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Cache River

T. B. FITZHUGH

Attorney at Law

115 MAIN STREET

AUGUSTA, ARKANSAS

AREA CODE 501 347-5586

February 5, 1975

Mr. Norman Ross
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ross:

As a member of the group that met with you this past Friday concerning the Cache River project in eastern Arkansas, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to discuss this matter with you. As I indicated to you at the meeting, there is a great deal of local opposition to the project that is purportedly designed to benefit the local residents.

Over the past 40 years the multitude of projects by the Army Corps of Engineers within the State of Arkansas has benefited the state economically and in most instances the impact on the environment has not been too severe. However, it is apparent that the Corps is beginning to take on more marginal projects which confer benefits to a limited number of individuals and at great cost to the public treasury and in the case of the Cache, the environment as well.

By coincidence, the City of Augusta, of which I serve as city attorney, this past January was awarded a waste water treatment grant through the Environmental Protection Agency. The city will, of course, be responsible for 25% of the cost of this project with the federal government providing the remaining 75%. If, as it appears here in Arkansas, the Army Corps of Engineers has run out of bona fide public work - public benefit projects - perhaps they should be given authority to provide assistance to local communities in developing and constructing waste water treatment plants.

Very truly yours,

T. B. Fitzhugh

T. B. Fitzhugh

2.
69.
P. S. I would appreciate receiving a copy of Mr. Reed's comments on the recent mitigation proposal dealing with the Cache project. The interior floodplain of the Cache River should be purchased for the fish, wildlife, recreation and flood control benefits as timber and wildlife production is the highest and best use of this area unless the government is prepared to underwrite at a later date the channelization of the White River, then the Arkansas River and finally the Mississippi River.

TBF/cc



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

- Ask Corps to justify difference and what not use ecological criteria is justify B.C.
- State of Ill would like to have program stopped

Alternatives

- Level spill ways and flood ways
 - Draft EIS - page 11 insufficient compensation - cannot mitigate
-
- Get CEA and Interior to get opinion on economic and hydrologic impacts
 - Distribute relief payments
 - How did they justify changes in B.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

- env. report loss to
\$11.7 million (draft)
\$4.9 After Adjustments
Police debt.
- 9.3% of people will reap
benefit
- No one why don't the Cops
take into consideration.

B.C

1941 - .48
1944 - .83
1948 - 1.52



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

- 2 -

- Did not conform with C&R guidelines.
- Down stream hydrological impact.
- No M.M. goal of dis/machine
- Impact on energy utilization
- Env. Qual. Act and some structural measures - Water Resource Council w/ not.
- Brand Treaty - M. got - Bole



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Re:

- Project cannot be justified
Water found
Land clearance
of all other indigenous species
- People do not want the
Project
- Cost-benefit analysis did not
include natural destruction
of approx. 600 only 5 worth
the Project.
- Cost of sedimentation trap
- Env. Impact Statement is in
review at
- High gains for Ag. Low for
env. damage. Advance

VISTING GROUP

Rex Hancock
Citizens Committee To Save The Cache River Basin
Stuttgart, Arkansas

J. Burton Angelle, Director
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
New Orleans, Louisiana

William G. Peterson, Assistant Attorney General
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dr. John S. Gottschalk, Executive Vice President
International Association of Game, Fish and
Conservation Commissioners
Washington, D.C.

Paul A. Lenzini, Legal Counsel
International Association of Game, Fish and
Conservation Commissioners
Washington, D.C.

Dr. Laurence R. Jahn, Vice President
Wildlife Management Institute
Washington, D.C.

Thomas L. Kimball, Executive Director
National Wildlife Federation
Washington, D.C.

Brock Evans, Washington Representative
Sierra Club
Washington, D.C.

Bay Fitzhugh, Area Resident
Member Arkansas Environmental Preservation Commission
Augusta, Arkansas

Cynthia E. Wilson, Washington Representative
National Audubon Society
Washington, D.C.

Dr. Edward L. Kozicky, Director
Conservation Department
Winchester-Western Division
Olin Corporation
East Alton, Illinois

Dr. William Weiss, Member of Advisory Board
Department of Illinois
Springfield, Illinois



CITIZENS COMMITTEE
TO

This mtg. is set up
for the 3rd

SAVE THE CACHE RIVER BASIN

515 SOUTH MAIN

STUTTGART, ARKANSAS 72160

File

President
Rex Hancock D.D.S.

~

Supporting Organizations

State of Minnesota
State of Iowa
State of Illinois
State of Ohio
State of Wisconsin
State of Kentucky
State of South Dakota
State of North Dakota
State of Missouri
State of Louisiana
International Association of
Game, Fish and Conservation
Commissioners
Midwest Association of Game
and Fish Commissioners
Southeast Association of Game
and Fish Commissioners
Conservation Federation of
Missouri
National Wildlife Federation
Wildlife Management Institute
Environmental Defense Fund
Outdoor Writers of America
National Audubon Society
Izaak Walton League
of America
The Sierra Club
National Shooting Sports
Foundation
Ducks Unlimited
Arkansas Game & Fish
Commission
Arkansas Wildlife Federation
Flint Michigan Chapter
Ducks Unlimited
Michigan United
Conservation Club
Michigan Duck Hunters
Genesee County
Sportsmens Assn.
Welder Wildlife Foundation
Ozark Society
Ding Darling Foundation
American Bowhunters
Committee
Trout Unlimited
West Tennessee
Sportsmens Club
Winchester Western
American Forestry Assn.
Sport Fisheries Institute
American Duck Hunters Assn.
Citizen's Committee for
Responsible Forests
Southeast Sportsmens Club
of Illinois (Chicago)
United Sportsmens Club
(West St. Paul, Minn.)
Fergus Falls Fish &
Game Club
Wilderness Watch
Waterfowlers United (Iowa)
Migratory Waterfowl
Hunters Inc. of Illinois
Duck Hunters Assn.
of Minnesota
Fred Bear Sports Club
The Bass Anglers Sportsman
Society of America

January 13, 1975

Mr. Norman E. Bass, Jr.
Assistant Director
Domestic Council
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bass:
Thank you! for your
letter of January 7.
I am in the process of
contacting representatives
of our organization. I
will call your secretary
for an appointment as
soon as possible.
Yours for the wise use
of our resources,
Beverly Howard OAS
President



January 7, 1975

Dear Dr. Hancock:

Due to Mr. William Timmons resignation as the Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs, I am responding to your December 25 letter regarding a meeting to discuss the U.S. Corps of Engineers proposal to channelize the Cache River-Bayou DeView Basin.

