

This is the only complete
file on 1969/70 Rapidan actions
of the Chapter. Please preserve
carefully.

Dan C. Papp



OFFICE OF THE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

May 12, 1970

Dear Mr. Proper:

Thank you for your May 7 letter. I was pleased to see the year-round season proposal adopted.

Your kind remarks about Mr. Carothers are appreciated by him and me.

Sincerely yours,

Leslie L. Glasgow
Assistant Secretary for
Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Mr. Datus C. Proper
President, National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited
3800 A 39th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20016

May 7, 1970

Mr. Leslie L. Glasgow
Assistant Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Glasgow:

This is just to give you very warm thanks for your cooperation in the proposal for a year-round season on the Rapidan River. Our Chapter members will be delighted to know that the proposal was adopted.

I would like to add that Mr. Carothers of your office went far beyond the call of duty in straightening out some last-minute problems that had arisen. This is not simply a formal note. My own current job in the State Department happens to be in public relations, and I would have very little to worry about if all the officers in my bureau handled the public as Mr. Carothers does. He deserves a commendation.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper
President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited

DCP:iw

May 7, 1970

Mr. Chester F. Phelps
Executive Director
Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries
Box 11104
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Dear Mr. Phelps:

This is just to thank you and Mr. Hoffman very sincerely for your cooperation in the proposal for a year-round season on the Rapidan River. My members will be delighted to know that the Commission adopted the proposal.

Again, please accept our Chapter's thanks.

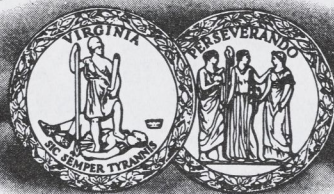
Sincerely yours,

Datus G. Proper
President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited

DCP:iw

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

RALPH G. GUNTER, CHAIRMAN
ABINGDON 24210
J. C. AARON
1231 SAM LION TRAIL, MARTINSVILLE 24112
HOMER G. BAUSERMAN, JR.
1408 SO. RANDOLPH ST., ARLINGTON 22204
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616 MEDICAL ARTS BLDG., RICHMOND 23219
EDWARD E. EDGAR
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A. REE ELLIS
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M. GARDNER SMITH
10219 WARWICK BLVD., NEWPORT NEWS 23601
G. RICHARD THOMPSON, MARSHALL 22115
E. FLOYD YATES, POWHATAN 23139



COMMISSION OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES

Box 11104
Richmond, 23230

CHESTER F. PHELPS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
4010 WEST BROAD STREET
BOX 11104
RICHMOND, 23230

May 4, 1970

Mr. Datus C. Proper, President
National Capital Chapter, Trout Unlimited
3800 A - 39th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20016

Dear Mr. Proper:

In accordance with our telephone conversation today, enclosed are copies of the regulations adopted by the Commission relative to the year around trout season on certain portions of the Rapidan and Staunton Rivers. I trust this will suffice in transmitting the information to your members.

Sincerely yours,

Norma G. Adams

(Mrs.) Norma G. Adams
Secretary to Mr. Phelps

enclosures

The Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries at a meeting held in Richmond, Virginia, on May 1, 1970, adopted the following amended or new regulations pursuant to Sections 29-125, 29-126 and 29-127 of the Code of Virginia, to become effective July 1, 1970.

CHAPTER 24. TROUT FISHING

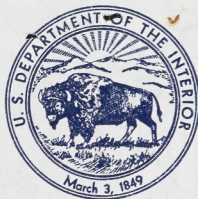
R24-10. It shall be lawful to fish for trout using only artificial lures with single barbless hooks in that portion of Big Cedar Creek in Russell County extending from a sign approximately one-half mile downstream from the U. S. Route 19 bridge upstream one and one-tenth mile from the bridge to a sign. The season shall be from the opening of the state-wide trout season through October 15. All trout caught in these waters must be immediately returned to the water. No trout may be in possession at any time in this area.

.

R24-11. It shall be lawful year around to fish for trout using only artificial lures with single barbless hooks in the Rapidan and Staunton rivers and their tributaries upstream from a sign at the lower Shenandoah National Park boundary in Madison County. All trout caught in these waters must be immediately returned to the water. No trout may be in possession at any time in these areas.

COMMISSION OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES

Ralph G. Gunter, Chairman



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

APR 29 1970

*Interior takes agreed
to drop
license requirement.*

Dear Mr. Proper:

Thank you for your letter of April 2, 1970, in which you outline a proposal for uniform fishing regulations on certain portions of the Rapidan and Staunton Rivers within Shenandoah National Park, and within the adjacent Rapidan Wildlife Management Area. We have delayed our reply to you pending receipt of an official proposal from the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries. The Virginia proposal has now been received and studied.

We agree that a uniform 12-month, open season, no creel regulation for the subject waterways would be a sensible and constructive step. We are therefore asking the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries to revise the special \$3.00, 3-day, nonresident Virginia fishing permit that is now available to visitors at Shenandoah National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway. This revision would allow holders of the \$3.00 permit to fish the Virginia section of the waterways lying between the two units of Shenandoah National Park jurisdiction. In the absence of this regulatory uniformity there exists an unfortunate inconsistency for those park visitors wishing to fish along these waterways.

We are hopeful that the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries will concur in this two-way adjustment of regulations for the purpose of establishing a truly uniform regulatory situation.

Sincerely yours,

Leslie L. Grogan

Assistant Secretary of the Interior

Mr. Datus C. Proper, President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited
3800 A 39th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016



NAT'L CAPITOL CHAPTER
c/o DATUS PROPER
3800 A 39TH STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016

April 2, 1970

The Honorable
Walter J. Hickel
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

My organization would very much appreciate your support in obtaining a change in the trout-fishing regulations for one stream -- the Rapidan River -- in Shenandoah National Park. We urge opening the Rapidan to year-round fishing. There would be no other change: the present "fish-for-fun" (catch-and-release) regulations have been extremely successful, and we would simply like to see the river open to more months of angler use under the same careful protection.

To the best of my knowledge, this proposal is not controversial. The Virginia (State) Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries accepted it in hearings March 20. The commission has sent a copy of its resolution on a year-round season to the Park Service. Because of an irregular Park boundary, the State of Virginia controls one stretch of the Rapidan trout fishery, while Shenandoah National Park contains portions of the stream both above and below the State stretch. It is obviously desirable for the Park and the State to act in concert on the proposed change of regulations.

There is one note of urgency: the State would like to have some expression of acquiescence from you by May 1, when Virginia's new regulations will be formally adopted. My organization hopes very much that you can provide this -- perhaps by a letter of intent, since it may be difficult to adopt a new regulation formally in so short a time.

The change we recommend would put Shenandoah National Park practice in line with similar regulations in Great Smoky Mountains Park, where two "sport fishing streams" have long been open year-round. This program has apparently been popular on all sides. We believe that a year-round season would be equally successful on the Rapidan, which has already become a popular, high-quality fishery with a wilderness flavor -- in easy driving distance of our nation's capital. We are very grateful to you, to Park Service Director Hartzog, and to Shenandoah Park Superintendent Hoskins for splendid cooperation in protecting and managing this resource. We hope that the present proposal will also meet with your approval.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper
President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited

- cc: 1) Leslie L. Glasgow
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife
Parks and Marine Resources
Department of the Interior
2) George B. Hartzog, Jr., Director
National Park Service
3) Taylor Hoskins, Superintendent
Shenandoah National Park
4) Jack M. Hoffman, Chief, Fish Division
Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries
Richmond, Virginia

DCP:1w

March 13, 1970

Jack M. Hoffman
Chief, Fish Division
Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries
Box 11104
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

This letter submits, for the Commission's formal consideration at the March 20 hearings, a Trout Unlimited Proposal for a year-round open season on the Rapidan River "fish-for-fun" watershed. The enclosure makes our case as briefly as possible. I would appreciate it if this case could be presented to the Commission.

I am hoping that my Chapter will have some of its Virginia residents present to urge approval of the proposal, but the specific persons we had in mind may be traveling out of the region at this time. Will you have the proposal submitted in any event? We believe that it would be an important step for progressive management and would make a contribution to increased angler utilization.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper
President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited

Office Phone: 202-632-3048
Home Phone: 202-363-5438

Enclosure: as stated.

DCP:iw

Trout Unlimited Proposal

The National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited proposes a year-round open fishing season on the "fish-for-fun" portion of the Rapidan River watershed. No other change in regulations is recommended: all trout caught would be returned unharmed to the river, as is the case at present.

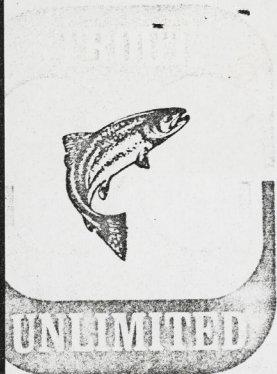
The basic reason for our proposal is simply this: one of Virginia's most famous fisheries could provide many more days of sport every year. The Rapidan now has a very large stock of wild, native brook trout. We believe that this stock would remain high if the stream were open all year under the same regulations which have worked so well in the normal season. Some of the best fishing on the Rapidan might come during the fall, spring, and even winter high-water periods, when the season is now closed.

The following additional factors deserve consideration:

-- We believe that the presence of licensed sportsmen on the stream at all times of the year would inhibit poaching during those months (such as the hunting season) when regular law-enforcement personnel cannot find much time to look after fishing. This is probably a minor factor, as poaching does not seem to have had a serious effect on the Rapidan trout population, but a year-round season should be of some slight advantage.

