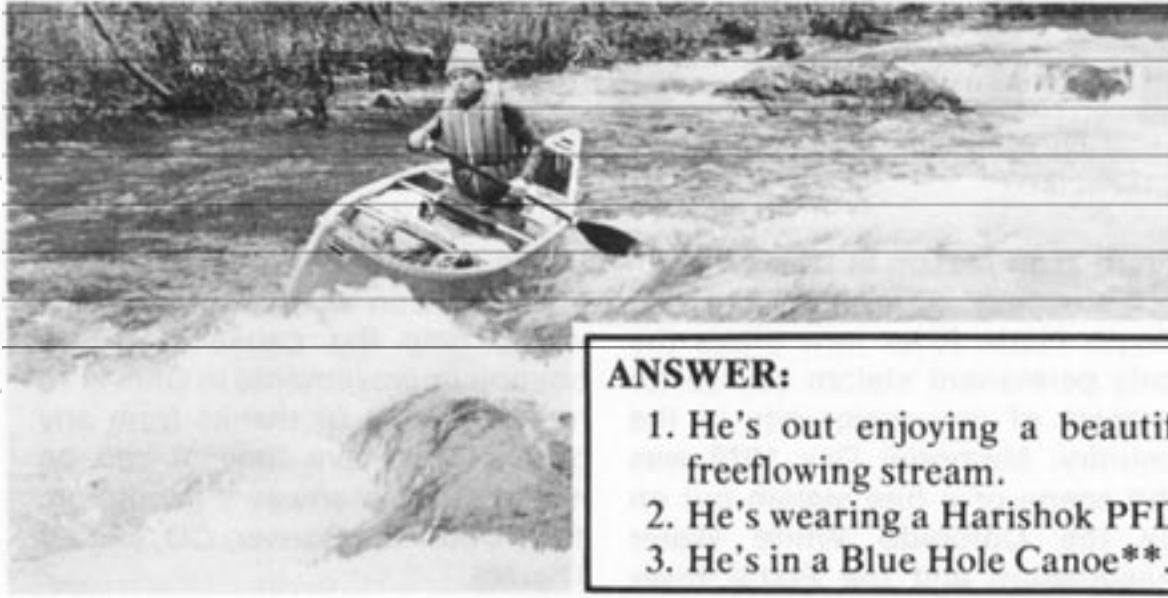
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# FLUVIAL

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**From Joan Mason in Denver:**

It's finally a reality! Denver's South Platte River now offers the only permanent slalom course for boaters of any major city in the country. Memorial Day 1978 was the scene of a fine slalom put on by the Colorado White Water Association and the Platte River Greenway Foundation. The course sports 18 gates in the specially designed boat chute and provides excellent slalom practice with as little as 90 cfs . . . a true inner city boating experience.

We here at the Greenway Foundation would like to thank all the CWWA members who contributed to the course, and particularly Ed Chamberlain, Ben Harding and others who got the boaters out on Memorial Day. The final cost of the course was approximately \$12,000. Boaters contributed \$3000 and the remaining \$9,000 was made available by the Greenway Foundation. As the priorities for recreational pursuits vary so much in a project this size and a city the size of Denver, it was no small feat to allocate almost \$10,000 to kayaking and canoeing. A delegation of boaters thanked the Foundation

Board (Joe Shoemaker) and Mayor McNichols on Memorial Day, but it would help the cause of future boating improvements in Denver to receive a note of thanks from any of you who have time. It can be mailed to: Greenway Foundation, 1421 Court Pl., Denver, CO, 80202! Thanks.

Platte River Greenway Foundation  
Joan Mason

P.S. Your best thanks to the City of Denver is to paddle on the course.

**Volume II of new AMC River Guide Hits the Street**

BOSTON, MA—AMC Director of Publications Arlyn Powell announced today the late June release of the second title in the Club's river guide series, RIVER GUIDE II, covering central and southern New England.

This is the only comprehensive guide to the 13 watersheds of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut," Powell said. "It takes up where RIVER GUIDE I which covers the state of Maine, leaves off."

# NEWS

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Powell went on to cite a reviewer for *The Canoeist's Catalog* who called the first volume in the series "a must for people who paddle."

The river guide series is the creation of canoeist Philip Preston and an AMC committee of seasoned boaters. Preston said RIVER GUIDE II was the product of three years of field work, using the Club's NEW ENGLAND CANOEING GUIDE as a source of information. "Volume II has not only been updated," Preston noted, "but has been entirely reorganized in places to create a book as useful as possible for canoeists of all skill levels."

