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News Notes

Southeastern Fishes Council

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News Notes

ies. The Corps of Engineers and Tennessee Valley Authority are overseeing permitting of barge terminals at the mills. Much of the land is privately owned, and there is concern that the companies involved will simply clearcut the tracts without attention to best management practices. A number of environmental groups are calling for a careful study of the impacts and the SFC should join the chorus.

Bud Freeman reports that plans to impound the Tallapoosa River north of Tallapoosa, GA to create the West Georgia Regional Reservoir are on hold pending completion of an EIS. In fact, all other regional reservoir plans for the Coosa, Tallapoosa and Chattahoochee Rivers are being delayed until the Corps has had the chance to study the long range consequences for states involved. This inaction on regional water projects will not affect a number of smaller-scale projects that are being proposed by local interests in the region.

The Cobb Co./Marietta Water Authority has purchased land and is pursuing development of a water supply reservoir on Sharp Mountain Creek, a direct trib to the Etowah, to create a water supply reservoir. There are also plans to situate the nation's largest landfill on the Etowah River in the general vicinity of Sharp Mountain Creek. These recent projects join a growing list of developments on the Etowah and a number of its tributaries that could have disastrous consequences for species such as *Percina antesella* (Bud has discovered populations of the latter at 4 sites on the Etowah River and one sit on Sharp Mountain Creek) and the undescribed Cherokee darter. A landfill is also being proposed for Mill Creek, a direct trib to the Conasauga River in Bradley Co. TN. Finally, a private land owner has apparently constructed a make-shift stream channel to the Cartecay River and is diverting water from a trib through the channel, causing a tremendous sedimentation problem for goldline darters.

Choctawatchee River Basin: The Corps of Engineers and the Alabama Soil Conservation Service have been given the green light to conduct a basinwide study in the Choctawatchee/Pea river system to identify needs in the basin. The primary driving force for this action is to examine the feasibility of impounding the Pea River at Arton to form a 5,000 to 12,00 acre lake for flood control, water supply, recreation, and water conservation. Past Corps studies estimated a benefit/cost ratio below unity, however indications are that the weight of local support is in favor of this project due to changing basin physiography and recent severe flooding downstream.

Apalachicola Basin: The Corps of Engineers is looking favorably on a USFWS proposal to build a hatchery for Gulf sturgeon below Jim Woodruff Dam on the Apalachicola River.

Other tidbits: A status of federally threatened has now been officially proposed for the blue shiner. A status review on Alabama molluscs is due out soon (in agency review right now). It proposes 11 new endangered mussels, 9 new extinctions, and over 100 snails for the candidate species list (many believed extinct). In all, 80 Alabama mussels are either extinct or critically endangered.

H. Bart

NEWS NOTES

Wildbranch Workshop in Outdoor, Natural History and Environmental Writing is for people with either personal or professional interests. The workshop is a week of classes, lectures, discussion groups and readings in the craft and techniques of fine writing. The fifth-annual workshop will be offered June 21-27, 1992 at Sterling College, a small college in northern Vermont known for its hands-on approach to the study of natural resources.

This year's faculty will include outdoor writers Steve Bodio and Joe Vance; natural history writer Gale Lawrence; Ian and Margo Baldwin, publishers of Chelsea Green Press; Les Line, former editor of *Audubon*; environmental journalist Karl Grossman and journalists Richard and Joyce Wolkomir.

For additional information, contact, David W. Brown in care of Wilbranch, Sterling College, Craftsbury Common, VT 05827 or call 1-800-648-3591.

Available November 1991 from The McDonald & Woodward Publishing Company, P.O. Box 10308, Blacksburg, VA 24062-0308, (703) 951-9465: VIRGINIA'S ENDANGERED SPECIES *Produced in cooperation with Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Museum of Natural History, Karen Terwilliger, coordinator.*

Regarded by many as the best of statewide books treating threatened and endangered species, *Virginia's Endangered Species* is an attractive and up-to-date reference book on the rare and vulnerable plants and animals of Virginia. For each species covered the following information is provided: a description of the taxon; a written summary and a map of its distribution in Virginia and North America; an overview of its natural history; a synopsis of its legal and recommended statuses; a discussion of threats to its continued survival in Virginia; and recommendations for its conservation. Color plates illustrate most described taxa. Information is current through summer 1991.

The volume will be of value to scientists, educators, librarians, environmentalists, planners, attorneys, and all others who are involved with or concerned about the conservation of rare plants and animals. Its relevance is not limited to Virginia, but extends to throughout the middle Atlantic and middle Appalachian regions.

Only 2500 copies have been printed for general distribution.

viii + 672 pages, 229 color plates, 331 b/w figures, 44 tables, 8.5 x 11. Cloth (0-939923-16-5) price, \$59.95. Paper (0-939923-17-3) price, \$32.95

ROYALTIES GO TO THE NON-GAME AND ENDANGERED SPECIES FUND TO SUPPORT FUTURE CONSERVATION EFFORTS IN VIRGINIA.

ATTENTION

CHANGE IN TIME AND PLACE SOUTHEASTER FISHES COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

The SFC business meeting, originally scheduled for 4 pm Friday, 10 April 1992, has been rescheduled to follow immediately the Ichs. and Herps. business meeting that begins at 5 pm on 9 April 1992 in the Wilson Room of the Bryant Conference Center.

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