I would be most pleased to sit down and discuss with you this most important issue. If you would please contact my secretary at (202) 456-6554 I will be anxious to set a time that is most convient for you and your associates to come to Washington.

I will be waiting to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Norman E. Ross, Jr.
Assistant Director
Domestic Council

Dr. Rex Hancock
President
Save the Cache River Basin
515 South Main
Stuttgart, Arkansas 22160

NEROSS/ee

*trying Jan 23- 1/13
30 & 31
to meet with back to
confirm -
He was to bring hydrologist.*



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 12/30/74

TO:

Norm Ross
KENNETH COLE

FROM:

WILLIAM TIMMONS. *W*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION _____

FOR YOUR COMMENTS _____

FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLING

X

OTHER

*Do you want to meet
with them?*

EE.



CITIZENS COMMITTEE
TO
SAVE THE CACHE RIVER BASIN

515 SOUTH MAIN

STUTTGART, ARKANSAS 72160

25 December 1974

501

President
Rex Hancock D.D.S.

Supporting Organizations

State of Minnesota
State of Iowa
State of Illinois
State of Ohio
State of Wisconsin
State of Kentucky
State of South Dakota
State of North Dakota
State of Missouri
State of Louisiana
International Association of
Game, Fish and Conservation
Commissioners
Midwest Association of Game
and Fish Commissioners
Southeast Association of Game
and Fish Commissioners
Conservation Federation of
Missouri
National Wildlife Federation
Wildlife Management Institute
Environmental Defense Fund
Outdoor Writers of America
National Audubon Society
Izaak Walton League
of America
The Sierra Club
National Shooting Sports
Foundation
Ducks Unlimited
Arkansas Game & Fish
Commission
Arkansas Wildlife Federation
Flint Michigan Chapter
Ducks Unlimited
Michigan United
Conservation Club
Michigan Duck Hunters
Genesee County
Sportsmens Assn.
Welder Wildlife Foundation
Ozark Society
Ding Darling Foundation
American Bowhunters
Committee
Trout Unlimited
West Tennessee
Sportsmens Club
Winchester Western
American Forestry Assn.
Sport Fisheries Institute
American Duck Hunters Assn.
Citizen's Committee for
Responsible Forests
Southeast Sportsmens Club
of Illinois (Chicago)
United Sportsmens Club
(West St. Paul, Minn.)
Fergus Falls Fish &
Game Club
Wilderness Watch
Waterfowlers United (Iowa)
Migratory Waterfowl
Hunters Inc. of Illinois
Duck Hunters Assn.
of Minnesota
Fred Bear Sports Club
The Bass Anglers Sportsman
Society of America

Mr. William E. Timmons
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20050

DEC 28 1974

Dear Mr. Timmons:

This organization, composed of this nations leading men of expertise in hydrology, forestry, migratory waterfowl, fish, wildlife, and economics, respectfully requests an appointment with you to discuss the U.S. Corps of Engineers proposal to channelize and destroy, the Cache River-Bayou DeView Basin.

Volumes could be written on this project. I do not have the time to do it and I know that you do not have the time to read it.

This project needs be de-authorized and certainly needs to be included in the President's recommendation of projects to be dropped.

I am anxiously awaiting a reply. I will need a week or two to contact the men that I desire to accompany me to meet with you.

I will have a representative of each State that has entered in this suit against the Corps, in addition to a leading authority from each field previously listed.

Yours for the wise use of our resources,

Rex Hancock, D.D.S.

Rex Hancock, D.D.S.
President

673-3346

673-1954

enclosures:

Statement of the Manager of the White River National
Wildlife Refuge.

Resolution of the Stuttgart City Council (which has been endorsed by many other Cities in Arkansas.



Cache Drainage Effect On Refuge Projected

(Ed. Note: White River Wildlife Refuge Manager Raymond R. McMaster was asked recently by the news media for his assessment of the effect of the Cache River Drainage Project on the future of the Refuge. Here, he draws on 12 years of experience as its manager to project a scholarly analysis of the issue, written in layman's language.)

By **RAYMOND R. McMASTER**
Refuge Manager

What will be the effects of the Cache River-Bayou DeView Project on lands, waters, fish and wildlife of the White River National Wildlife Refuge?

That's such a big question it can not be answered completely by anyone. It would take years of research to answer it scientifically. I can only attempt to give part of the answer, in laymen's terms, based on twelve years of experience as manager of the 113,000 acre White River National Wildlife Refuge.

The White River Refuge is located within the flood basin of the lower White River from just a few miles above its' confluence with the Mississippi River to six miles above St. Charles, Ark. The refuge varies in width from three to 10 miles.

There are 99,000 acres of forested bottomland hardwoods, 7,000 acres of lakes, bayous and water areas, 1,100 acres of farm land and a number of recreational areas, administrative sites and rights-of-way.

These lowlands provide habitat for up to 300,000 migrating and wintering ducks, 1500 Canada geese, and many furbearing and game animals. As many as 227 different species of birds visit or live year-round on the refuge.

The timberlands, with the large number of lakes and many miles of streams and bayous, provide ideal fish and wildlife habitat of a quality that is fast disappearing in the White River basin.

The downstream effects of the channelization project on Cache River-Bayou DeView are related to water velocity and water quality. These two changes will result in increased soil erosion, increased siltation, warmer water temperatures, vegetative type changes, changes in quantity and species of fish, decreases in certain forms of animal life, chemical changes in the water, changes in water hydrology and as an end result will change man's recreational and economic pursuits.