The new book features an attractive and easy-to-use format, with maps, expository charts, a river rating table and photographs. It is approximately 400 pages long and retails for \$7.95. It comes bound in a flexible, water-resistant soft-cover.

The Appalachian Mountain Club is the nation's oldest mountaineering group. Since its inception in 1876 the Club focus has grown from one of exploration of the New England mountains, to their protection and enhancement for recreational purposes. With a

membership of over 20,000 the Club, a tax-exempt corporation, conducts an increasingly varied program of public service, education, and conservation.

Club headquarters, at 5 Joy Street on Beacon Hill in Boston, houses one of the largest mountaineering libraries in the country and numerous map and photographic collections.

Hundreds of miles of hiking trails, twenty backcountry campsites and shelters, and various public education workshops are maintained by the AMC. In addition, the Club has built and operates nine huts along the ridgepole of the White Mountains, as well as a year round center for climbing, skiing, and mountain rescue.

## **NEW BOOK ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT PROCESS ANNOUNCED**

Information Resources Press has announced the August 1978 publication of a new book, "The Environmental Impact Process: A Guide to Citizen Action," by Neil Orloff, associate professor at Cor-

nell University, where he is on the faculty of the program on science, technology, and society and the department of environmental engineering.

According to the author, who served as legal counsel to the Council on Environmental Quality prior to assuming his present post, "The purpose of 'The Environmental Impact Process: A Guide to Citizen Action' is to help private citizens, local officials, and interested groups learn how the process works. More importantly, it explains how individuals can use the impact statement process to make their views known to government decision makers and thus become part of the government decision-making process."

The usefulness and clarity of the book are enhanced by illustrations by Diane Edwards LaVoy, which highlight the discussions and instructions set forth.

In his foreword to the book, Charles Warren, chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, states: "This excellent book gives citizens the information needed to make their participation in the impact statement process truly effective. It lays out clearly and accurately the particular points and techniques open to citizens to change federal plans and decisions. For this guidance, Professor Orloff, a recognized expert in the environmental impact statement process, is to be congratulated."

The book, retailing at \$10.95, will be available through book dealers,

environmental, and other public interest groups, and directly from Information Resources Press, Suite 316, 2100 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037 (202-293-2605).



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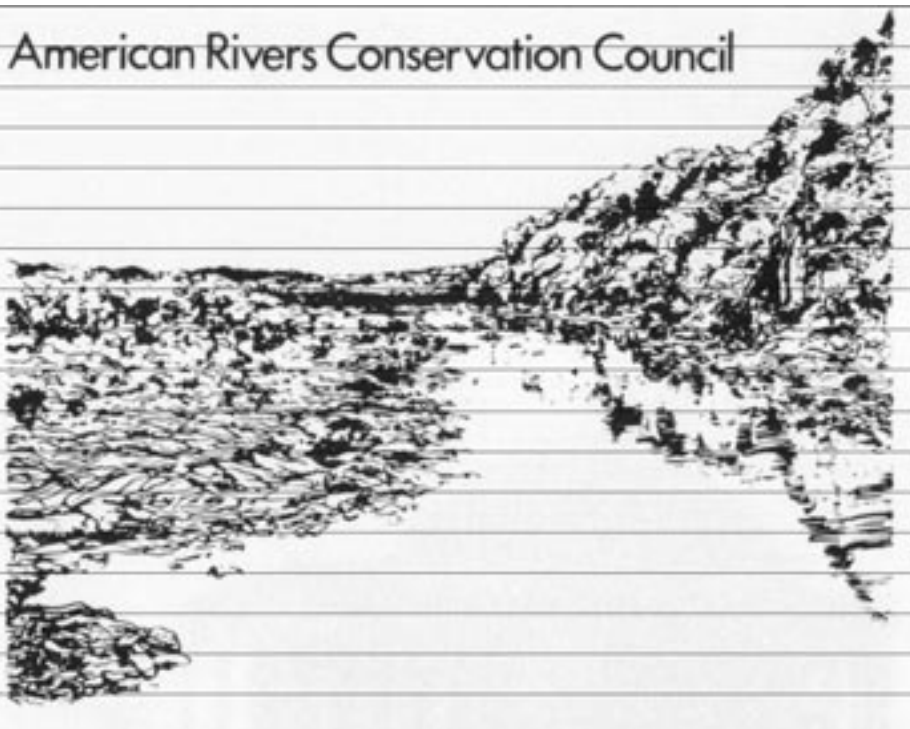
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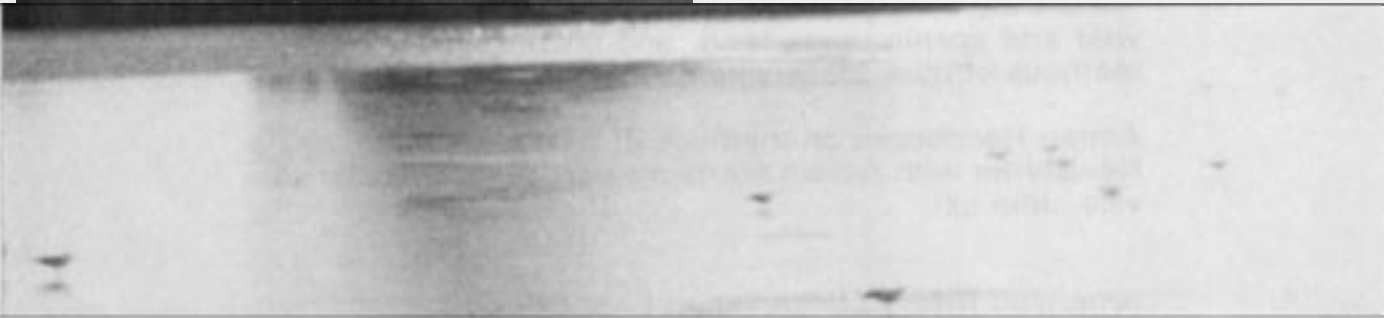
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# The 95th Congress and YOU

