

H.R. 90 takes a different approach. It refers to specific maps in the use of "instant" rivers, and provides for submission of specific information as to land, scenic easements or other interests in land required individually for each "study" river that is recommended for inclusion in the system. Where the power of condemnation is authorized it may not extend more than one mile on either side of river, in the case of acquisition in fee, nor more than two miles in the case of acquisition of scenic easements or other interests other than in fee. H.R. 90 provides, as does S. 119, that Indian lands may not be acquired without their consent. Further, land within any incorporated city, village or borough may not be condemned if satisfactory zoning ordinances are in force, nor county lands acquired, if a satisfactory plan for management, zoning and protection is being followed.

H.R. 8416 provides in more detail for the submission of plans, maps, acquisition needs, costs, administration, potential alternative uses and other information which Congress, and the public, should have available at the time a "study" river is ready to be considered for inclusion in the system. In our judgment, that should be the time to make the essential determinations which can then be tailored to the characteristics and potentials of the individual river. These characteristics would among other things include the physical topography of the valley, population pressures, development pressures, existing land and water uses which may or may not lend themselves to scenic or other types of easements, and the ability and extent of cooperation to be expected from local jurisdictions.

H.R. 8416 provides that lands and interests in lands may not be acquired, without the consent of the Indian tribe, the State or the political subdivision in which located, unless there are not in effect valid zoning laws, or a plan of management that will protect the land and assure its use for purposes consistent with this Act. This language certainly does two things: it places the burden on the Secretary to develop firm guidelines for zoning ordinances and plans of management which will assure uses and activities consistent with the purposes of the Act; and it requires adoption and firm enforcement of such ordinances and management plans by the local jurisdictions involved. If both follow through effectively, the purposes of the Act can be accomplished, with a minimum of disruption to riparian owners, with a minimum effect on the local tax base, and with a minimum of Federal cost. Moreover, the prospect of expanding the scenic rivers system would be greatly enhanced, especially into areas where population pressures and needs may be the greatest.

If such language is approved we would urge the addition of the words "unless otherwise authorized by law" following the words "case may be"—Sec. 6(a), page 12, line 11. This would have the effect of not withdrawing authorities to acquire land granted heretofore or hereafter by Congress for purposes other than scenic rivers.

It is noted that the 4 rivers in the "instant" category of H.R. 8416 are western and largely in Federal ownership now. Their inclusion in the system ought to be accomplished with a minimum of the kinds of problems that can be expected in regions outside the public land states. We recognize the need for detailed study and individual consideration of rivers subsequently proposed for inclusion in the system. Membership of League units across the country will contribute in the years ahead to such studies and will work for the inclusion of as many qualified streams as possible.

We believe, however, that it would be desirable to include a couple of eastern rivers in the initial legislation. The Department of Interior suggests, and S. 119 provides that a paragraph be inserted authorizing the Secretary to declare the Allagash or the Wolf National Scenic Rivers upon application from the governor of Maine or Wisconsin, respectively. This is in addition to the procedure outlined in sections 2(a) (ii) and 4(c) of H.R. 8416 for designation as a National Scenic River a stream protected and designated scenic by state law. The committee will probably hear from these governors or their representatives later this month as to which procedure is best suited to needs of the particular cases.

Of those in the "study" category of H.R. 8416 we understand that the St. Croix-Namekagan has been most thoroughly studied and is ready for consideration for inclusion.

We believe these additions would be of tremendous help in encouraging scenic river planning and action at the state and local level.

One tangible result of the discussion of a national scenic rivers system is the decision of many State governments to study and develop their own scenic river