-- Part of the no-creel section of the Rapidan falls under State jurisdiction and part flows through the Shenandoah National Park. It would be desirable for both sections to be managed under the same regulations. Our organization has asked the U.S. Department of the Interior to approve a year-round season, and we have had the following response from Under Secretary Russell E. Train: "Your recommendation that the stream be open to fishing all year is being studied. Any decision on this matter is subject to mutual agreement with the Commission" (of Game and Inland Fisheries). We believe that the Department of Interior will accept this proposal if the Commission does, and we commit ourselves to pursue the matter in Washington once the Commission has acted.

In summary, we urge approval of a year-round open-season for the State's outstanding wild-trout fishery on the Rapidan River. As far as we know, there are no basic problems except for the minor one of bureaucratic coordination with the Federal Government -- and we believe that our organization can help with this. On the positive side, we think that our recommendation would be good management for the stream and would allow more utilization for the fishermen.



AT'L CAPITOL CHAPTER
c/o DATUS PROPER
3800 A 39TH STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016

March 13, 1970

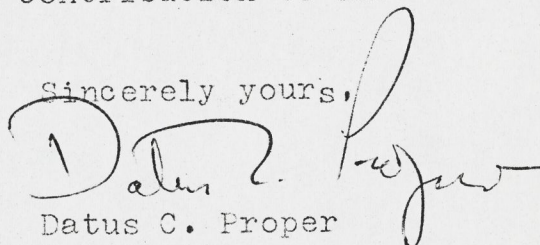
Jack M. Hoffman
Chief, Fish Division
Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries
Box 11104
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Dear Mr. Hoffman:


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I am hoping that my Chapter will have some of its Virginia residents present to urge approval of the proposal, but the specific persons we had in mind may be traveling out of the region at this time. Will you have the proposal submitted in any event? We believe that it would be an important step for progressive management and would make a contribution to increased angler utilization.

Sincerely yours,



Datus C. Proper
President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited



Dear TU Member:

If you would be willing to testify in favor of this proposal, the hearings will be Friday, March 20, at the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries (4010 W. Broad St., Richmond). We understand that the hearings on fishing regulations will be in the morning hours.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please call me.

Datus C. Proper
President
National Capital Chapter

202-632-3048

Trout Unlimited Proposal

The National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited proposes a year-round open fishing season on the "fish-for-fun" portion of the Rapidan River watershed. No other change in regulations is recommended: all trout caught would be returned unharmed to the river, as is the case at present.

The basic reason for our proposal is simply this: one of Virginia's most famous fisheries could provide many more days of sport every year. The Rapidan now has a very large stock of wild, native brook trout. We believe that this stock would remain high if the stream were open all year under the same regulations which have worked so well in the normal season. Some of the best fishing on the Rapidan might come during the fall, spring, and even winter high-water periods, when the season is now closed.

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In summary, we urge approval of a year-round open-season for the State's outstanding wild-trout fishery on the Rapidan River. As far as we know, there are no basic problems except for the minor one of bureaucratic coordination with the Federal Government -- and we believe that our organization can help with this. On the positive side, we think that our recommendation would be good management for the stream and would allow more utilization for the fishermen.

August 13, 1969

Russell E. Train
Under Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Judge Train:

Thanks very much for your letter of July 25, which replied to Trout Unlimited recommendations for the Rapidan River. My members will be very deeply interested. I knew that we could count on you for this sort of thoughtful response.

It is especially good to know that there are no "anticipated exchanges" which would permit degradation of those Rapidan stretches now in the Park. Your letter stops just short of saying that it would be policy to avoid such exchanges. If, in the future, the pendulum should again swing toward a land swap endangering part of the Rapidan, the National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like very much to be informed.

On the management side, I do hope that the study you have in process will lead the Department of the Interior to accept our recommendation for a year-'round open season on this stream. The State of Virginia has just indicated that it may be willing to move if the Park Service goes along (correspondence enclosed). The Rapidan is the only quality trout fishery in our contiguous states, and it would be available for a lot more use if it were open during all of the good fall and spring weather.

Please just transmit this to the appropriate office -- no need for a reply till the study has been completed. Again, my warm appreciation for what you have already done.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper

Enclosure: Letter from
Virginia authorities.

DCP:sc



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUL 25 1969

Dear Datus:

It was a pleasure to hear from you again and to learn about your current activities with the local chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Your thoughtful comments and suggestions relating to the management of the Rapidan River in Shenandoah National Park have been carefully considered with personnel of the National Park Service. Your initial recommendation in your letter of May 14 to the Service is "against the proposed land trade." Many factors have been studied in our efforts to arrive at a mutually advantageous exchange with the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries. While other tracts may be considered for exchange with the State, you will be pleased to know that there are no present or anticipated exchanges which will involve any portion of the Rapidan River within the park.

As you are well aware, the Rapidan River and its very desirable adjacent lands represent some of the most valuable recreational lands in the park. This section of the park provides for a quality and unique human experience which should be preserved and managed for recreational uses such as nature study, camping, picnicking, and fishing.

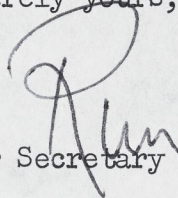
We agree that it would be most desirable to join the two disconnected park sections of the Rapidan River by acquiring for park purposes that portion of the stream which is now owned and operated by the Commonwealth of Virginia as part of the Rapidan Wildlife Management Area. Acquisition of these State-owned lands for inclusion within the park, as you recommend, is complicated. The law specifically prohibits the United States from purchasing lands for the park with appropriated funds and provides that lands could be acquired only by public or private donation. The Commission purchased its holdings along the Rapidan River for a wildlife management area and has no authority to dispose of it for other purposes.

Since portions of the Rapidan River are owned separately by the United States and by the Commission, the fishery management program, to be most effective, must be operated on a cooperative basis. The Fishing-For-Fun program has been established as a cooperative undertaking between the National Park Service and the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries. Plans call for the continuation of this arrangement.

Your recommendation that the stream be open to fishing all year is being studied. Any decision on this matter is subject to mutual agreement with the Commission.

We appreciate your interest in the conservation programs of this department.

Sincerely yours,



Under Secretary of the Interior

Mr. Datus C. Proper
President, National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited
3800 A 39th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20016

July 21, 1969

Jack M. Hoffman
Chief, Fish Division
Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries
Box 11104
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

Thanks very much for your letter of the 18th. I appreciate your detailed replies, and so will my members. The Rapidan River has been the main topic of discussion at most of our meetings and undoubtedly will be again when we resume a regular schedule after the summer vacation. Your letter will attract much attention.

All of us will particularly welcome your assurances that a "no-creel area will be maintained in any event," that "a fee-fishing area on the Rapidan is an extremely remote possibility," and that lumbering is going ahead only under careful regulations and supervision.

Of the management points where movement seems possible, the most important appears to be the possibility of keeping the Rapidan open year-round. This does look like an unusually happy idea to my organization: there are a number of positive points and, as far as we know, no significant drawbacks. If Northern Virginia is going to continue in a hot, dry weather cycle, summer trout fishing is just going to slump a little under any conceivable management scheme, and it would be nice to have our best resource available at times of the year when the weather is more favorable.

I have not had a formal reply from the Department of the Interior to the possibility of keeping the National Park stretches open year-round, but I have heard informally (as you probably have) that the suggestion is at least being given serious consideration. It will obviously be a help to know

that Virginia sees some chance of a change, and I shall pass your words along. The two principal hurdles seem to be (1) the inevitable inertia in the machinery of any governmental organization and (2) the need to get two such organizations to move in concert if the stream is to be managed as one unit. I am not convinced that any great problem would be caused if one half of the mechanism moved a year or two ahead of the other, but the idea of unit management is obviously desirable over the long term.

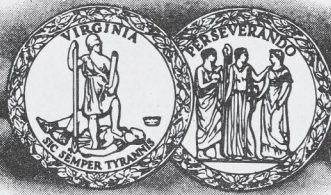
Again, thanks for your interest and effort. I shall be in touch with you again after my membership meets in the fall. In the meantime, if you happen to be in Washington for any reason, I would enjoy meeting you for lunch and talking over our mutual interests. After July 28, my telephone number in the State Department will be 63-23048.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper
President, National Capital
Chapter, Trout Unlimited

DCP:iw

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



A. REE ELLIS, CHAIRMAN
BOX 454, WAYNESBORO 22980
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COMMISSION OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES

Box 11104
Richmond, 23230

Chester F. Phelps, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
4010 WEST BROAD STREET
BOX 11104
RICHMOND, 23230

703-770-4974

July 18, 1969

Mr. Datus C. Proper, President
Trout Unlimited
National Capitol Chapter
3800 A 39th Street N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20016

Dear Mr. Proper:

I have been tangled up in budget planning for the new biennium for several weeks and have delayed my answer to your letter of June 16. Believe it or not, your interest in the Rapidan is appreciated. Resentment of suggestions or honest criticism is not among my many shortcomings.

To bring our thinking together on this let me start by explaining that the Rapidan Wildlife Management Area was purchased to provide public hunting and paid for with hunting license revenue. Obviously, the Fish Division whole heartedly supported this venture because of the fine mountain streams involved, but the Game Division brought this 8400 acres (including the streams) into public ownership. The divisions cooperate in management of the in complete harmony, but it is a public hunting area. With this in mind, I will try to cover the points you raised in your letter to Mr. Phelps.

1. Lumbering Operations. The Commission's lumbering operations are limited to those that fit in with wildlife management plans. The revenue from timber sales is never the primary objective of any operation. All timber sales and subsequent logging are under the supervision of the Commission Forester and operators are required to adhere to approved watershed protection practices.

