seems in this flurry of interest in the activities of this Senate committee that all kinds of extraordinary legislation are justified or become necessary in order for them to carry on what they deem to be their role.

I think the fact that we have been able to survive for almost 200 years without this kind of extraordinary legislation suggests that this special measure is not justified. I hope the bill (S. 2641) will be considered on its merits, and not be deemed valid simply because it seems to be popular to support anything that comes out of the Senate Watergate Committee.

I will present extended debate at the time that the bill is called up. I think it is No. 4 on the Suspension Calendar.

AMENDING THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

Mr. TAYLOR. I wish to speak on the bill (H.R. 4864) to provide additional funds for the acquisition of additional land for the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Mr. Speaker, the House is now considering the bill (H.R. 4864) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. As I will make clear, there is no opposition to the bill from any member of the House of Representatives.

The bill before us extends protection to the study rivers contained in the 1968 Act. This is a long-overdue piece of legislation. The administration, the Interior Department, and others have recognized the need for a moratorium to allow the acquisition program to complete its work.

The bill is needed to provide additional funds for the acquisition of land for the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. It is needed to provide adequate funding to complete the acquisition program.

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The bill incorporates an extended period for the Congress to act upon any study report which discloses the nonsuitability of a study river for addition to the system, before the river is released from its protective study status. The bill also broadens the availability of the use of scenic easements along the rivers.

All of the provisions of this amending legislation are designed to improve and perfect the Wild and Scenic Rivers system which was created by the Congress in 1968. I urge my colleagues to fully support this bill.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in 1968 the Congress inaugurated an important and novel conservation step when it enacted the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

The Congress recognized that the proliferating activities of mankind along and adjacent to our streams and rivers would eventually eliminate their natural, wild, and scenic character, and to form the backbone of a system of wild and scenic rivers.

The act also listed 27 additional rivers considered worthy of further study, in anticipation of their possible addition to a growing system of wild and scenic rivers to be protected.

The 1968 act provided that while these 27 listed study rivers were being reviewed, they would be protected for a period of 5 years from the threat of water development projects as might be licensed by the Federal Power Commission under terms of the Federal Power Act.

With the studies on these 27 rivers not yet completed, the legislation before us provides an extension period of protection for an additional 5 years.

The 1968 act also provides that if it is concluded by the Secretary of the Interior that a river does not qualify for addition to the system, it then immediately loses the protection from water development projects which it enjoyed while in study status.

This bill, H.R. 4864, provides that upon such determination by a Secretary, he must so advise the authorizing committee of the Congress.

Then, 180 days—while Congress is in session—must elapse before notification of such determination of nonsuitability is published in the Federal Register.

This was felt to be necessary to provide ample time for the Congress to act upon any negative study findings, before any stream is stripped of its study status protection.

This legislation broadens the definition of scenic easement as used in the parent act. Currently the application of scenic easements extends only to those lands within the river boundaries and visible from the river.

Since many activities which are not within sight of the river can be as impacting as those activities occurring within sight of the river this legislation seeks to broaden the definition of scenic easement to any area within the river boundaries where the scenic qualities of the river are jeopardized or threatened.

Finally, this bill would authorize an additional $1 million to fund the completion of the land acquisition program for the original eight rivers which were designated as units of the system upon enactment in 1968. Mr. Speaker, this bill, H.R. 4864, as introduced, was part of the President’s environmental legislative program.

The few simple amendments added by the committee simply round out and perfect the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. I am proud to fully endorse this legislation, and I urge its adoption by my colleagues.

Mr. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SKUBITZ. I yield to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, I find it a little difficult to determine which rivers have been added. Are there any projects added in either Kansas or Missouri? Does the gentleman have any list that he will introduce?

Mr. SKUBITZ. The gentleman will find the rivers that are listed on page 4 of the report.

Mr. RANDALL. Well, that may be but there is no listing in the bill itself.

Mr. SKUBITZ. That is correct.