The channelization authorized and under construction on the Cache River will increase runoff from the basin into the White River. This increase in water velocity will cause soil suspended in the water to be deposited somewhere down stream.

Rapid flowing water changes the thermal layers of water from cool on the bottom and warm on top to a stream with almost the same temperature from top to bottom. This change in temperature and the added turbidity (muddy water) causes changes to take place in aquatic animal life and in the ground vegetation following overflows.

The increased water runoff from open land and increased flow rates will cause tons of silt to be displaced to some downstream point. As these waters spill into the lower White River basin, the velocity will decrease and silt will be deposited or settled out on the land. As the water current slows, the larger and heavier particles will settle out first and finally the smallest particles are deposited in practically still water.

The fine material is really small clay particles and is what most concerns the lower end of the basin. This clay or silt is often referred to as 'muck' or 'blue mud' and fits together in tight layers almost impervious to water and sometimes plants.

Silt deposits on the White River Refuge will eventually cause the natural 'oxbow lakes' to fill up enough to allow woody plants such as water elm, water locust, button bush and swamp privet to establish itself. This vegetation slowly encroaches on a lake during the drier periods until at last the lake is grown over completely.

In established timbered areas, silt is readily deposited during overflow periods because the trees slow down water movement and when water movement slows down the silt settles out. These silt deposits eventually cause most elms, oaks and associated species to die from root compaction. These are usually replaced by the less desirable wildlife species mentioned above. Annual plants and grasses also are affected by these silt deposits.

The large seeding plants such as cocklebur and morning glory have little trouble germinating and pushing their way through the tight soil. Small seeded plants such as smartweed, panicum grass, sprangletop and the pond weeds, all valuable to waterfowl, can not germinate in layers of tight silt.

As silting increases the amount of native foods are reduced for waterfowl, big game and upland game. Fish populations are directly affected by higher water temperatures, turbid water and chemical composition of the water.

Faster drainage will increase the amount of herbicides and insecticides used in the watershed, that reach the streams and lakes while they are still potent. These insecticides kill millions of small water animals and soil organisms that are the basic

foods in the fish food chain. Also these same insecticides kill fish that upsets the balance of fish life in a stream. Turbid or muddy water causes changes in the species of fish in the water. Many studies have shown that fish populations have been reduced by 75 per cent in total pounds per surface acre and that fish species most affected by turbid water are those most desired by man.

Slow-flowing streams with deep pools under overhanging tree branches have warm water near the surface and cooler water near the bottom. Fast moving straight channels with bank vegetation removed has the same temperature from top to bottom.

Straight, fast moving streams develop the same depth throughout their length. This constant flat bottom destroys the depressions that fish use to lay their eggs in. If fish make their own depression, then the stream continually silts over the eggs and they do not hatch.

We might summarize by saying the more rapid the water runoff, increased turbidity, and the influence of potent chemicals; the waters of the White River Basin will increase in bullhead catfish, bowfin, carp, and gar. Channel catfish, blue catfish, bass, and sun fishes will decrease.

When fish life decreases it has a chain reaction on other animal populations. Raccoons, mink, and otter are three of our major fur bearers and depend upon fish for a majority of their food. These species will decline.

Insecticide residues stored in the basic minute water and soil animals is passed on in the food chain to other animals and finally to man. These residues eventually lead to a loss of reproduction and in many cases death. The bald eagle is our most outstanding and well-known example.

Many other popular large water birds that depend on aquatic animals and plants for food are herons, egrets, ibis, and of course some species of ducks. So due to a decline in the fish population and contamination from insecticides these birds will decrease. Besides the decrease in fish and wildlife populations as a result of channelization, there are other factors that will affect the management of the refuge.

Loss of waterfowl habitat along the Cache River as a result of land clearing with or without the project will place certain demands on the habitat of the White River Refuge.

Presently there are about 3000,000 ducks wintering on the refuge. Ducks displaced in the Cache River Basin must be fed and housed somewhere. Up to 200,000 of these ducks may seek feeding and resting areas in the Refuge. If the quality of waterfowl habitat is reduced due to summer floods and silting under, some means will have to be devised to provide for these 500,000 ducks. At this time I don't have the answer.

Loss of wildlife habitat in the Cache River Basin will put a heavier demand on lands of the White River Refuge for recreation in terms of displaced hunters and fishermen.

Although not all directly attributed to the Cache River Project, the decline of timberlands in the Delta area has increased the demand for deer hunting on the White River Refuge from 6,000 hunters in 1961 to 15,000 hunter requests in 1972. Fishing pressure has increased from 65,000 fishing days in 1961 to 125,000 in 1972. These demands can be expected to increase from 5-10 per cent per year. This also will be true for squirrel, turkey and raccoon hunting.

The loss of timberlands has also increased the pressure for forest products from the refuge. The increased demand caused by an increase in human populations and increased needs for wood products could cause an improper balance to occur in the management of refuge timberlands to help satisfy these needs.

As a result of siltation and the demand for keeping a 4-foot navigation channel in White River will require some channel improvement work on the lower White River. Stretches of the river will have to be straightened and some areas dredged.

When dredging has to be done then spoil areas have to be made available. Spoil has to be deposited on adjacent lands so these lands will be lost. Increased water velocity causes river banks to erode or cave in, thus destroying additional wildlife habitat, fish cover and forest products.

Another factor affecting the lower White River Basin has to do with a change in flooding patterns. Presently floods come from December through June and recede in time for good plant growth and animal reproduction.

With increased upstream drainage on the Black River, Cache River and other tributaries, a flood can come at any month of the year. Let's suppose we get a rainy season in July or August with 8-10 inches of rainfall in a one-week period.

This extra runoff will cause a summertime flood that will cover the ground and vegetation with a layer of mud that will actually kill plants, run wildlife from their homes and reduce recreation, particularly fishing. This same silt will require increased road maintenance and water control structures maintenance.