The Ward Rue WMA is a somewhat peculiar situation in that to purchase the land it was necessary to enter into an agreement with the former owners to sell them a specified number of board feet annually for a specified number of years. To refuse this agreement would have meant not obtaining the land and lumbering would have continued at the owners

July 18, 1969

pleasure. The agreement is for an amount less than the sustained yield of the area. No timber is to be cut in sight of the stream and where it is necessary to cross a stream it is to be done at right angles. No logging operation ever improves the appearance of an area (except through a trained wildlife manager's eyes) but if properly planned and executed the only damage done is esthetic.

2. Road Improvements. The few road improvements that have been accomplished were designed for hunter access. This permits them to spread out and avoid congestion. The fords on the river were often impassable during hunting season. Without adequate hunter access the area could not serve its intended purpose.

3. Year-round Season. I have no personal objections to this, but feel that the season should be the same on the entire no-creel area. This could be presented to the Commission for their consideration at the March meeting if enough interest in such a proposal is demonstrated (all regulation changes are considered in March to become effective July 1, if approved).

4. Fee Fishing Area - Rapidan. On this point I can only say that you have nothing to be concerned about. A no-creel area will be maintained in any event and a fee-fishing area on the Rapidan is an extremely remote possibility.

5. Fee Fishing Area - Conway. The Conway has been studied for a number of years with this management plan in mind, but it has been tentatively ruled out. There are a number of things wrong on Conway that make it unattractive. The trout population level in the Conway cannot be attributed to the regulations that apply entirely -- remember that the Rapidan had a fine trout population when the no-creel regulation was first applied. This was actually the basis for establishing the plan. A no-creel regulation on a marginal trout stream or a degraded stream would be foolish.

6. Extending Validity of Park License Outside Park Boundaries. This is probably not impossible, but it would be very difficult. Considerable need for such action would have to be demonstrated first to the Commission and then to the Legislature. I, personally, would never set out to demonstrate such a need with the present justification available. The sale of fishing licenses is vested in the County Clerks by law and to date the clerk of Madison County has reserved this activity to his office. The matter of making the Park License more readily available outside Madison will be investigated.

My reference to the Rapidan receiving "very light use" was based on the present estimated 700 fishing trips per year as compared to the 35,000 fishing trips estimated for a fee-fishing plan on the area.

Commission policy provides for permitting "primitive camping for hunters and fishermen in pursuit of their sport" but the Rapidan is now receiving

Mr. Datus C. Proper, President

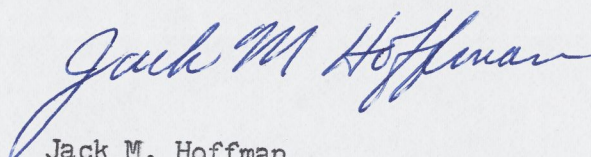
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July 18, 1969

heavy usage from campers who are not there to hunt or fish. This is causing some rather serious problems in the administration of the area since we have no resident personnel. We can only spend license money to provide camping as provided for in Commission Policy and we cannot charge for camping even if we had someone there to collect. This problem we will struggle along with as best we can.

I hope I have explained our views and answered your questions satisfactorily. If not, let me know.

Sincerely



Jack M. Hoffman
Chief, Fish Division

JMH:g

cc: Mr. C. F. Phelps
Mr. R. H. Cross
Mr. J. W. Engle
Mr. R. A. Crigler
Mr. J. H. McLaughlin



NAT'L CAPITOL CHAPTER

c/o DATUS PROPER
3808 A 28TH STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20018

Mr. Arthur T. Wright
The Wilderness Society
729 15th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

June 21, 1969

Dear Mr. Wright:

At your suggestion, I've written to the Conservation Council of Virginia, using your name, and asked for a copy of their by-laws. I also sent Dr. Mural a copy of my correspondence with the State of Virginia on the Rapidan River.

A copy of the correspondence with Virginia is enclosed with this letter, too. I'm also sending you a copy of similar letters to the National Park Service. As you can see, it has not been very easy to get responsive answers, but I am not going to let them off the hook easily. Would appreciate any support you can give. A letter to the Virginia Fish and Game Commission might help them get moving. They are all good men, no doubt, but you know how bureaucratic inertia is.

When you get back from that splendid trip to Maine, how about giving me a ring for lunch on DU 3-5911? I'd like to know more about the Wilderness Society.

Thanks very much for your advice.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper

June 16, 1969

Mr. Jack M. Hoffman
Chief, Fish Division
Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries
Box 11104
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

Thanks very much for your letter of June 11, which replied to mine of May 14 on the Rapidan River. I'm a cog in a pretty large governmental organization myself -- the Department of State -- so I know how hard it can be to handle suggestions from outsiders who don't understand all of one's built-in problems. Nevertheless, I hope I can consider this an interim reply and that, when you have time, you'll be able to answer the rest of my Chapter's questions and give us additional substantive reactions to our management proposals. We know that some of our proposals might take new regulations, perhaps even new laws, and certainly some work on the part of fellows who are already busy. Nevertheless, these were not just off-the-cuff ideas; they were considered recommendations from a responsible and fast-growing conservation organization that has given the Rapidan a lot of thought. Our proposals, as you know, were backed by the Washington office of the Izaak Walton League, and we have informally been told that other conservation organizations are interested. You may know that The Washington Star publicized our proposals on May 30 (copy enclosed). In short, I've got a lot of fellows waiting for answers, and I hope you can give me more for them.

A copy of my letter to Mr. Phelps is enclosed. To recapitulate some points, with reference to your letter:

1. Careless lumbering operations. My earlier letter recommended action to remedy this problem.

2. Road "Improvements." My earlier letter opposed these and asked for a statement of your policy.
3. Proposals to keep season open year-round. We have also proposed this to the National Park Service, and we have some hope of results. We see no problem whatever, however, in having the State of Virginia move independently of the Park. On the contrary, the presence of legitimate sportsmen on the stream should inhibit poachers from snagging spawning trout. Boundaries with the Park are very clearly marked, the major one at a bridge. In point of fact, Park Service denial of our proposal (which we do not expect) would make State action more urgent, as the State would then have a unique opportunity to make this fine resource available to greater use -- which you have recognized to be desirable.
4. Pay-as-you-fish proposal. This, of course, is a very central concern, and I am glad to be able to pass on to my members your statement that "a fee-fishing area would require a land swap with the Park Service which now appears extremely unlikely." We would be still more relieved if you could assure us that, as a matter of policy, the State no longer favors a fee-fishing area for the Rapidan.
5. Conway vs. Rapidan -- Water levels. We agree, of course, that these streams have awfully low water flows during a dry summer (as do all other trout streams in the area). It may well be that the low water would make a fee-fishing operation risky, as hatchery trout would be expected to have more trouble than the well-adapted natives. We have looked at both the Rapidan and Conway on several occasions, however, and found little difference between the two. Actually, the flow is so low in both at times that the real key to management may be the pools. If they are big

enough, the water usually seems to be sufficiently cool and oxygenated to maintain trout (hardy natives, at least) despite the low flow. Good pools can be provided by stream-improvement work, and the Conway already has some. The Conway might take a little more work, but you would be creating a fishery where now there is none rather than -- as on the Rapidan -- degrading the best for miles around. (Independently of this proposal, I hope you can find some way to bring the Conway up to its potential. It is a pretty stream that has held trout year-round in the past, but it will remain barren without more restrictive regulations.)

6. License confusion. At some point, could you consider amending the law that is creating the problem? In the meantime, no law would be required to make the license more easily available.

In closing, I feel that I must question your estimate that the Rapidan receives "very light use." This depends on one's basis of comparison. If compared to the Beaverville, of course, the Rapidan is lightly used; but if a comparison is made to the other streams in northern Virginia -- which is more relevant -- the Rapidan looks pretty good. It is the only stream in the area, as far as we know, that attracts any significant pressure after the opening days or weeks. Some of the usage is from hikers and campers who appreciate the wilderness environment without fishing. We have made proposals (above) that would allow more intensive usage on a year-round basis. The Rapidan is the only Virginia trout stream that has attracted significant national interest, and we are eager to help in attracting more. I have already sold a story on the subject to Outdoor Life. (Can't say yet when it will appear.) The interest that has been generated by Trout Unlimited proposals to you is, we think, significant.

Again, thanks for your efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper, President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited

Enclosures:
as stated.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



A. REE ELLIS, CHAIRMAN
BOX 454, WAYNESBORO 22980
J. C. AARON
1231 SAM LION TRAIL, MARTINSVILLE 24112
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E. FLOYD YATES, POWHATAN 23139

COMMISSION OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES
Box 11104
Richmond, 23230

CHESTER F. PHELPS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
4010 WEST BROAD STREET
BOX 11104
RICHMOND, 23230

June 11, 1969

Mr. Datus C. Proper, President
National Capitol Chapter
3800 A 39th Street N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20016

Dear Mr. Proper:

Thank you for your letter concerning management of the Rapidan River area. It was referred to me by Mr. Phelps.

The Commission is pleased with the no-creel plan on the river and has never considered eliminating this aspect of management of the area. The area received very light use by fishermen and some thought has been given to plans which would serve many more people while preserving an extensive no-creel area. A fee-fishing area would require a land swap with the Park Service which now appears extremely unlikely, and our staff has questioned that there is adequate water in the river during some summer months. Summer flows in the Conway or Middle River are woefully inadequate.

The fishing season on the area is established to close with that of the park to avoid the problems that would obviously result otherwise. The season closes in the park on October 15 at their request.

License requirements are established by legislative act and the statute providing for the Shenandoah Park license expressly states that it is valid only within the boundaries of the park. Commission personnel have no choice but to enforce this accordingly.

We appreciate your interest in this matter.