Mr. STEELMAN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SKUBITZ. I yield to the gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. STEELMAN. Mr. Speaker, I commend the ranking minority Member, the gentleman from Kansas, for his comments and associate myself with his comments.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is one of the outstanding pieces of environmental legislation passed by the U.S. Congress. I heartily support its amendment today and only hope that further understandings of the act will lead to a greater expansion of the list of streams designated “scenic” or “recreational,” as well as “wild.”

I believe it is essential that citizens, from every part of this country, fully understand the broad definitions of the various designations within this act, and among those aware of the act itself, many feel that an entire river must be designated “wild.” That is not the case and possibly the reason that even more segments have not been advanced for inclusion under this act.

To date over 50 States have established wild and scenic rivers programs on their own. I hope that we can work in coordination with these and other States to acquaint citizens with the full extent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act so that there will be a reappraisal of all our streams and stream segments for designation as “scenic,” “recreational,” or “wild.” I urge all citizens to push for inclusion of additional rivers and river segments under this act as soon as possible.

The Speaker. Mr. SKUBITZ, the question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. TAYLOR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill H.R. 4864 as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the committee on7icular Affairs be discharged from further consideration of the Senate bill (S. 921) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and ask for immediate consideration of the Senate bill.

Mr. Speaker. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill as follows:

S. 921

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (83 Stat. 909) be amended as follows:

(a) In section 7(b) (1) delete “five-year” and substitute “ten-year”.

(b) In section 16 delete “$17,000,000” and substitute “$37,000,000”.

(c) In section 6(a) strike the comma after “amenities” and insert in lieu thereof “or exchange.”.

(d) In section 4 strike subsection (a) and insert in lieu thereof the following:

“Sec. 4. (a) The Secretary of the Interior or, where national forest lands are involved, the Secretary of Agriculture or, in appropriate cases, the two Secretaries jointly shall study and submit to the President reports on the suitability or nonsuitability for addition to the national wild and scenic rivers system of rivers which are designated herein or hereafter by the Congress as potential additions to such system. The President shall report to the Congress his recommendations and proposals with respect to the designation of each such river or section thereof under this Act. Such studies shall be completed and such reports shall be made to the Congress within 2 years of the date of enactment of this Amendment; provided, however, That such study on the Suswanee River, Georgia and Florida, and the Upper Iowa River, Iowa, such study shall be completed and reports made thereon to the Congress prior to October 2, 1970. With respect to any river designated for potential addition to the national wild and scenic rivers system by Act of Congress subsequent to this Act, the study of such river shall be completed and reports made thereon by the President to the Congress within three complete fiscal years from the date of enactment of such Act. In conducting these studies the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall give priority to those rivers within sight of the river which is being conducted pursuant to the Federal Water Resources Planning Act (79 Stat. 244; 42 U.S.C. 1962 et seq.).

The report, including maps and illustrations, shall show among other things the area included within the report; the characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the system; the current status of land ownership and use in the area;
the reasonably foreseeable potential uses of the land and water which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the national wild and scenic rivers system; the Federal agency (which in the case of a river which is wholly or substantially within a national forest, shall be the Department of Agriculture) by which it is proposed the area, should it be added to the system, be administered; and the extent to which it is proposed that such administration, including the costs thereof, be shared by States, States agencies; and the estimated cost to the United States of acquiring necessary lands and interests in land and of administering the area, should it be added to the system, such report being submitted, and strike "be printed as a Senate or House document."

(2) In section 5 strike subsection (b); and reletter subsections (c) and (d) as (b) and (c), respectively.

(3) In section 7(b)(1) strike after "Act" and insert in lieu thereof "the three complete fiscal year period following any Act of Congress designating any river for potential additional to the national wild and scenic rivers system, whichever is later, and"

(4) In section 7(b)(2) strike which is "recommended", insert in lieu thereof "the report required to be submitted", and strike "for inclusion in the national wild and scenic rivers system."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. TAYLOR OF NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment. The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. Taylor of North Carolina: Strike out all after 921 and insert in lieu thereof the provisions of H.R. 4864, as passed. The amendment was agreed to. The Senate bill was ordered to be read a second time. There was no objection.