Yes, the Cache River-Bayou DeView Channelization Project will cause many changes on the lands, waters, fish and wildlife populations of the entire lower White River Basin. Damages to present values are evident, the extent or amount is the unknown.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 1973-6

WHEREAS, the channelization of Cache River-Bayou Devieu will drain some 2,000 square miles of land, and destroy a most valuable resource of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 160,000 acres of land will be lost, due to sedimentation, lowering of the water table, or cleared; and,

WHEREAS, the main justification of this \$60 million project is attributed to increased row crop production, at a time when the Congress of the United States has determined that it is not in the national interest to clear more land for agricultural production; and,

WHEREAS, this large tax burden is being borne by the U.S. Taxpayers for the questionable benefits of a small number of large landowners, and,

WHEREAS, hunting and fishing will be very seriously jeopardized, and,

WHEREAS, the entire ecology of the river basin will be altered, habitat for deer, squirrel, turkey, migratory fowl and all other indigenous species; and,

WHEREAS, the White River National Wildlife Refuge will be imperiled; and,

WHEREAS, the native hardwoods that flourish in the bottomlands will die; and,

WHEREAS, the Townsend division of Potlatch Forests has been of great economic benefit to this country as well as to this community; and,

WHEREAS, this industry will be lost to Stuttgart; and,

WHEREAS, Stuttgart enjoys national prestige as being the Duck Capitol of the World; and,

WHEREAS, the leading conservation organizations in the U. S. vigorously oppose this project; rate it as being one of the most destructive projects conceived by man; and,

WHEREAS, this project will destroy a priceless heritage of the future generations; and,

WHEREAS, the first phast of this channelization project way found by Federal Courts to be in violation of law, and halted;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Stuttgart City Council hereby expresses total opposition to the Cache River-Bayou Devieu Channelization Project and requests the U.S. Congress de-authorize this project.

ADOPTED:

June 4, 1973

APPROVED:

John W. Bueker
John W. Bueker, Mayor



CITIZENS COMMITTEE
TO
SAVE THE CACHE RIVER BASIN

515 SOUTH MAIN

STUTT GART, ARKANSAS 72160

President
Rex Hancock D. D. S.



Supporting Organizations

State of Minnesota
State of Iowa
State of Illinois
State of Ohio
State of Wisconsin
State of Kentucky
State of South Dakota
State of North Dakota
State of Missouri
State of Louisiana
International Association of
Game, Fish and Conservation
Commissioners
Midwest Association of Game
and Fish Commissioners
Southeast Association of Game
and Fish Commissioners
Conservation Federation of
Missouri
National Wildlife Federation
Wildlife Management Institute
Environmental Defense Fund
Outdoor Writers of America
National Audubon Society
Izaak Walton League
of America
The Sierra Club
National Shooting Sports
Foundation
Ducks Unlimited
Arkansas Game & Fish
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Flint Michigan Chapter
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Michigan United
Conservation Club
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Genesee County
Sportsmens Assn.
Welder Wildlife Foundation
Ozark Society
Ding Darling Foundation
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of Illinois (Chicago)
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(West St. Paul, Minn.)
Fergus Falls Fish &
Game Club
Wilderness Watch
Waterfowlers United (Iowa)
Migratory Waterfowl
Hunters Inc. of Illinois
Duck Hunters Assn.
of Minnesota
Fred Bear Sports Club
The Bass Anglers Sportsman
Society of America

1-15-75

Norman E. Ross, Jr.
Assistant Director
Domestic Council
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Ross:

We are looking forward to
the Meeting with you at 1 pm
Friday, January 31st.

I am enclosing two stories
that are very factual, for you
to read & familiarize yourself
with this project, prior to our
Meeting.

again. Many thanks for
granting us a Meeting with
you again for the wise use
of our resources.

Rex Hancock



DITCHED AGAIN

Black Day for Mallards

Mallards gather on a reservoir in the upper Bayou DeView basin. Cache channelization would hurt entire flyway

IN NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS in the summer of 1972, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began work on what is probably the biggest channelization project ever undertaken anywhere in the country. The project is also one of the most destructive of its kind. When you consider the consequences to waterfowl populations and duck hunting along the Mississippi flyway, it's hard to believe that such a giant boondoggle could be carried out.

"Boondoggle" isn't my word for the project—that's how Tom Kimball, executive director of the National Wildlife Federation, labeled the channelization in testimony he gave to a U.S. Senate committee last September.

The rivers to be channelized are the Cache; its chief tribu-

**The dragline's din sounds
death knell for thousands of
ducks as conservationists
fight Cache channelization**

By BEN EAST

Clatter of heavy equipment drowns out public protest as project continues, though court appeals are pending