Sincerely

Jack M. Hoffman
Chief, Fish Division

JMH:g



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

N1423-ORW

JUN - 3 1969

Mr. Datus Proper
President, National Capital
Chapter, Trout Unlimited
3800 A 39th Street, NW
Washington, D. C. 20016

Dear Datus:

Fishing license requirements along portions of the Rapidan River within and outside Shenandoah National Park have not been fully understood, as you are well aware. Mr. John H. McLaughlin, Chief, Law Enforcement Division, Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, provides information in his letter of May 27 which helps to clarify this situation. I know that you and other members of Trout Unlimited will be interested in this information, a copy of which is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

O. L. Wallis
Aquatic Resources Biologist

Enclosure

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



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4010 WEST BROAD STREET
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RICHMOND, 23230

COMMISSION OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES

Box 11104
Richmond, 23230

May 27, 1969

Mr. O. L. Wallis
National Park Service
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Wallis:

I had hopes of placing the whole Rapidan stream under one license requirement, but have had to abandon the idea.

There are a number of State statutes which hinder this move.

Section 29-55.2, Code of Virginia, provides for the three day trip license to fish for trout in the Park or Parkway, and specifically prohibits its use outside the Park or Parkway.

Section 29-55.1 provides for a trip license for other fish, but prohibits its use for trout.

Section 29-55(b) provides for a trout license to fish in State trout waters.

With these limitations, we have the following situation. One may fish the entire length of both streams if he has a trout license in addition to a resident, non-resident or county license to fish. A three day Park license permits him to fish on National Park Service property only.

These are the provisions that our men have been enforcing, and I can locate no one who has informed fishermen otherwise.

I am not at all pleased with this situation, but we have no other choice.

I would appreciate it if you would bring this to the attention of your people who are involved.

We are also making plans for a regular clean up detail to control the litter.

I surely appreciate your bringing this situation to my attention, even though I failed to simplify the procedure.

Sincerely,

John H. McLaughlin
Chief, Law Enforcement Division

JHMcL:C
cc: Hoffman
Crigler

or city and are seventy years of age or older. (1936, p. 146; Michie Code 1942, §§ 3305(19), 3305(23); 1948, pp. 572, 573; 1960, c. 566.)

The 1960 amendment made this section applicable to cities, increased the fee from one to two dollars and added the proviso.

§ 29-54. Fees to hunt only.—The license fees to hunt only shall be as follows:

(1) State resident season license to hunt only, within the regulations and restrictions provided by law, in any and all counties of the State, three dollars and fifty cents.

(2) State nonresident license to hunt only, within the regulations and restrictions provided by law, in any and all counties of the State, fifteen dollars seventy-five cents. (1936, p. 146; 1938, p. 178; Michie Code 1942, §§ 3305(19), 3305(23); 1948, pp. 572, 573; 1960, c. 566.)

The 1960 amendment deleted the former provision as to county resident season license.

§ 29-54.1. Nonresident license to hunt within shooting preserves.—There is hereby provided a season license for nonresidents of the State to hunt within the boundaries of shooting preserves licensed under the provisions of chapter 4 (§ 29-38 et seq.) of this title. Such license shall be valid within the boundaries of any such shooting preserves and may be in lieu of any license required by § 29-54.

The fee for such license shall be three dollars. (1958, c. 145.)

The number of this section was assigned by the Virginia Code Commission for better arrangement, the number of this section in the 1958 act having been 29-55.2.

§ 29-55. Fees to fish only. — (a) The license fees to fish only, which licenses shall not permit fishing for trout in waters stocked by the Commission or other public body, or creeling (retaining) trout caught in the South Holston reservoir, shall be as follows:

(1) State resident season license to fish only, within the regulations and restrictions provided by law, in all inland waters of the State, three dollars and fifty cents; provided that no such license shall be required of resident persons seventy years of age or older.

(2) State nonresident season license to fish only, by any method, within the regulations and restrictions provided by law, in all inland waters of the State, ten dollars.

(b) The license fees to fish in designated waters stocked with trout by the Commission, or other public body, by any method, and to creel (retain) trout caught in the South Holston reservoir, within the regulations and restrictions provided by law, in addition to the regular fishing license, shall be as follows:

(1) State resident season license one dollar; provided that no such license shall be required of resident persons seventy years or older.

(2) State nonresident season license five dollars. (1936, p. 146; 1938, p. 179; Michie Code 1942, §§ 3305(19), 3305(23); 1948, pp. 572, 573; 1952, c. 355; 1958, c. 493; 1960, c. 566; 1962, c. 469; 1968, c. 649.)

The 1960 amendment rewrote this section as changed by the 1952 and 1958 amendments.

The 1962 amendment deleted "for trout" formerly appearing after "fish" in subsection (b) and inserted "designated" before "waters." It also deleted "for trout" formerly appearing after "fish" in subdivisions (1) and (2) of that subsection and substituted therein the words "designated waters stocked with trout shall be" for the words "any and all counties of the State."

The 1968 amendment inserted "or creeling (retaining) trout caught in the South Holston reservoir" near the beginning of subsection (a), substituted "all inland waters" for "any and all counties" in subdivision (1) of that subsection, inserted

“and to creel (retain) trout caught in the South Holston reservoir” near the beginning of subsection (b), and deleted “to

fish’ in designated waters stocked with trout shall be” following “license” in subdivisions (1) and (2) of that subsection.

§ 29-55.1. Trip fishing license for residents and nonresidents.—

There is hereby provided a trip fishing license for residents and nonresidents of the State to fish in the fresh water creeks, bays, inlets and streams of the State, or in any of the impounded waters of this State during the open season for game fish, which shall be in lieu of the regular season State or county fishing license. Provided, however, such license shall not entitle the owner thereof to fish for trout in any of the trout streams nor in any public waters in which trout have been planted. The fee for such license shall be one dollar and fifty cents, and said license shall be effective for three successive days, which days shall be set forth on the face of the license. (1954, c. 567; 1956, c. 51; 1958, c. 443.)

The number of this section was assigned by the Virginia Code Commission, the 1954 act having assigned no number.

The 1956 amendment inserted in the first sentence the words “creeks, bays, inlets and fresh water streams of the State east of the Blue Ridge Mountains.”

The 1958 amendment changed the words inserted by the 1956 amendment and rewrote the section so as to provide trip fishing licenses for residents as well as nonresidents.

§ 29-55.2. Trip fishing license for trout fishing in Shenandoah National Park and Blue Ridge Parkway.—There is hereby provided a trip fishing license for residents and nonresidents of the State to fish for trout in the waters of the Shenandoah National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway during the open season for trout, which shall be in lieu of the regular season, State or county, fishing license. Such license shall not entitle the owner thereof to fish outside of said Park or Parkway or for fish other than trout. The fee for such license shall be three dollars, and said license shall be effective for three successive days, which shall be set forth on the face of the license. (1960, c. 128; 1966, c. 278.)

The 1966 amendment, effective March 31, 1966, inserted “and the Blue Ridge Parkway” in the first sentence and “or Parkway” in the second sentence.

§ 29-55.3: Reserved.

§ 29-55.4. Commission may charge use fees for fishing in certain streams.—In addition to the license fees heretofore provided for, the Commission may impose daily use fees, not to exceed one dollar, and issue permits therefor to fish in such specially stocked trout streams as may be designated by the Commission. The proceeds from such fees shall be set aside and used exclusively by the Commission for the stocking and management of such streams. Such permits shall be issued by such person or persons as may be designated by the Commission at or near the area in which such permits are required. (1962, c. 397; 1968, c. 235.)

The 1968 amendment deleted, at the end of the first sentence, a proviso limiting the designated streams to three, located in different areas of the State.

§ 29-56. Fees to trap only.—The license fees to trap only shall be as follows:

(1) County resident season license, three dollars.

(2) State resident season license, seven dollars and fifty cents.

(3) State nonresident season license, fifty dollars. (1936, p. 146; Michie Code 1942, § 3305(19); 1948, p. 572; 1952, c. 608.)

The 1952 amendment reduced the fee for a State resident season license from twenty dollars to seven dollars and fifty cents.

§ 29-57. Persons entitled to county or State resident licenses.—The following persons shall be entitled to a county license to hunt, trap or fish in the county in which they have physically resided six consecutive months before

MR WALLIS

Evening Star
Washington, 5/30/69

Trout Unlimited Wants No Change on Rapidan

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Instead, the organization suggests that the Conway River, a similar stream in the same general area, be used for the pay-as-you-fish idea. The proposal was made in a letter from Datus C. Proper, president of the National Capital Chapter, to Chester F. Phelps, executive director of the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Under its present set-up the Rapidan is a good trout stream where fishing only with barbless hooks and artificial lures is permitted, and all fish caught must be put back in the stream. It has been proposed that an extra fee be charged, that anglers keep their catch and that a continuous program of stocking with big fish be started.

Proper's letter said that the Rapidan in its present condition provides fishing of a very high quality, the environment is magnificent, the trout of a good size and good sport is found through-

out the season. The Rapidan's wilderness qualities also make it attractive to hikers and campers who do not fish, he noted.

With all that it is a "fragile" stream, he said, and easily could be ruined by any change. Even improving the access road, which is steep, rocky and of poor quality, would have an adverse effect, Proper said, noting the harm already done by lumbering operations and a bridge repair job.

The Conway River, several miles to the south of the Rapidan, is similar in water volume, temperature and general character, except that it does not have a population of native trout as does the Rapidan. This is because it is an open trout stream and is practically fished out soon after stocking, as is the case with most trout streams.

Trout Unlimited's suggestion is that the Conway would make a good fee-fishing stream and be an addition to the sport, rather than a loss, as would be the case if the Rapidan is discontinued as a fish-for-fun stream.

Proper's letter also proposed that the Rapidan be open for fishing all year.

the lead on the final hole, he replied:

"I really don't think one shot on one round makes that much difference. I've played this course so much it's just like a meat grinder. You put the meat in, turn the handle and out it comes.