## **Good Conservation News from Congress**

*The following is reprinted courtesy of the American Rivers Conservation Council newsletter.*

Several pieces of legislation of great significance to our free-flowing river heritage were part of the flurry of activity of the closing days of the 95th Congress. Although there were setbacks, we fared very well on the whole. Successes were highlighted by passage of the greatest additions to the national wild and scenic river system since its creation and the upholding of an historic veto of the public works appropriations bill.

### **NATIONAL PARKS AND RECREATION ACT OF 1978**

After considerable negotiation with the Senate and complex parliamentary maneuvering, National Parks Subcommittee Chair-

man Phillip Burton of California engineered his omnibus bill through Congress and on its way to the President. The package was added by the House as an amendment to a previously passed Senate bill, S 791 (Sawtooth N.R.A.) on October 4; passed the Senate with amendments late Thursday night October 12; and was cleared by the House first thing the next morning. Nearly all of the major provisions of HR 12536 remained in the bill (wild and scenic rivers, national parks wilderness, Mineral King, Pine Barrens, Santa Monica, Urban Recreation) and some were even strengthened. The result is quite probably the most comprehensive natural areas preservation measure ever.

In regard to wild and scenic rivers (Title VII) we lost several study rivers and two of the generic

amendments, but ended up with 8 designations (Pere Marquette, Rio Grande, Skagit, North Fork American, Upper Delaware, Middle Delaware, Missouri, and St. Joe) and 14 study authorizations (North Fork Kern, Loxahatchee, Ogeechee, Salt Verde, San Francisco, Fish Creek, Black Creek, Upper Allegheny, Cacapon, Escatawpa, Myakka, Soldier Creek, and Red River). An effort to delete the Middle Delaware was defeated on the Senate floor by division vote.

A major addition to the bill (Title XI) was establishment of the New River Gorge National River (basically like a national recreation area but utilizing the protective measures of the wild and scenic rivers act) in West Virginia. Included is wild and scenic study authorization for New River tributaries Greenbriar, Bluestone, and Gauley, and Gauley River tributaries Meadow and Cranberry.

Among several items which were sought in conjunction with but in separate bills from the omnibus bill was a measure to deauthorize the Cross Florida Barge Canal and study the area for possible inclusion in the national park system. While cleared by the Senate, which had passed a similar bill earlier in the year, the measure could not be brought up in the House because unanimous consent was needed to appoint conferees and Congressman Chappell (FL) blocked all efforts to do so.

## BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA

After the Senate balked at the strong bill passed by the House, the two sides in the dispute over the Boundary Waters Canoe Area appointed negotiators who worked out a compromise. When the pro-development side dismissed the compromise out of hand, Senator Anderson (MN) decided to press for passage of that compromise anyhow. The measure was reported with only about a week left in the session, and the conference report (which accepted the Senate version) was passed by both the House and the Senate on the very last day. The BWCA is protected from logging and mining and the area open to motorized boats is reduced.

## ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS

In still one more case where the House had passed a strong measure relatively early and the Senate was not taking action, the Alaskan lands legislation was left unresolved; although the Senate unexpectedly came very close to taking action on the bill. The result is probably in the best environmental interests as the bill reported by the Senate Committee was clearly not acceptable. President Carter and Interior Secretary Andrus have pledged to use the Antiquities Act and other administrative authorities to protect the proposed areas in the absence of legislation.

## **PUBLIC WORKS APPROPRIATIONS**

The big news on the dam fighting side of things is of course that on October 5th President Carter vetoed the Public Works Appropriations bill, and that veto was sustained by the House on the same day. The 223 to 190 vote (significantly short of the two-thirds needed) defeating the override attempt was a strong victory over pork barrel adherents who are staunchly resisting water policy reforms. It is also a strong victory for President Carter, who had been publicly stating his regret for not vetoing last year's bill. A joint resolution serving as a substitute bill which corrected most of the objections Carter had raised was passed both houses on the final day. It deleted the six "hit list" projects which had not been funded in last year's "compromise," deleted ten of the 27 new starts Congress had added to the bill, restored funding for the Water Resources Council, and deleted language mandating the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation to hire 2,300 new employees.

## **WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORIZATION**

Less visible but also a critically important victory was the veto that did not have to happen. Omnibus Corps of Engineers river and harbor and flood control authorization legislation was not passed by the 95th Congress. Effort to pass the

bill failed dramatically in the closing moments in the House as a teller vote showed the lack of a quorum and led to the House's adjournment.

## **LOCK AND DAM 26**

The big setback on the water projects scene was the authorization of replacement of Lock and Dam 26 on the Mississippi River. Senator Russell Long (LA) attached the measure as a rider to a bill relating to taxation of bingo games. This project, which could be the first step toward expanding all of the Mississippi and Illinois River locks and dams, was successfully blocked for several years by railroad and environmental interests in order to get the barge companies to reimburse the costs of constructing and operating waterway projects. President Carter, who had promised to veto any Lock and Dam 26 bill which did not contain a meaningful user charge, reversed his position late in the session and agreed to sign a bill such as the one Senator Long produced. The bill passed the House under suspension by a close vote ( $\frac{2}{3}$  was required) on October 13. We do now, for the first time, have a waterway user fee, but we have lost the leverage for one that is of real significance.

## **ENDANGERED SPECIES**

The reauthorization of the Endangered Species Program was a disappointment as it seriously

weakened the program and set up special procedures for reviewing its effect upon Tellico Dam in Tennessee and the Grey Rocks Project in Wyoming. House floor action sought to drastically gut the program, but the language agreed on in the conference was for the most part based on the Senate provisions passed earlier which only mildly destroyed the program.

### COLORADO RIVER BASIN

One additional setback was attached to the Department of the Interior Appropriations bill passed a couple of weeks before Congress adjourned. Water projects in the Colorado River Basin were exempted from the National Environmental Policy Act. This action could nullify a current court challenge requesting a comprehensive impact statement for the entire basin. This Environmental Defense Fund suit was seen as a hope for slowing down some of the really bad projects planned for the Southwest.

### GET THE WHOLE PICTURE

Of American river conservation developments in the monthly ARCC newsletter and support national conservation efforts at the same time. Send \$10 or more to:

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# LETTER BOMBS

## for the Dickey-Lincoln

by Fern Stearns

*Have you been looking for a new and different weapon with which to fight a proposed new dam in your area? If so, consider the following letter, which appeared in the Bangor Daily News on December 6, 1977:*

To the Editor:

Even though I'm an out-of-stater, I hope you'll print my letter. Dickey-Lincoln Dam should be built to supply the people of Massachusetts and the rest of southern New England with electricity. We need it to maintain our sophisticated lifestyle. All our modern appliances like color TV's, air conditioners, and dishwashers don't run on air. The ignorant backwoods types in Maine just wouldn't understand. All they care about are a few trees and deer. So what if they flood some trees; as for deer, what good are they? If they build the dam, it will provide a lot of jobs for the unemployed in Massachusetts who can move up there.

Who knows—many of us might even stay and start a new city after we've modernized the area. So what if they flood a couple hundred residents out? The government will give them new houses—a small price to pay to keep Massachusetts and the rest of us in electricity. I've seen northern Maine before. What it needs is a good dose of pavement.

It's a good thing Maine's Senators Hathaway and Muskie care about the rest of us and not just the backwoods types in Maine. Now if we can convince them that Maine is an ideal place to build nuclear power plants for the rest of New England. The construction would provide thousands of jobs for the rest of us unemployed workers who could move up there.