THE BIG SKY

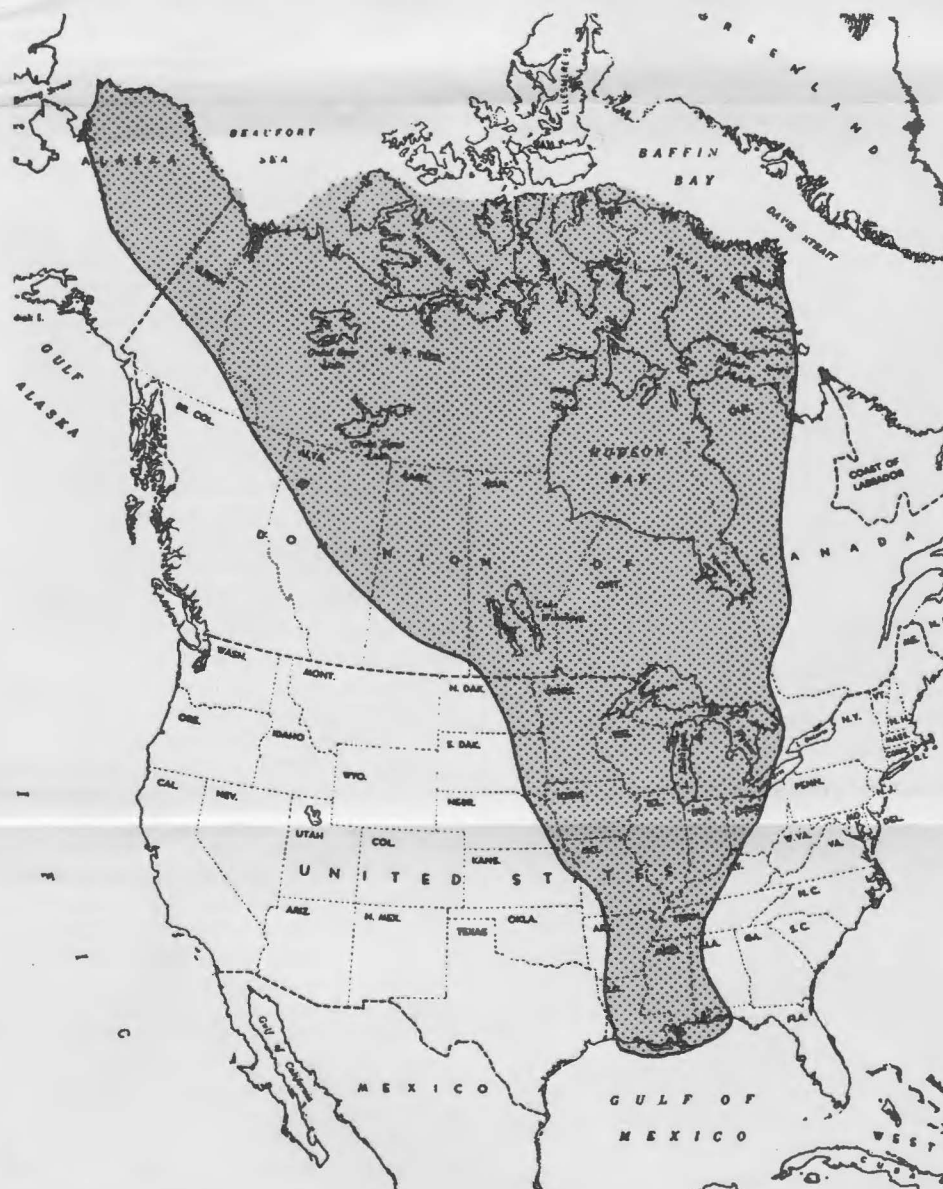


VOL. 1, NO. 4

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN 49738

SUMMER, 1973

MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY THREATENED



Cache River Controversy Grows! Army Corps of Engineers Arrogance Being Fought.

There are four major migration routes used by North American Wildlife—the Atlantic, Mississippi, Central and Pacific flyways. Over these four routes travel all our game birds as well as all our song birds. Birds that winter in Louisiana and Arkansas travel clear to northern Canada and Alaska, in many instances, to breed and summer, returning in the colder weather to the southern wintering grounds. About one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the Mallard ducks that travel the Mississippi Flyway return each winter to Arkansas. This one state annually winters around one sixth ($\frac{1}{6}$) of the continental Mallard population. Anywhere from one million ducks in bad years to 1.7 million ducks in good years winter in Arkansas.

One world authority on waterfowl, Frank Bellrose of Illinois, states "In my opinion, the drainage of the Cache River and Bayou DeView bottoms would destroy the single most important wintering grounds for Mallards in the United States."

As nearly as we in the Fred Bear Sports Club can determine it, the question of the Cache River Controversy resolves itself down to whether or not a handful of landowners, who in many cases bought the land for \$1 an acre, should ask the American taxpayer to spend nearly \$55,000,000 initially plus \$2,700,000 annually for maintenance to drain off the Arkansas wetlands and thereby mushroom the value of their land. On the one hand the American taxpayer is asked to pay the farmer not to till nearly one-sixth ($\frac{1}{6}$) of America's available farmland. About 59½ million acres were set aside in 1972 of the total of 360 million acres. On the other hand the Army Corps of Engineers want to dig a ditch 232 miles long in the Cache River-Bayou DeView area to drain wetlands in order to provide more tillable farmland. Opponents of the plan say that this would drain 2,000

©The Stackpole Company, The New Hunter's Encyclopedia

THE MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY—The largest waterfowl flyway in North America. One of its primary wintering areas, The Cache River Basin in Arkansas is threatened by the Army Corps of Engineers scheme to dig a ditch (already begun), drain the land and provide more tillable farm land, even though we are now paying farmers more than \$3 BILLION a year not to farm land through federal crop subsidies to keep surplus cleared land out of cultivation.

MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY

Continued from page 1

square miles of land and directly destroy 30,000 acres of wetlands. Conservationists estimate an additional 170,000 acres of valuable hardwood forest lands—the big Pinoak Swamps—would be drained and cleared as a result of the 20 year project plan. Beside providing wintering grounds for ducks the area provides habitat for such other wildlife as deer, wild turkey, squirrel, fish and as many as 227 different species of song birds.

The Corps of Engineers reportedly:

1. Ignored a request from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission to halt the project.
2. Ignored a request from Governor Dale Bumpers of Arkansas to halt the project.
3. The U.S. Corps of Engineers started channelization before a suit to enjoin the project was ruled upon by the U.S. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Word received from Dr. Rex Hancock, a member of the Fred Bear Sports Club and a Stuttgart, Arkansas, dentist who is the President of the Citizens Committee to Save the Cache River Basin, indicates that the Federal District Court in Little Rock, on March 8, 1973, issued an injunction to halt all construction on the Cache River Channelization project. But the judge refused to approve a portion of the request for the injunction which would also have stopped planning on the project. As we understand it the Corps of Engineers have announced that they plan to have a new environmental impact study completed by March of 1974 at which time the controversy will flare up once more.