"I've never had a 64 on the tour before and it was really trying to just lag up—I was two

Bob Murphy	34-34-68
Jim Ferrier	34-34-68
Jerry Edwards	35-33-68
Dean Refram	34-35-69
Grier Jones	33-36-69
Wayne Vollmer	36-33-69
Gay Brewer	34-35-69
Lee Davis	34-35-69
Steve Reid	32-37-69
Dave Eichelberger	34-35-69
Alan Henning	35-34-69
Chi Chi Rodriguez	37-32-69
Terry Wilcox	34-35-69
Jay Hebert	35-34-69
Jim Voss	35-34-69
Bob Dickson	35-34-69
Frank Boynton	34-35-69
Johnny Pott	34-35-69
Larry Mowry	34-35-69
Jerry Abbott	34-35-69
Bob Menne	35-34-69
Herb Hooper	34-35-69
Steve Spray	32-37-69
Jerry Barber	35-34-69
Don January	34-35-69
R. H. Sikes	34-35-69

High School Sports

RESULTS YESTERDAY

Baseball

Central 14, Fairmont Heights 4
Churchill 7, Woodward High 3
Crossland 15, Oxon Hill 4
DuVal 2, Bladensburg 0
Einstein 12, Wheaton 2
High Point 6, Northwestern 1
Northwood 3, Montgomery Blair 1
Peary 4, Bethesda-Chevy Chase 1
Potomac 10, Douglass 3
Richard Montgomery 11, Gaithersburg 4
Sasscer 6, Gwynn Park 3
Springbrook 6, Kennedy 0
Suitland 10, Bowie 9

Golf

Metropolitan Championship

Landon 7½, Peary 1½

TODAY

Baseball

Virginia 1-A Championship

(At Charlottesville)

James Madison vs. Portsmouth, 2

Colt Draftee Signs Two-Year Contract

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—

The Baltimore Colts of the National Football League signed Gary Flemming of Samford University Thursday, Flemming's lawyers said.

Flemming, picked in the fifth round of the college draft, is a 6-foot-3, 245-pounder. He is being considered as a defensive end or linebacker.

SAVE UP TO \$53 ON

4th FA Time

Evening Star
Washington, 5/30/69

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Trout Unlimited's suggestion is that the Conway would make a good fee-fishing stream and be an addition to the sport, rather than a loss, as would be the case if the Rapidan is discontinued as a fish-for-fun stream.

Proper's letter also proposed that the Rapidan be open for fishing all year.

Evening Star
Washington, 5/30/69

Trout Unlimited Wants No Change on Rapidan

Proposals that the Rapidan River in Virginia be turned into a pay-as-you-fish trout stream instead of its current fish-for-fun status are opposed by the National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Instead, the organization suggests that the Conway River, a similar stream in the same general area, be used for the pay-as-you-fish idea. The proposal was made in a letter from Datus C. Proper, president of the National Capital Chapter, to Chester F. Phelps, executive director of the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries.

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COPY

The Izaak Walton League of America

(INCORPORATED)
DEFENDER OF SOIL, WOODS, WATERS AND WILDLIFE

NATIONAL OFFICE
1326 WAUKEGAN ROAD
GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS 60025
TELEPHONE 312-724-3880



WASHINGTON OFFICE
719 - 13TH ST. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
TELEPHONE 202-347-5880

Mr. Chester F. Phelps
Executive Director
Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries
4010 W. Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23230

May 28, 1969

Dear Chet:

I've just been reading a copy of the letter Datus C. Proper of Trout Unlimited wrote you under date of May 14. This letter is just to say briefly that I agree with the premis, conclusions and recomondations of T.U. I don't have many opportunities to get over to the Rapidan, but each trip is a gem whether I fish or not. I'd hate to see it spoiled by crowds whose legitimate satisfactions can be met in countless other areas.

Warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

J. W. Penfold
Conservation Director

JWP/bdl

B/cc Mr. Proper

May ¹⁴41, 1969

Mr. Chester F. Phelps
Executive Director
Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries
4010 W. Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Dear Mr. Phelps:

I am writing on behalf of the National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited, which serves (and draws much of its membership from) northern Virginia. My subject is the Rapidan River. The Chapter's members have spent a great many hours on the banks of this stream, some of us as ordinary fishermen and some with experience in professional fisheries management. This letter draws on the joint experience of the Chapter in thanking you for your cooperation, giving a statement of our policy views, formulating some new suggestions for management, and requesting a statement of your policy. I am writing to the Director of the National Park Service along similar lines.

Trout Unlimited Views on the Rapidan

We believe that this small river is both an exceptionally valuable resource and one which is quite unique for Virginia. (Nearby areas of Maryland and West Virginia also have nothing to compare with it.) There are a number of other streams classified as trout water in Virginia, but all in the northern part of the state fall into two categories, both of which provide fishing for only a few days each year:

- a) Other streams in Shenandoah Park which, though attractive, are generally smaller than the Rapidan and are reduced to fish of an uninteresting size after the first days of the season.

- b) / Many streams that are managed on a "put-and-take" basis. These streams draw crowds of fishermen, but only for a day or two after stockings. Because of the crowding and the fact that the trout have no time to acquire the responses of wild fish, the fishing tends to be low in quality. (This implies no criticism of your fisheries management. You are operating within severe constraints.)

The Rapidan, in contrast, provides fishing of a very high quality. The environment is magnificent; the native brook trout reach a good size; the natives respond like the wild fish they are; and there is good sport throughout the season.

Rapidan usage is never as high on any one day as usage of some stocked-trout streams. On the other hand, the Rapidan is used from April through October, and as suggested later, this season could be increased. We suspect that total man-hours of fishing might be found high in comparison to other streams in the area, but there is no way to verify this; creel cards have not been used seriously for several years. The Rapidan's wilderness qualities also make it attractive to many hikers and campers who do not fish.

In short, of the many fisheries in northern Virginia, the Rapidan is the only one that successfully serves those interested in quality fishing and a pleasant environment. There are many such people, and we believe their numbers are growing much faster than the general population.

On the other hand, the Rapidan is exceedingly fragile (like most other trout fisheries in this area). The slightest abuse would be capable of spoiling it. It has in fact improved greatly since the Shenandoah National Park was founded, but the stream is still ruined as trout water within a hundred yards of the lower Park boundary.

We are deeply grateful to you for managing the Rapidan in a manner that we consider close to optimum. We wish to support you in any way we can in efforts to protect this resource from degradation. We strongly believe that the Rapidan should continue to be managed as a resource of the highest quality.

Our Concerns about Protection

In the past year or two, there have been some developments that seem to threaten the Rapidan. Members of the National Capital Chapter have been in touch with you before on some of these problems. In summary, our concerns are as follows.

1. There has been discussion of a land trade through which the State would acquire the lower portions of the Rapidan trout fishery, converting it to a ~~pay-as-you-fish~~, stocked-trout water. We would encourage the formation of such a fishery on another stream, and I will make a specific proposal to that effect later. We strongly oppose destruction of the high-quality, native-trout fishery on the Rapidan. The lowest portion of the present fishery happens also to be much the best, and the above proposal would wipe it out.

2. There has been some talk of "improving" the existing road, and two bridges were recently replaced. (One of them spoiled an exceptionally productive pool.) We would strongly oppose any further "improvement" such as road surfacing or widening. Such construction would endanger the semi-wilderness character which is one of the stream's greatest attractions. More direct damage might also be caused. As the Shenandoah Park stands now, there is already a great deal of paved road, certainly enough to accomodate the auto tourist. We believe that some refuge should be allowed for those who appreciate the woods and the trout more than great numbers of automobiles.

3. Logging is now in process on the state-owned portion of the upper Rapidan. In one place, construction equipment has worked in the stream bed, and some roads have been bulldozed on a gradient that seems certain to cause erosion problems. At a mini-

mum, we believe that there should be strict regulations to protect the watershed from this sort of abuse. Over the long run, we suggest that all commercial logging might be prohibited as incompatible with the wilderness nature of the area, but the urgent need is for regulatory measures.

Our Recommendations for Management

1. We recommend that you consider developing the Conway River as a fee-fishing stream. As you know, it is easily accessible. It runs very near the Rapidan, in the same State Wildlife Area. The two streams must have been nearly identical in their original state. The Conway still has much good water, but there is almost no fishery, as the Rapidan's protective regulations do not apply. Water volume appears to be only slightly less and water temperature nearly identical.

2. We recommend that the Rapidan be left open to fishing all year. Problems of enforcement might be eased in this way, as the presence of legitimate sportsmen on the stream would discourage poaching. Additional pressure under "fish-for-fun" regulations would probably do no harm to the very good stock of fish now present. Finally, the stream could provide much more recreation in the autumn and a little more in the winter.

3. As you know, the license situation on the Rapidan has been confused. We suggest that the best resolution of the problem would be to allow fishing of the entire upper stretch of the River on the Shenandoah Park three-day license. Steps might also be taken to make this special license more easily available, as for example in Culpepper and Criglersville.

In closing, I would like to reiterate my Chapter's appreciation for the assistance you have given us --

-5-

and the splendid fishery you have protected.
All of us would appreciate your comments on our
three points of concern and our three
recommendations.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper, President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited

DCP:iw

May 14, 1969

Mr. George B. Hartzog
Director, National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hartzog:

I am writing on behalf of the National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited. My subject is the Rapidan River, much of which flows through Shenandoah National Park. My organization takes special pride and special interest in this stream, which we think provides the most important wilderness trout environment within a wide radius of the nation's capital.

Recent developments have posed a threat to the Rapidan. I would like to use this letter to express concern, to transmit some of the membership's suggestions for future steps, and to ask for a statement of your policy. First, however, I want to thank you for the excellent cooperation and farsighted management that have been provided to date by the Park Service. The threat to the Rapidan has not, to our knowledge, come from within the Department of the Interior.

