

for farms, rural communities, and industries. Many of these projects can "directly affect" scenic rivers and still be compatible with the purposes of the Scenic Rivers Act. In many cases they will further these purposes by protecting water quality through prevention of erosion and sedimentation. They can extend the seasons scenic rivers can be used and enjoyed by helping to stabilize river flows.

We therefore recommend that section 7 be amended as follows:

(1) On page 14 line 13 delete the words "on or directly affecting any such river" and substitute the following: "that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which any such river was established as determined by the Secretary charged with its administration or approval."

(2) On page 14 delete the sentence beginning on line 13 and substitute the following: "At the time any Department or agency of the United States recommends authorization of or requests appropriations to begin construction of any water resources project that would affect a component of the national scenic rivers system such Department or agency shall report in writing to the Secretary charged with the administration or approval of such component and to the Congress indicating how the project would affect the component and the values to be protected by this Act."

(3) On page 15 lines 6 and 7 delete the words "on or directly affecting any such river" and substitute the following: "that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river might be designated as determined by the Secretary responsible for its study or approval."

(4) On page 15 line 10 insert after the comma following the word "Interior" the following: "or the Secretary of Agriculture where national forest lands are involved."

(5) On page 15, line 25, preceding "No" insert the following sentence, "Upon notification by the Federal Power Commission that an application has been received for a license on or directly affecting any river listed in section 5, subsection (a), of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, or the Secretary of Agriculture where national forest lands are involved, shall proceed to complete the study within two years after the receipt of such notice."

(6) On pages 15 and 16 delete the sentence beginning on line 25 on page 15 and substitute the following sentence: "At the time any Department or agency of the United States during the period specified in this subsection recommends authorization of or requests appropriations to begin construction of any water resources project that would affect any river listed in section 5, subsection (a) of this Act, such Department or agency shall report in writing to the Secretary charged with its study or approval and to the Congress indicating how the project would affect the values to be protected by this Act."

(7) On page 16 line 13 following the word "Interior" insert a comma and the following: "or the Secretary of Agriculture where national forest lands are involved."

In his report to your Committee, the Secretary of the Interior is recommending additional amendments to H.R. 8416. We concur in these recommendations.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report and that enactment of legislation along the lines recommended herein would be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

ORVILLE L. FREEMAN,
Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
July 20, 1967.

HON. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter is in response to your requests of April 17, 1967, for a report on H.R. 90, H.R. 493, H.R. 3996, H.R. 6166, and H.R. 6588, bills that would be enacted as the "Scenic Rivers Act"; H.R. 6373 and H.R. 8416, bills that would be enacted as the "National Scenic Rivers Act"; and H.R. 7020, a bill "To provide for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas, and for other purposes."