We urge all members of the Fred Bear Sports Club and outdoorsmen and women everywhere to join with the following groups in opposing the Cache River-Bayou DeView Project of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Write to the United States House of Representative Committee on Public Works, members shown below, asking them "to vote against any appropriation for the acquisition of mitigation lands in the Cache River Basin." (This is a fancy tactic being used to support the Corps of Engineers project.) Leading men in the field of economics and conservation inform us that this project can never be economically justified and that the project should be abandoned. Groups Opposing the Cache River-Bayou DeView Project:

National Audubon Society
Izaak Walton League of America
The Sierra Club
Ducks Unlimited
National Wildlife Federation
Wildlife Management Institute
Outdoor Writers of America
Environmental Defense Fund
National Shooting Sports Foundation
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Arkansas Wildlife Federation

Michigan United Conservation Club
Michigan Duck Hunters
Genesee County Sportsmans Assoc.
Welder Wildlife Foundation
Ozark Society
Ding Darling Foundation
American Bowhunters Committee
Trout Unlimited
West Tennessee Sportsmens Club
Winchester Western
American Forestry Association
Sport Fisheries Institute
American Duck Hunters Association
Citizen's Committee for Responsible Forests
Southeast Sportsmens Club of Illinois (Chicago)
United Sportsmens Club (W. St. Paul, Minn.)
Fergus Falls Fish & Game Club
Wilderness Watch
Waterfowlers United (Iowa)
Migratory Waterfowl Hunters Inc. of Illinois
The Bass Anglers Sportsman Society of America
The Fred Bear Sports Club

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

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"God Would Have Done It In The First Place If He'd Had The Money."



SHOOTS FIRST PERFECT FBSC INDOOR BOWHUNTER ROUND

Dale Moore of Janesville, Wisconsin recently became the first archer in America to shoot a perfect 225 score in the new FBSC/ALOA Indoor Bowhunter Round. Dale achieved this feat during sanctioned ALOA competition at the Custom Arrow Archery Lanes in Janesville.

THE BIG SKY

Published for and by the members of The Fred Bear Sports Club by Bear Archery, Division Victor Comptometer Corporation, Rural Route One, Grayling, Michigan 49738.
Honorary Director: Fred Bear
Editor: Joshua Carpenter
National Director: Dick Lattimer
Executive Secretary: Pat Wiseman
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Sign on the Sportsman's Club grounds in Houghton, Michigan—"Stretch your story, not your bag limit..."

FREE BEAR FACTS CARDS

Recently you were sent a copy of the Bear Facts pocket card reproduced below. In just four weeks we've distributed over 50,000 of these around the country and filled requests for 30,000 more, to help in the fight to defend the sport of hunting from its detractors by using the most powerful weapon we can use... the facts. The State Conservation Departments of both Pennsylvania and Wisconsin along with others have requested additional copies to give to their employees so that they'll have the facts at hand when they're needed. We're into our second printing of the pocket fighter card. If you'd like additional copies to pass out to your friends, the sports writers in your area or anti-hunting acquaintances let us know, they're free but please request only the number you'll use since the supply is limited. Write: Bear Facts, The Fred Bear Sports Club, RR #1, Grayling, Michigan 49738.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AVERAGE 3 YEARS

The Fred Bear Sports Club is now a year old and members are being asked to send in their renewal fees as they come due. A one year renewal is \$2 and a three year renewal is \$5. For this the member continues to receive issues of The Big Sky and is eligible to receive the first award free in each Animal Award Category and in the NEW ALOA/FBSC Indoor Bowhunter Round as well as in future divisions of the Club yet to be announced. The member also has the assurance that a portion of his membership fee is being spent to help preserve the sport of hunting through a consistent and well planned program of publicity and paid advertising. Thus far, over 95% of the Charter Members are renewing for three years.

You may send in your renewal at any time, you need not wait for your Charter Membership anniversary date. Mail it to:

Executive Secretary, The Fred Bear Sports Club, RR #1, Grayling, Michigan 49738. Be sure to include your charter membership number.

SEND A FREE COPY OF THE BIG SKY TO A FRIEND

We've had requests for additional copies of The Big Sky from State Conservation Departments, archery clubs, conservation groups and individuals all over the country. If you have a friend or group of friends that you feel want to help you and the other members of The Fred Bear Sports Club defend the sport of hunting send us their name and address and we'll send a free copy of The Big Sky to them with your compliments. Our supply is limited so this offer is good only until we run out of our extra copies. Address your requests to: Dept. Friend, The Big Sky, The Fred Bear Sports Club, RR #1, Grayling, Michigan 49738.



THE BEAR FACTS

Printed as a public service to gun and bow hunters everywhere by the Fred Bear Sports Club, Grayling, Michigan.

The Friends of Animals, The Humane Society of the United States (not to be confused with your local Humane Society that does such a fine job) and others are making a well-financed concerted attempt to end the sport of hunting in America today. They are using emotional appeals to the public supported by Disney-type attitudes of what life in the wild is like completely overlooking death by starvation, predator, fang and claw. They are overlooking the fact that you, the hunters of America, are the greatest protectors of wildlife, both sport and non-sport species, that the world has ever known. Carry this card with you. It contains pertinent facts that you can use to tell the hunters' side of the story.

☛ The \$108,000,000 spent each year for hunting licenses goes to state game departments to support wildlife and conservation in all 50 states according to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (This includes game as well as non-game species).

☛ \$472,000,000 has been collected for conservation since 1937 from the federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition. A similar 11% tax has been signed by President Nixon, will cover all archery related sales, and will go into effect in 1974. (National Shooting Sports Foundation)

☛ Almost \$8,000,000 is spent each year on federal duck stamps. (NSSF).

☛ America's hunters have paid in over \$2.2 BILLION into conservation coffers in the past 50 years. (NSSF).