First, for the record, I would like to note the broad background and goals of Trout Unlimited -- though these may be familiar to you. Our membership is not composed exclusively of fly-fishing purists; we do not aim only at wilderness enthusiasts; and we do not oppose management by such techniques as trout stocking -- where appropriate. We do believe, however, that a few high-quality environments should be protected for both trout and people. Because many people endorse these objectives, our membership is growing at a fast rate and we have become an important national conservation organization.

Our Concern

Shenandoah Park's irregular boundaries have left the upper Rapidan River in a dangerous situation. It flows out of the Park, passes through a neck of State-owned land, and then goes back into the Park. The lowest stretch of Park-owned water holds the stream's largest, most attractive, and most productive reaches. The State has managed its stretch as a wildlife area, until now posing no threat to the wild ecology of the area.

Now, however, the State proposes to trade its stretch of the upper Rapidan for the lower Park-owned portion. The trade would have the advantage of straightening out the Park border, making management easier for both parties. This consideration is attractive, but we believe the disadvantages of the proposal far outweigh this administrative consideration. The Park would lose what is not only the best stretch of the Rapidan but the biggest stream in the Park -- and much the best fishery. (I base this assertion on the joint experience of a membership which knows the Park's waters unusually well.)

Further, the State has plans which would result in the destruction of the wilderness environment, and the native trout, in this lower stretch of water. The State proposal is to create a fee-fishing stream which would be heavily stocked with hatchery rainbows. This would presumably require holding pools, access roads, and other "improvements."

Our organization does not oppose the fee-fishing idea in principle. We have, in fact, suggested that the State develop the Conway River along these lines. (It runs parallel to the Rapidan, a few miles south, and largely on non-Park land. The water appears comparable in volume and quality, and access is easy.) We do, however, strongly oppose degradation of an irreplaceable resource like the Rapidan. The State has alternative streams; the automotive tourists have many paved roads; those who like fishing for stocked trout have a wide choice. The friends of the Rapidan have no alternative.

Though the Park/State land trade has not yet materialized, we note that there are also some disturbing developments on the section of land which the State already owns. There has been logging and careless road construction. In one place a bulldozer has operated in the stream bed. We have heard rumors of intentions to "improve" the main access road. This is precisely the sort of help that the Rapidan does not need, and we hope that the Department of the Interior will use its influence against such activities. We believe that the area President Hoover fished should be preserved just as he knew it -- as is his camp.

Trout Unlimited Suggestions.

1. We strongly recommend against the proposed land trade.

2. We urge the Department of the Interior to purchase the State wildlife area and incorporate it in the National Park. This would be the only way to give the entire upper Rapidan the protection it deserves. The Park's boundaries would, of course, also be simplified in this manner. Many federal dollars are being spent elsewhere to acquire wild rivers, and here is one that could be protected relatively cheaply.

3. We urge retention of the present fish-for-fun (barbless hook) regulations, which we believe to have been exceptionally successful. These regulations have protected the Park's native species and wilderness flavor while making the Rapidan into a really good fishery. As the river is today, crowds are never excessive on any one day, but it is the only trout fishery in northern Virginia which attracts significant numbers of anglers throughout the summer.

4. We suggest that the fishing season on the Rapidan River (and any other "fish-for-fun" streams which may be designated in the future) be left open all year. Since all trout are returned unharmed to the water, we believe that no damage would be

done to the excellent stock of native brook trout. Many more days of recreation would be provided, and the presence of sport-fishermen in the fall would inhibit poachers.

Our Request

I would very much appreciate receiving, for discussion by the members, your reaction to our concerns and our suggestions. I have written along similar lines to the State of Virginia.

Again, thanks very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper, President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited

DCP:1w

May 3, 1969

Judge Russell Train
Under Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Judge Train:

You might remember me from the African Safari Club. We worked briefly on some conservation projects in 1960. I'm still in the Foreign Service and have recently returned to Washington under one of your friends -- Assistant Secretary Meyer. My major conservation effort these days is to build up the local chapter of Trout Unlimited. In this connection, I'd like to ask you the favor of urging Park Service action on a letter I sent May 14.

A copy of my letter is enclosed, as is a routine reply -- hopefully of an interim nature. My letter intended to make some major policy suggestions on the upper Rapidan River which is my membership's pet project. Part of this stream runs through Shenandoah Park. We consider it a most important resource, both as a semi-wilderness area and as the only quality trout stream near the capital. The Rapidan has been threatened with degradation, and there are some rumors that the Park Service might not oppose the threat. My letter made specific suggestions for protection and management, then requested Park Service reactions and policy statements. My members are hoping for detailed answers to each point. If the answers are difficult, we would be glad to come in for a talk with whom-ever you might recommend.

A similar letter I sent to the State of Virginia has been described in The Washington Star

(clipping also enclosed) and supported by The National Office of the Izaak Walton League. I believe that other conservation organizations are ready to join the campaign if necessary.

Thanks very much. It's almost superfluous to tell you how delighted we all are to see you in your present position. If the rest of the grass roots are as happy as my members, your public support is something special.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper
President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited

DCP:iw

Trout Unlimited Wants No Change on Rapidan

Proposals that the Rapidan River in Virginia be turned into a pay-as-you-fish trout stream instead of its current fish-for-fun status are opposed by the National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

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out the season. The Rapidan's wilderness qualities also make it attractive to hikers and campers who do not fish, he noted.

With all that it is a "fragile" stream, he said, and easily could be ruined by any change. Even improving the access road, which is steep, rocky and of poor quality, would have an adverse effect, Proper said, noting the harm already done by lumbering operations and a bridge repair job.

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Proper's letter also proposed that the Rapidan be open for fishing all year.

"I really don't think one shot on one round makes that much difference. I've played this course so much it's just like a meat grinder. You put the meat in, turn the handle and out it comes.

"I've never had a 64 on the tour before and it was really trying to just lag up—I was two

Dean Retram	34-35-69
Grier Jones	33-36-69
Wayne Vollmer	36-33-69
Gay Brewer	34-35-69
Lee Davis	34-35-69
Steve Reid	32-37-69
Dave Eichelberger	34-35-69
Alan Henning	35-34-69
Chi Chi Rodriguez	37-32-69
Terry Wilcox	34-35-69
Jay Hebert	35-34-69
Jim Voss	35-34-69
Bob Dickson	35-34-69
Frank Boynton	34-35-69
Johnny Pott	34-35-69
Larry Mowry	34-35-69
Jerry Abbott	34-35-69
Bob Menne	35-34-69
Herb Hooper	34-35-69
Steve Spray	32-37-69
Jerry Barber	35-34-69
Don January	34-35-69
R. H. Sikes	34-35-69

High School Sports

RESULTS YESTERDAY

Baseball

Central 14, Fairmont Heights 4
Churchill 7, Woodward High 3
Crossland 15, Oxon Hill 4
DuVal 2, Bladensburg 0
Einstein 12, Wheaton 2
High Point 6, Northwestern 1
Northwood 3, Montgomery Blair 1
Peary 4, Bethesda-Chevy Chase 1
Potomac 10, Douglass 3
Richard Montgomery 11, Gaithersburg 4
Sasscer 6, Gwynn Park 3
Springbrook 6, Kennedy 0
Suitland 10, Bowie 9

Golf

Metropolitan Championship

Landon 7½, Peary 1½

TODAY

Baseball

Virginia 1-A Championship
(At Charlottesville)

James Madison vs. Portsmouth, 2

Colt Draftee Signs Two-Year Contract

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—

The Baltimore Colts of the National Football League signed Gary Flemming of Samford University Thursday, Flemming's lawyers said.

Flemming, picked in the fifth round of the college draft, is a 6-foot-3, 245-pounder. He is being considered as a defensive end or linebacker.

SAVE UP TO \$53 ON

4th Time

Datus C. Proper
3800-A 39th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

February 19, 1969

Mr. Paul S. Dulaney
Study Chairman
Scenic Rivers of Virginia
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Va. 22903

Dear Mr. Dulaney:

If the National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited can be of any help in your study, we would be very happy to cooperate. Our members spend a lot of hours in the streams of Shenandoah Park, and we consider them a resource that is unique within a reasonable drive of the nation's capital. There is nothing comparable in nearby Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, or elsewhere in northern Virginia. I'm speaking not of fish in the creel -- these streams are not capable of providing many -- but of the combination of environmental and fishing qualities. Trout streams do, of course, depend on ecological factors that result in special scenic values. Unfortunately, in this area, native trout streams are an exceptionally fragile resource. They appear to require extremely rigid protection.

Our organization has taken a special interest in the Rapidan River, which has been under "fish-for-fun" regulations for the last few years. (All trout must be released, and only artificial lures with single, barbless hooks are permitted.) It has been an extremely successful experiment. In fishing terms, the Rapidan has become much the best trout stream in the area -- and before the experiment, according to a detailed biological survey, the stream was mediocre. In scenic terms, the watershed has been protected: the fact that trout cannot be kept avoids the tremendous opening-day crowds of once-a-year fishermen who flock to stocked-trout streams for a free meal. At the same time, in terms of public use, the Rapidan has also proved able to serve a great many people. There is much family camping throughout the summer, and it is the only stream in Northern Virginia that attracts large numbers of fishermen throughout the season. The special regulations have proven able to spread the crowds out rather than concentrating them on a week or two every year.

Some time ago, I sold Outdoor Life a story on the fishing in Shenandoah Park, and especially in the Rapidan. The story emphasizes scenic values and has a number of photographs. It should be published in the next month or so. Perhaps it could be of some help to you.