Of course, such an area is a popular attraction to those living nearby. Many of the local people know the river well and understand its dangers, but for people not familiar with it the river can be very hazardous. Notwithstanding this fact many people throughout the country who come to enjoy the stream.

The reason that this river has such broad support is that it is recognized as one of the most outstanding whitewater enthusiasts, and occasionally calm stretches and minor ripples suitable for novice canoists. The water quality of the entire river is extraordinarily high and it provides a fine habitat for mountain trout to delight the many fishermen who come to enjoy the stream.

Located in an area with most of the characteristics of wilderness, the river is faced with any significant human intrusions by man. The surrounding country is as almost as rugged as the river is and wild it represents, by itself, an im-" noted the committee that this legislation is practically unanimous.

Two public meetings were conducted by the Forest Service in the region involved and those who attended strongly supported the proposal. At the hearings of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation, everyone testifying on the legislation spoke in favor of its enactment and it was recommended by the subcommittee and the full Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs without a dissenting vote.

In short, Mr. Speaker, I know of no significant opposition to the enactment of H.R. 4942, as recommended. On the contrary, I believe it enjoys enthusiastic support from almost all quarters. Environmentalist and conservation organizations have endorsed it; all of the Members whose districts are involved have cosponsored it; and the States through which it flows have recommended it.

The reason that this river has such broadly based support is that it is recognized as one of the most outstanding free-flowing streams remaining in the Southeast. It begins on the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina—in the congressional district which I have the honor to represent—and flows through some of the most picturesque and mountain country before flowing down along the South Carolina-Georgia boundary. The river is free of impoundments and a few relatively insignificant evidences of man can be seen anywhere along its main stem.

It is a dramatic river from its headwaters to Tugaloo Reservoir. For 50 miles from the mouth of its West Fork, which is located near the Tugaloo Reservoir, the river drops about 50 feet per mile from its upper reaches to the lower end. It includes several beautiful waterfalls, churning rapids and shoals challenging the most experienced whitewater enthusiasts, and occasionally calm stretches and minor ripples suitable for novice canoists. The water quality of the entire river is extraordinarily high and it provides a fine habitat for mountain trout to delight the many fishermen who come to enjoy the stream.

Located in an area with most of the characteristics of wilderness, the river is faced with any significant human intrusions by man. The surrounding country is as almost as rugged as the river is and wild it represents, by itself, an im-
ently several operators serving the region on the Chattooga, before seeing a report carrying photographs.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I will state to the gentleman that this river and the Big Thicket Area, which is the subject of the next bill, contain so many miles of scenery and so much natural beauty and which speaks for itself so well that the committee was of the opinion that the photographs would be a fine addition to the report, and they were approved.

Mr. GROSS. Mr. Speaker, does this add to the cost of the report?

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would think that it would add about the same as one additional page in the Record would have added.

Mr. GROSS. Does the gentleman mean that the plates by which the photographs are reproduced cost nothing?

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. The reproduction was made by the offset process which is inexpensive. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if in future reports there will be photographs of bathing beauties clad in bikinis?

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, someone might suggest that, but that is beyond the jurisdiction of our committee.

Mr. GROSS. And I guess it is beyond the jurisdiction of the gentleman from Iowa, too.

Mr. KAZEN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. KAZEN. Mr. Speaker, I am told that the cost of photographs in reports is not any more than would be of that of charts that are submitted in these reports.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. Hosmer) such as he may consume. Mr. HOSMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act passed by the Congress in 1968 provided a list of 27 rivers to be studied for their suitability for addition as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The Chattooga River is one of these, and the study of it has yielded a favorable recommendation by the Department of Agriculture for its addition to the system. Further, the proposal has received widespread public support. This river is one of the few remaining undeveloped rivers in the southeastern United States. It possesses some extremely rough and challenging sections of white water for river runners, and constitutes a recreational resource not easy to match in this part of the country.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill by voting for its passage.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such support as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, The Chattooga River was designated as one of the 27 study rivers—and the study of the Chattooga was begun in 1969 by the Secretary of Agriculture—by agreement with the Interior Department.