☛ Controlled public hunting is allowed in nearly 200 of the country's 325 national wildlife refuges. The Humane Society of the United States is seeking to end this. (The New York Times)

☛ In 1970 alone well over \$31,675,000 in Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act Funds was allocated to the states for wildlife restoration in those areas... and this \$31,675,000 comes directly from America's hunters from the 11% excise tax they pay for guns and ammunition. (Winchester-Western)

☛ In 1887, the year the Bison vanished from America, there were no whitetailed deer left in Pennsylvania; and by 1900 there were only 500,000 deer left in all the United States. Elk had dwindled from 10 Million animals to less than 50,000 in scattered pockets in several western states. By 1908 there were less than 25,000 pronghorn antelope in North America. Between 1885 and 1910 our original big game supplies had faded by more than 80%! As a result of proper game management initiated by President Teddy Roosevelt of the Boone & Crockett Club and other farsighted men, those 50,000 elk have now grown to 250,000. In one recent year over 80,000 elk were harvested. Those 25,000 antelope now stand at 175,000 with over 50,000 taken by hunters each year. Perhaps most dramatically, that small group of 500,000 deer has grown to 9,000,000 whitetails and another 1,500,000 mule deer. The annual harvest of deer



MORE BEAR FACTS

Printed as a public service to gun and bow hunters everywhere by the Fred Bear Sports Club, Grayling, Michigan.

is over 2,000,000. (Winchester-Western) During the last two decades the deer population in the south has increased by 800%. And since 1920 deer populations in the National Forests have increased fivefold according to the Department of Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

☛ The National Safety Council reports a 7.4% decrease in hunting accidents in the past decade. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company points out that hunting is safer than swimming or fishing. (N.R.A.)

☛ Wildlife habitat is being destroyed at the rate of 3500 acres a day to provide more room for humans. About 34,000,000 acres of rural land will disappear by the year 2000. (National Wildlife Federation) Now more than ever before the hunter must be depended upon to reduce game species in these areas before nature moves in with her cropping tools of starvation and predation.

☛ One out of every 15 hunters in America today is a bowhunter. There are 15,000,000 licensed hunters and 1,250,000 licensed bowhunters (Wildlife Management Institute)

☛ There are now nearly 8,000,000 archers in America today, approximately the same number as there are golfers.

☛ Archery is now an Official Gold Medal Olympic Sport and in 1972 in Munich, the United States won both the Men's and Women's Gold Medals.

☛ Archery is one of the sports in the President's Council on Physical Fitness Program and is a Lifetime Sport. It knows no age limits. A limited supply of this "pocket fighter to save hunting" fact card is available at no charge from Bear Archery, Division Victor Comptometer Corporation, Grayling, Michigan 49738.

RULES OF FAIR CHASE

Any animal taken under any of the following circumstances shall not be considered taken under the Rules of Fair Chase:

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. Helpless in or because of deep snow. | F. In defiance of game laws or out of season. |
| B. Helpless in water. | G. By "Jack Lighting" or shining at night. |
| C. Helpless on ice. | H. From power vehicle or power boat. |
| D. Helpless in trap. | I. Any other method considered unsportsmanlike by the directors of The Fred Bear Sports Club. |
| E. White confined behind inescapable fences, as on game farms, etc. | |

FAN FARE

by Walt Ditzen



Courtesy Publishers Hall Syndicate

WALT DITZEN CHARTER MEMBER #401 IN MEMORIAM

Believing that the finest way to eulogize a man is by letting what he has done speak for itself we hereby reprint a Walt Ditzen cartoon of recent vintage. His humorous pokes on the sports pages of America's newspapers were the great leveler that enabled us all to laugh at ourselves. Mr. Ditzen passed away recently in his home in Scottsdale, Arizona.

FENCES LINKED TO PRONGHORN LOSSES

Fences erected by public land users, federal land management agencies, and highway departments result in the death of thousands of pronghorn antelope each winter on public lands in the west, the Wildlife Management Institute reports. Congressman John D. Dingell, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation announced his intention of investigating these losses during the current session of the 93rd Congress.

Dingell stated that he has reports of fence-related pronghorn mortality which "indicate a callous disregard for fish and wildlife values..." He requested a full report on the matter. Fences are strung on public lands to contain cattle. The issue seems to be that woven wire fences rather than barbed wire entangle the animals and account for most of the deaths.

A recent study by the Wyoming Fish and Game Department showed that an estimated 2,900 pronghorn, representing 55% of the entire herd in the Chain Lakes areas northwest of Rawlins died last winter. Other areas experienced similar losses. The study revealed that winter mortality in a heavily fenced area was four times that of a relatively fence-free habitat.

Wildlife Management Institute

WHAT'S THE ANTI-HUNTING CLIMATE IN YOUR AREA?

The sport of hunting is coming under fire in many areas of the country by various groups. In some areas, such as California, hunting has already been outlawed in certain counties. In others, such as New York State, hunting is right now being challenged. This in addition to the pending Humane Society of the United States case reported on in earlier issues of The Big Sky. Write us today and let us know of documented cases where hunting has either been outlawed in your area or where efforts to do so are now pending. Supporting evidence in the way of newspaper clippings, flyers, letters and the like would be appreciated. We're anxious to hear from you. Address your replies to: Joshua Carpenter, Editor, The Big Sky, RR #1, Grayling, Michigan 49738.

HUMANE SOCIETY FILES APPEAL

The Humane Society of the United States has reportedly filed an appeal in the U.S. District Court seeking to reverse Judge Richie's recent decision that the evidence submitted by the Humane Society was not adequate to require a defense by the Secretary of the Interior and that "Public hunting is not inconsistent with the principles of sound wildlife management" as claimed by the plaintiffs.

The fight is far from over. If you would like to contribute directly toward the financial defense of hunting we urge you to send whatever you feel you can afford to: Bowhunting Defense Fund, American Archery Council, 618 Chalmers, Flint, Michigan 48503. When making your donation, please mention that you are a member of The Fred Bear Sports Club.

ALOA/FBSC INDOOR HUNTER ROUND DEBUTS

An indoor bowhunter round featuring animal targets with vital areas shown has been introduced to the more than 90 Archery Lane Operator's Association members around the country. As a member of The Fred Bear Sports Club you can compete for the awards in this new Division of The Club at any nearby ALOA lanes. As with the Animal Awards these new Indoor Round Awards are free only to FBSC members for the first award in each category. The awards, shown below, include an initial award in each category plus repeat award patches.