Again, please call on us if you need us.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper, President
National Capital Chapter
Trout Unlimited

DCP:iw

Datus C. Proper
3800-A 39th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

April 16, 1969

Paul S. Dulaney, Chairman
Division of City Planning
School of Architecture
Fayerweather Hall
Charlottesville, Va.
22901

Dear Mr. Dulaney:

Thanks very much for your letter of March 10, which replied to my earlier one on the Rapidan River. I apologize for the delay in answering it. Your study has aroused much interest in the local (National Capital) Chapter of Trout Unlimited, and we welcome a look at your outline. With your permission, I'd like to use this letter to draw on my fellow members' experience with regard to the points in your study.

By way of background, let me mention that Trout Unlimited is a broadly based and broadly defined conservation group. It is aimed at all sportsmen interested in trout and pure water. (Most of us do considerable warm-water fishing as well.) We make a point of not aiming exclusively at fly-fishing purists. Many of us, of course, place a high value on quality trout fishing in natural surroundings, but we have no objection to artificial stocking when it appears the most appropriate management tool.

The key adjective for the Rapidan River is fragile. (The same is largely true of almost any small, freestone trout stream at this low latitude and altitude.) Biologists use the term "marginal," which is technically accurate but misleading in that, to most laymen, it connotes low quality. The Rapidan is a resource of very high quality, but it requires protection in an extreme degree. It has improved greatly since Shenandoah National Park was pieced together in the 'thirties. (I have an earlier stream survey that seems to make this clear.) Even so, the Rapidan is destroyed as a trout stream within one hundred yards of the lower Park boundary. Some other Park streams do worse: during hot weather, they disappear into the ground just below the boundary.

In view of this fragility, my organization would strongly recommend against any significant tampering with the watershed. Road improvement would certainly come under this heading. The

present road, regrettably, runs close to some of the stream, but the road is very small and there has been a long time for recuperation since it was built. Widening and paving would certainly harm scenic values and might well do harm to the water. (When two "improved" bridges were recently put in, one of them destroyed the most productive fishing pool in the river.) As the road is now, it affords easy access to those willing to go a bit out of their way to escape from crowds of automotive sightseers. The latter have the whole Skyline Drive close by. The only real reason for visiting the Rapidan is for certain wilderness values -- and they could not be obtained, by definition, with easy access for crowds.

Present usage of the Rapidan by fishermen is moderately heavy only during April and part of May, when the water is high and the fishing relatively easy. There is, however, constant light usage by fishermen all summer on weekends, and there is also considerable family camping on weekends. There have been large parties of campers and even some automobile sightseers. Measurement of the usage depends, of course, on one's basis for comparison. Fishing usage is never high compared to opening day on the most heavily-stocked streams -- but the latter, of course, are an artificial situation. Rapidan usage remains relatively heavy for the whole season, as it is the only stream in Northern Virginia with any fishermen at all in the summer and fall. The Rapidan also appears to be much the most heavily used of the several dozen small streams in Shenandoah Park.

My group has heard of the proposal to dam Craig Creek but lacks the information necessary for a responsible recommendation. We can well imagine that the fishing would be improved, but we do not know what the price would be in other values, and we do not want to advance our parochial interests on this basis. We believe the burden of proof should be on those who want to build the dam.

Have you considered the St. Mary's River for scenic recognition? It has some spectacularly beautiful falls and is not paralleled by a road. On balance, I would consider it slightly less important than the Rapidan, but it is still well qualified.

The following are specific comments on your outlined report.

- I. 4. The Rapidan obviously (to us) qualified for recognition as a scenic river. Whether it should be recognized depends on whether

recognition would increase or decrease the protection now afforded it. If recognition might mean road "improvement," we would be in opposition.

Note that the stream leaves the Park, passes briefly through a State Wildlife Area, and then re-enters the Park. All of this, including the small State-owned portion, is highly scenic.

Below the lowest section of the Park, there is much less scenic value until the stream approaches the Wilderness Battlefield a few miles lower. Considering its shortness, however, the whole stream could be considered "scenic."

- II. 2 a. The trout-bearing portion of the stream is as outlined in the preceding paragraph. The significant small-mouth bass portion begins much lower.
3. a.b.c.d.e. All of the upper portion, as described above, contains several or all of the listed "notable natural features."
4. Historical Features. President Hoover's Camp is still maintained by the National Park Service.
5. a. No significant pollution in upper Rapidan at this moment. Dangers could be presented by "recreational development," including road and camp building, or by any deforestation. The State is engaged in some logging, and this is cause for concern.
6. The stream is often paralleled by a small woods road, but there is little scenic impairment so long as no "improvement" is made. The Rapidan's three tributaries have no road today, though an old road is shown along the Staunton on most maps.
7. See comment under I. 4.
8. See USGS map of Madison Quadrangle -- Scale 1:62500.

Sincerely yours,

Datus C. Proper, President

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
FAYERWEATHER HALL
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.
22901

10 March 1969

Mr. Datus C. Proper
3800-A - 39th Street N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20016

Dear Mr. Proper:

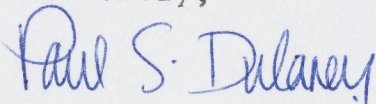
Thank you for your letter of February 19 and the comments on the Rapidan River. The Rapidan (the full length of it) rates high in our study of Virginia streams.

Fortunately the upper part of the Rapidan is afforded protection by the Park. I visited that area on a cloudless hot Sunday last June. I observed that the stream was not overloaded with people and I attributed this to the fact that access is over a road that is narrow and rough. I know of natural areas elsewhere in the state which have been damaged by improving access roads. Do you agree that the Rapidan would probably become overcrowded if the road should be wider and paved?

Since your organization is focussed on trout, I should like to get your opinion about the creation of a trout environment which does not exist under natural conditions. In the case of a Corps of Engineers proposal to dam Craig Creek (Craig and Botetourt counties) the recreation people seem to be more than assuaged by the prospect of a cold water stream for several miles below the dam. There are pros and cons to this situation, as with most; I know from our study that the area that will be flooded has exceptional scenic qualities.

I enclose an outline of our work program and we shall welcome your comments and suggestions relative to this.

Sincerely,



Paul S. Dulaney, Chairman
Division of City Planning

PSD:jb

Enclosure (1)

REPORT TO BE MADE TO THE VIRGINIA OUTDOOR RECREATION COMMISSION ON
A PROPOSED SYSTEM OF SCENIC RIVERS

Completion date: May 1, 1969

I. Contents of Report

1. Introduction
2. Summary, giving list of streams recommended for priority and chief features of a suggested preservation program.
3. Description of study and evaluation methods.
4. Description of streams recommended, and reasons for selection.
5. Program of stream preservation, including discussion of activity in other states and ways and means suggested for Virginia.

Appendix

- A. Brief description of each stream in the inventory.
- B. Summary of activity in stream preservation, legislative and technical, for each state having program.
- C. Bibliography.

II. Graphic Exhibits

1. Canoeing Streams
 - a. white-water
 - b. other recommended streams
2. Fishing
(streams of high productivity which should be preserved in free-flowing condition)
 - a. trout
 - b. small mouth bass
 - c. other, including spawning areas for anadromous species
3. Notable Natural Features
(of streams and adjacent land which would be lost or impaired by impoundment)
 - a. falls and rapids
 - b. gorge
 - c. unique or unusual ecology
 - d. valuable wildlife habitat
 - e. exceptional scenic quality
4. Historical Features
 - a. locks and other navigational remnants, mill structures, bridges, etc.
 - b. historic houses and other buildings associated with with, or visible from the stream

5. Water Quality

- a. streams receiving little or no industrial or municipal waste
- b. polluted streams
 1. badly polluted by industrial and/or municipal waste.
 2. sedimentation: severe effects from land erosion
 3. heavy algae growth from excess of nutrients

6. Remoteness and Natural Condition

showing stream segments which have little development or other impairment of banks and immediate environs.

- a. segments at least five miles in length without parallel road within 1/2 mile and with not more than one road crossing.
- b. segments of significant length where land is undeveloped and unimpaired but which do not meet requirements of remoteness from roads specified in (a) above. Parallel roads must be far enough away so that the natural condition of the stream bank is not disturbed by the road itself.

7. Recommended System of Natural Rivers

map showing streams and portions thereof which have pre-eminent values (on the basis of exhibits 1-6). These streams are the potential components of a "scenic rivers system."

8. Related Information

map showing location of impoundments (existing and proposed), public lands (parks, national forests, wildlife refuges, natural areas, military reservations, etc.) and recreational areas (public and commercial) which are related to waterways.

III. Supporting Material for COR Files

The following material will be assembled for each stream in the inventory:

1. USGS topography maps with field notes
2. Evaluation forms
3. Color slides
4. Black and white prints

Washington Post

Times Herald

FINAL

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By Linda Wheeler—The Washington Post

con, discusses her in front of row houses in the 1700 block of Lanier Place NW.

ne Was Haven for Leslie Bacon

"There are a lot of freaks on this block and people who are sympathetic to freaks," said Jack Davis, who lives at 1736 Lanier with Chicago Seven defendant Rennie Davis (no relation to Jack). A sign on the door says "Beware of dog."

He said that there was a "collective spirit" among the youths: "Some students, some street people, all sorts of things." Many, said Davis, were part of the Mayday tribe that is organizing mass civil disobedience in Washington from May 1 to 7.

Miss Bacon, said Davis, was part of

the tribe and a former Yippie. She had helped organize the rock concert near the Washington Monument that followed the April 24 peace demonstration.

FBI agents ripped out the screen door of the green brick row house at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday and burst inside in a futile search for Miss Bacon, according to witnesses. But she was working at Mayday headquarters, 1029 Vermont Ave. NW, to organize another concert for May 1, according to Davis.