The Legislatures of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia approved the inclusion of the Chattooga in the system, and the subsequent wild and scenic river designation received almost unanimous approval.

The Chattooga River is one of the longest and largest undeveloped free flowing streams remaining in South-eastern United States.

The rivers included in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System are classified as wild and scenic and receive public and private segment of the Chattooga designated in H.R. 9492 meets the requirements of all categories.

About 87 percent of 15,432 acres of land within the boundaries of the river are owned and managed by the U.S. Forest Service—hence—land acquisition would be slight.

The bill provides for a land acquisition authorization of not to exceed $2 million and a development ceiling of $809,000.

This bill has the support of the Administration and I urge its passage. Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9492, to include the Chattooga River in the wild and scenic rivers system. The Chattooga which flows through the mountains and foothills of northwestern South Carolina, not many miles from my home, is one of the few remaining natural and historic resources of this country which until now has largely been spared from the "civilizing" impact of man and his machines.

When Congress enacted the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, it was the intention of Congress that certain selected rivers in the Nation which possessed outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, be preserved in free flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environs be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Naturally, in administering this area the basic management objective will be to permit it to be used in a manner which will be compatible with the characteristics which made it suitable for inclusion in the system. Floating by raft, canoe and kayak is certainly one of the more popular activities in the future. Fishing and hunting will continue to draw large numbers of visitors to the area. Hikers, backpackers, and try outdoorsmen and nature lovers will enjoy the primitive forest lands adjacent to the river.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND COST

By an agreement with the Georgia Power Co., its holdings in the area were transferred to the Forest Service so that Federal land ownership now totals more than 80 percent of the 15,432 acres. Some lands within the boundaries remain in private ownership and may be acquired, it is contemplated that scenic easements will satisfy most of the remaining needs. The bill authorizes the appropriation of $2 million for land acquisition, but fee title to the remaining lands can be acquired only from willing sellers; consequently, it seems unlikely that all of these moneys will be expended.

Development along the river will be modest. The legislation authorizes $809,000 for administrative and public and facilities. White certain access roads, trails and the like will be needed, most of the facilities to be installed will be designed to assure the protection of the river and the safety of its visitors.

CONCLUSION

Mr. Speaker, having visited in this area and having floated portions of this river myself on two occasions, I can give it my highest recommendation. It is a beautiful wild river in a magnificent natural area. H.R. 9492 will assure its preservation for the enjoyment of present and future generations. I urge its approval by my colleagues in the House.

Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. I yield to the gentleman from Iowa.

The time of the gentleman from North Carolina has expired.

Mr. GROSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me. I note something new has been added to reports in the House, this one carrying photographs. How does the gentleman get this job done? I do not recall ever seeing a report carrying photographs.
and breathtaking beauty we enjoyed during our float down the wild Chattooga. What we enjoyed on that memorable occasion should be protected from the destructive byproducts of an increasingly industrialized society in order that future generations may also experience that same enjoyment.

The Chattooga River would be a significant addition to the wild and scenic rivers system. The Chattooga is presently a clean, free-flowing, mountain stream in the deep forest of a relatively undeveloped area. In fact, it is one of the last free-flowing rivers in the southeast and is the only mountain river in the four-State area of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee without substantial commercial, agricultural, and residential development along its shores. This river is a prime example of the whitewater rivers which once abounded along the east coast of this country in the days before the development of civilization. Many such rivers which once offered some of the same wonderful opportunities which the Chattooga affords us today are either dammed, flow through farms, cities, or other areas of commercial activity, or are being used for industrial refuse and sewage disposal. We now have the opportunity to protect the wild Chattooga from this fate, I urge the Congress to act favorably on the bill before us today in order that we might preserve the Chattooga, as an example of what we used to have in abundance in the Southeastern United States.