Write them and tell them so.

Anthony Velucci  
Boston, Mass.



*Excerpts from some of the responses:*

"If we are as ignorant as you say, I should think you had rather stay in your so-called sophisticated lifestyle, even unemployed, than to come up here with such an ignorant bunch as you say we are. My estimation of a man that will make the statements that you did is one who could only get a job like putting lime in an outhouse in warm weather.. ."

**Another—**

"Afore I went to sleep tonite my wife helpt this por ignorant man to rite to you at BDN about that boy with big ideas in Boston.. ."

**From Patten—**

I do wish Anthony Velucci's address had been given. Boston, Mass. isn't much for an address. . . Did he ever hear of doing dishes in a dishpan and wiping them on a dish towel?. . . I'm glad he thinks Muskie and Hathaway care about "the rest of us in Massachusetts" 'cause they sure don't seem to do much for anyone else . . ."

**From Millinocket—**

"It has already been established by the Maine populus that we don't want Dickey-Lincoln Dam. As far as kilowatts and jobs are concerned, that small river, the St. John, does not amount to the proverbial hole in the snow."

**Belfast—**

"Instead of running power lines form the Canadian border to the Boston area, we could have the state of Massachusetts dam up the Charles River. It may flood a few

buildings but the amount of money saved from the power lines alone would amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars. Secondly, we could have the Bay State build a nuclear power plant in the middle of your living room . . ."

*This went on for weeks. BDN offered no comments whatsoever, but the editors did accent just one of the letters by putting it in a little box.*

*That lettec*

Judging from the responses in this column, it's clear that Anthony Velucci has accomplished just what he intended in his letter of Dec. 6: NOT to urge the construction of Dickey-Lincoln for the benefit of wastful, arrogant out-of-staters, but to rouse knee jerk, almost hysterical emotion AGAINST the project.

I'm suprised that so many readers took the letter "straight", not recognizing its bitter satire. The author is obviously no contemptuous Bostonian, but an ardent enviornmentalists who has found an effective way to propagandize for his cause.

*The letter in the box apparently failed to convince people that Velucci was indeed a satirist. Irate*

readers who took him seriously continued to send letters to the BDN. Finally, Marshall Stone, the editor of the paper, called a moratorium on the subject, with the observation, "Hell hath no fury like a Mainer scorned." He also wrote that the paper had been receiving a lot of flak from Senators Muskie and Hathaway: "Some of their aides, in fact, think the letter was planted by the 'other side' to arouse the anti-Dickey stalwarts out there and get some bad ink for their bosses."

The aides suggested that there was no real Velucci; they had checked the Boston phone books, found no Anthony, and accused the BDN of having been taken in. Some reportedly admitted that they have engaged in orchestrated letters-to-the-editor-campaigns, but self-righteously protest that while "encouragement" of a letter to the editor is ethical, a "fraudulent" letter with an invalid signature is not.

Poor Editor Stone. The irate politicians were as persistent as the irate Mainers had been. Upon announcing the moratorium, he wrote:

"I've been thinking of taking a week off from work and going down to Boston on a manhunt. I figure it would take about a week to knock on all the doors up and down Beacon street, where Velucci supposedly lives. There's nothing I'd like more than to turn up a live, flesh-and-blood Anthony Velucci . . ."

Stone then went on to make a

valid point, "Even if there is no real Anthony Velucci, there is someone out there who . . . has a cleverly infuriating approach to the dam controversy. Just because we can't PROVE there's a Velucci, does that make his opinion any less real?"

Maine's Governor has not yet taken a stand on the proposed Dickey-Lincoln Dams, although his citizen's advisory committee decided against it, by a narrow margin. Dams are very seldom built in a state without the approval of the governor of that state.

From "An Overview of the Proposed Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes Hydro-Electric Project" printed by the New England Division of the Corps of Engineers, March, 1978:

"The two proposed earth fill dams located at Dickey are 10,200 feet in length with a maximum height of 335 feet. . . A second earth filled dam located eleven miles downstream at Lincoln School would serve as a regulatory dam. . .

"In the reservoir area, 88,650 acres of existing terrestrial and aquatic habitat would be converted to a standing water ecosystem. Inundation would destroy 278 miles of free flowing rivers and streams . . . Transmission facilities would cross 352 rivers and streams and 80 wetland areas . . . The total length of the proposed line is 365 miles . . . across northern Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont."

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### NEW TREASURER NEEDED

After many years of superlative service. Rosemary Gabler is ready to throw in the towel as AWA's treasurer. Person's interested in filling this vital post should contact:

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