See STREET, A8, Col. 3

s Atrocities Panel He Saw .S. Massacre Near Mylai

cal Division — the same brigade in which Lt. William L. Calley Jr. served when he and his men hit Mylai.

Notley, now a journalism student at the University of Minnesota, asserted that the incident was known by unit of up to the battalion commander, a lieutenant colonel.

Science Unit Shuns Study Of Race, IQ

By Victor Cohn

Washington Post Staff Writer

The National Academy of Sciences overwhelmingly refused yesterday to urge expanded federal study of "behavioral genetics," the controversial field that includes

Girl Arrested As Witness in Capitol Blast

By Bart Barnes and William L. Claiborne
Washington Post Staff Writers

A 19-year-old girl, said by the government to have been named by an undercover informant, has been arrested here as a material witness "with personal knowledge" of the March 1 bombing of the U.S. Capitol.

She was identified as Leslie Bacon, a member of the Mayday antiwar protest group, which is in Washington this week. FBI officials said she was arrested Tuesday night on a rooftop, allegedly trying to elude agents who had raided a commune where she lived at 1747 Lanier Pl. NW.

Miss Bacon is being held on \$100,000 bail for an appearance before a federal grand jury in Seattle, which is investigating the bombing and other matters "relating to national security," according to Assistant U.S. Attorney Harold Sullivan. She was said to be in custody in a "motel-like facility" in Washington.

Her arrest was the first reported break in the bombing, which caused extensive damage to a small area on the ground floor of the Senate side of the Capitol.

There were no injuries in the bombing, which came 32 minutes after an anonymous telephone caller warned that a bomb would explode in protest of "the Nixon involvement in Laos."

Miss Bacon is the oldest of eight children. Her family lives in Atherton, Calif., a community of expensive homes 30 miles south of San Francisco.

She had lived in Washington for several weeks, according to government prosecutors. Friends said she helped plan a rock concert following the massive antiwar demonstration here Saturday.

Some members of the Mayday group, including Rennie Davis, one of its leaders, questioned the timing of Miss Bacon's arrest and suggested it was an attempt by the government to discredit the Mayday protest.

However, Miss Bacon's attorney, Philip Hirschkop, said he saw no special significance in the timing of the arrest.

Her arrest was not made public until yesterday when her attorneys appeared before District Judge John J. and asked that the arrest against her be in bond reduced.



LESLIE BACON
... \$100,000 bail set

Judge Rules Dowdy Unfit For His Trial

By John Hanrahan
and David R. Boldt

Washington Post Staff Writers

BALTIMORE, April 28—A federal judge granted Rep. John Dowdy (D-Tex.) an indefinite postponement in his bribery-conspiracy trial today after receiving a medical report that says Dowdy "is neither physically nor mentally capable of standing trial at this time."

Dowdy, the report by doctors at Bethesda Naval Hospital states, "is considered unable to consult rationally with counsel or assist counsel in his own defense."

A spokesman for Dowdy said today that the 18-year House veteran will continue his congressional duties will not resign from

Dowdy, 59, who was sent from Congress a few weeks ago, operated

Proposed Wilderness Areas Include Parts of Shenandoah

By Elsie Carper
Washington Post Staff Writer



April 29, 1971

By Joseph Mastrangelo—The Washington Post

Shaded areas show parts of Shenandoah National Park that are proposed to be set aside as untouchable wilderness areas, with all roads and buildings forbidden.

President Nixon proposed yesterday that 14 Federal land holdings amounting to nearly two million acres be set aside as wilderness areas for the protection of wildlife and to prevent the encroachment of man.

The 14 areas would be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System now totaling about ten million acres. One, in the Shenandoah National Park, would be first to be proposed for Virginia.

All development is precluded from wilderness areas and man can enter and explore only by foot or on horseback.

Mr. Nixon said: "We owe it both to ourselves and to future generations to safeguard as much of primitive America as we can—and time is not on our side."

Areas in the proposal contain spectacular mountain scenery, natural rock formations, nesting grounds for rare birds and the habitats of such disappearing species as the timberwolf, moose, wild mink and lynx.

About one third of the 193,533-acre Shenandoah National Park would become a wilderness area.

"The scenic grandeur of the Shenandoah's Blue Ridge is well known," Mr. Nixon said. "This area is one of the few remaining examples of the vast mountain wilderness that long ago stood as an obstacle before pioneers pushing westward."

The land to be set aside would be in eight parcels in the northern and southern sections of the park. The heavily used central section would remain open for camping and such park development as roads and tourists facilities.

The 14 areas are now either part of the National Parks System or have been designated as Wildlife Refuges. Interior Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton said at a White House briefing that the public use of such areas could destroy their delicate ecological balance.

The Interior Department also has under consideration for wilderness status another 52 million acres of land.

In his statement, the President said the protection of the wilderness would cost the taxpayers practically nothing, since no purchase of government land was involved. But it would, he said, deny such attractive commercial opportunities as mining, lumbering and recreational development and in the long run "may impose a sort of hidden wilderness tax in marginally higher costs of the goods and services of certain affected industries."

But he called wilderness areas a "spectacular bargain for the American people" when "weighed in the balance against the value of our dwindling virgin lands, priceless, finite and fragile."

Congress must approve the areas for inclusion in the Wilderness System. Last year, the administration proposed 34 areas and Congress approved 21.

New areas proposed are:

- Simeonof National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska—25,100 acres of biologically productive land on the Alaskan coast.
- North Cascades National Park, Washington—515,580 acres of virtually untouched alpine mountains with myriad glaciers and snowfields.
- Isle Royale National Park, Michigan—a 120,538-acre island wilderness in Lake Superior.
- Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, California—721,370-acre area with significant groves of giant sequoia trees.
- Breton National Wildlife Refuge, Louisiana—4,420 acres of wilderness important to nesting shore birds, sea turtles and wintering waterfowl.
- Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuge—4,740 acres of tropical vegetation with many rare species of birds and the Key deer.
- West Sister National Wildlife Refuge, Ohio—85-acre island nine miles east of Toledo, nesting area for egrets, herons, swallows, warblers and other birds.
- Chumiso National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska—455 acres of islands forming the largest marine bird nesting area in northwestern Alaska.
- Farallon National Wildlife Refuge, California—141 acres of islands off the San Francisco coast, and important seabird rookery.
- Izembek National Wildlife Refuge and Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska—301,451 acres supporting diverse wildlife, outstanding salmon spawning waters.
- Cedar Breaks National Monument, Utah—4,370 acres on the high Markagunt Plateau containing a gigantic, eroded, natural amphitheater.
- Capitol Reef National Monument, Utah—23,054 acres, a striking example of the Waterpocket Fold, a great folding of the earth's crust.
- Arches National Monument, Utah—15,703 acres, notable examples of natural rock formations, arches, towers, fins and deep canyons.

Top College Groups Criticize Report on Higher Education

By Eric Wentworth
Washington Post Staff Writer

Major college and university groups have joined in sharply criticizing the "Newman Report," a sweeping indictment of American higher education which the Nixon administration released last month.

The American Council on Education and 13 other national organizations have told Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Elliot L. Richardson that the report is superficial, inaccurate and misleading.

"Its dissemination—already begun—will intensify the antagonism of opinion leaders and legislators who are suspicious of higher education," the groups asserted. "Some prominent educators have already indicated their judgment that it will erode support for higher education."

A member task force headed by Frank Newman, assistant director of university studies at the University of California, San Francisco, produced the report. Newman said the report is "a system of

goals and indifference to students' varying needs. Among its recommendations were new types of institutions, off-campus study ventures and far greater flexibility in admissions, degree requirements, faculty appointments and the like.

Richardson, in releasing the report March 8, called it "as significant a statement on higher education as we have seen." HEW has ordered 10,000 copies from the Government Printing Office for distribution to college presidents and others.

The detailed critique of the Newman Report, written at Richardson's invitation, was endorsed by Washington officials of the 14 higher education groups and sent to the HEW secretary without fanfare.

In general, they attacked the report for failing to recognize the extent of research, reform proposals and programs already generated within the academic community, and for wrongly implying the nation's higher education system is in a state of

replete with internal contradictions, and ignores the existence of a vast number of recommendations that respond specifically and directly to the issues it raises."

They further attacked the report as "damaging" to the extent it created scapegoats, "distorted and misleading" to the uninformed, giving a "wholly false impression" through condensing source material or failing to acknowledge conflicting data, and containing "demi-facts and semi-truths."

What higher education requires, they said, "is not more exposure of weaknesses, but more explication of specific programs based on sound perception of needs and testing programs for cost-effectiveness."

The 14 organizations represent private and state four-year colleges and universities, both large and small, two-year colleges, graduate schools, pro-



By Harry Naltch

Interior Secretary Rogers Morton area proposals at press briefing

AMA Plan Catastroph

By Stuart Auerbach
Washington Post Staff Writer

The American Medical Association said yesterday it has broadened its national health insurance proposal to include protection for all against the "ruinous" expenses of major illnesses.

"It protects against the horror stories at a minimum cost," said Dr. Russell B. Roth, speaker of the AMA's House of Delegates, after testifying before the Senate Finance Committee.

He told the committee the AMA has become concerned about problems Americans have in "coping with long continued or especially severe illness which leads to expenses which simply cannot be met by the average individual and which can be ruinous even to the affluent."

Under the AMA's revised Medigap plan, the federal government would pay the cost of catastrophic illness.

Such protection is a key concern of Finance Committee Chairman Russell B. Long (D-La.).

Medigap, which would provide health insurance for the poor from federal funds, would cost the government \$14.5 billion a year, with \$800 million set aside for catastrophic insurance. Also, wealthy and middle-income Americans could subtract the entire cost of health insurance from their income taxes.

Laird to Have
Hornie Surg