Even though the Chattooga River has a quality of remoteness, it is readily accessible to several metropolitan areas and provides many types of outdoor recreation for which there is now great demand. Not only is the Chattooga a superior scenic attraction, it is also one of the great canoeing and rafting rivers in the East and provides canoeing opportunities for every degree of skill. Excellent opportunities for hunting and fishing exist in the area as well as opportunities for other types of outdoor recreation. And, the river is not without historical significance. Prior to 1900, the Chattooga was the land of the Cherokee Indians and legends, artifacts, and settlements provide a valuable source for the study of the Cherokee culture and history. The earliest record of white men in the area are hunter maps dated 1730 and 1751. In 1775 William Bartram, an early American botanist, visited the region and crossed the Chattooga. In 1830, while seeking to make their home along the Chattooga and there still remains evidence of pioneer construction in the region.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully submit that the Chattooga River satisfies all the requirements for inclusion in the national wild and scenic rivers system, and I therefore, urge the House to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 9492. As the report presented by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs points out, this bill would include that portion of the Chattooga River from 0.8 mile below Cashiers, North Carolina to Lake Tugaloo, the elevation of which once offered some of the same beautiful scenery, but hundreds of miles beyond the range of their potential users. Gasoline shortages will not allow the indulgence of day-long drives any longer. We must react to this situation by preserving, now, open spaces near our major urban centers for the enjoyment of all Americans in the future.

Unfortunately, the majority of our country's excellent national parks are in the West—in areas of great scenic beauty, but hundreds of miles beyond the range of their potential users. Gasoline shortages will not allow the indulgence of day-long drives any longer. We must react to this situation by preserving, now, open spaces near our major urban centers for the enjoyment of all Americans in the future.

Mr. Speaker, the Chattooga River is a unique national treasure. The bill now before the House will guarantee that its unspoiled natural setting will be protected. As a sponsor of the bill I urge its overwhelming approval.

Mr. Speaker, in the Southeast we are proud of a beautiful environment second to none. We have rivers, lakes, and woodlands in abundance. In the Chattooga we have one of the finest examples of clean, free-flowing, unspoiled mountain streams to be found anywhere. And in the Chattooga in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Systems the Congress can protect the magnificent river and surrounding area from any actions that would disturb the present setting.

In a 50-mile stretch between Cashiers, N.C., and Lake Tugaloo, the elevation of the Chattooga descends at a rate of 50 feet per mile. This sharp drop makes for some of the most spectacular whitewater rapids in the South for approximately 40 miles the river forms the border between South Carolina—Oconee County—and Georgia.

Protection of the Chattooga has wide support among the people of my area. Mr. Speaker. We have heard from Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, people from all walks of life who love the magnificent, the Chattooga and our beautiful mountain valleys. I am proud to be a sponsor of this bill, and urge its approval.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Taylor) that the House suspend the rule and pass the bill H.R. 9492, as amended.

The title was amended so as to read: "To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by designating the Chattooga River, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Georgia as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes." A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill just passed, H.R. 9492, immediately preceding its passage.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina? There was no objection.

BIG THICKET NATIONAL PRESERVE IN TEXAS

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 11546) to authorize the establishment of the Big Thicket National Preserve in the State of Texas, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 11546

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) in order to assure the preservation, conservation, and protection of the natural, scenic, and recreational values of a significant portion of the Big Thicket area in the State of Texas and to provide for the enhancement and public enjoyment thereof, the Big Thicket National Preserve is hereby established:

(b) The Big Thicket National Preserve (hereafter referred to as the "preserve") shall include the units generally depicted on the map entitled "Big Thicket National Preserve," dated November 1973 and numbered NBR-PT 91,027 which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, District