BOWHUNTER AWARD

TRACKER AWARD

STALKER AWARD

EXPERT BOWHUNTER

ARCHERY LANE OPERATORS ASSOCIATION
INDOOR BOWHUNTER ROUND
FRED BEAR SPORTS CLUB



FRED BEAR'S COLUMN

There is no justifiable reason for man to eat meat. The characteristics of his teeth quickly identify him in the animal world as a vegetarian. He can grow big and strong as a vegetarian. He has molars that are intended to grind his food before he swallows it, food such as grain, vegetables and fruit.

Meat eating animals, on the other hand, such as wolf and all of the cat family, have no grinding or masticatory molars. Their teeth are designed to cut, tear and rip—swallowing the pieces whole. Vegetables and greens are rarely used in their diets. Watch the family dog next time you give him table scraps.

Bears, with the exception of polar bears, are 90% vegetarians. But their teeth are a combination of molars for chewing and grinding and fangs for ripping and cutting.

Hence the argument that man was intended to be a meat eater is not a valid one in defense of the sport of hunting. Man learned to eat meat for some unknown reason eons ago, liked it, and it became a vital part of his diet. Perhaps greens, roots and fruit were scarce at one time leading cavemen to hunt the wild animals around him for food.

With these facts in mind, only a vegetarian is qualified to criticize the hunter. The steak and lamb chop eater who thinks his behavior is above reproach must realize that only the meat counter is between him and the bloody slaughter house.

Most of us like meat. If it is purchased, we must admit that we are paying someone to do our killing and are certainly not in a position to criticize the hunter.

Meanderings

by Joshua Carpenter

Will keep it short and to the point. You have expressed your concern in the future of hunting, fishing and other outdoor sports by joining The Fred Bear Sports Club. You've proven that you intend to fight to save this age old heritage against the johnny-come-latelies who will move on to other causes that strike their fancy once the attempt to outlaw hunting and possibly even fishing is over.

What difference if it's a waterfowl wintering ground in Arkansas, a federal game refuge in Virginia or asbestos pollution of Lake Superior? Your commitment can be as localized as teaching your youngsters the Rules of Fair Chase and to observe legal bag limits or it can be as far reaching as appearing in Federal Court to testify in support of hunting as a bona fide means of game management.

You have proven you care by becoming a member of The Fred Bear Sports Club or other similar organizations. Doesn't it make sense to alert your hunting buddies, relatives and fellow workers to the danger that their outdoor sports face today?

See you in the woods, Josh



BEAR PRESENTS DOUGHERTY CERTIFICATE—Fred Bear and Jim Dougherty, two of the famous names in bowhunting, visited in Fred's office during the recent PAA Nationals tournament held in Grayling. Jim had joined The Fred Bear Sports Club earlier in the year and is shown here being presented his Charter Membership certificate by Fred.

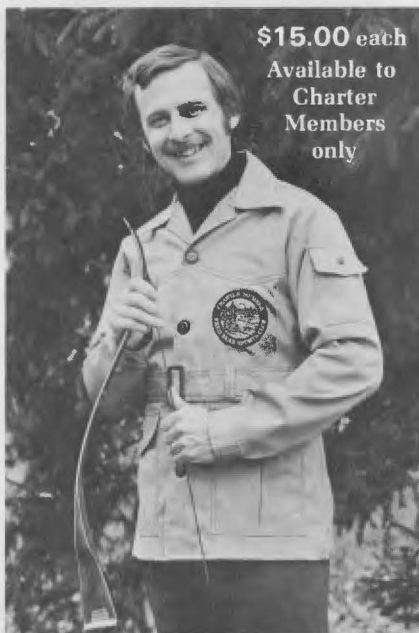


MORE STARVING DEER. The pathos in this photograph of starving mule deer in eastern Oregon should provide you with more ammunition to use in your defense of the sport of hunting. The deer in this photograph have succumbed or been severely weakened by winter starvation. Photographs courtesy of the State of Oregon Game Commission.

THE BIG SKY
ISSUE NO. 4
**THE CACHE RIVER
CONTROVERSY**
FEATURED THIS MONTH:

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
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Grayling, Mich.
PERMIT NO. 12

THE FRED BEAR SPORTS CLUB
Rural Route One • Grayling, Michigan 49738



\$15.00 each
Available to
Charter
Members
only

Official Fred Bear Sports Club Charter Members Jacket.

This is a high quality, permanent press jacket, designed exclusively for The Fred Bear Sports Club. Machine washable as is your Charter Member patch, another one of which comes sewed on your jacket. Sizes: Extra Small ☐; Small ☐; Medium ☐; Large ☐; Extra Large ☐. **Ladies Note: The**
Mail To: Jacket, Fred Bear Sports Club, R.R. 1, Grayling, Michigan 49738

Extra Small through medium men's are designed to fit the small through large for the gals.

Enclosed is my check or money order in the amount of \$_____ for the _____ jacket(s) checked above.

FBSC Card Number

Please print your full name

Street Address

City

State Zip Code

Jackets may be ordered only for Fred Bear Sports Club Members. If more than one jacket is ordered, list names and numbers on a separate sheet.

**Will not be shipped until
after August 15, 1973.**



DYING DEER PHOTOS NOW AVAILABLE AT COST!

Because of a quantity print order we are able to offer The Fred Bear Sports Club members 8 x 10 glossy prints of the deer dying of starvation shown to the left and featured on page one of the last issue of The Big Sky. Many people have indicated that they would like to have copies of this picture to pass along to members of the press in their area, to use in local club newsletters and in general to use as ammunition to help justify the place hunting plays in the ecological balance of today's animal/man/habitat equation. Members may order as many prints as they like at 50¢ each. Please include check or money order in the proper amount. We pay the postage. Write: Starving Deer, The Fred Bear Sports Club, RR #1, Grayling, Michigan 49738.

REX HANCOCK D.D.S., President

Citizens Committee To Save The Cache

515 S. Main

Stuttgart, Ark. 72160



Norman E. Ross, Jr
Assistant Director
Domestic Council
The White House
Washington, D.C.

