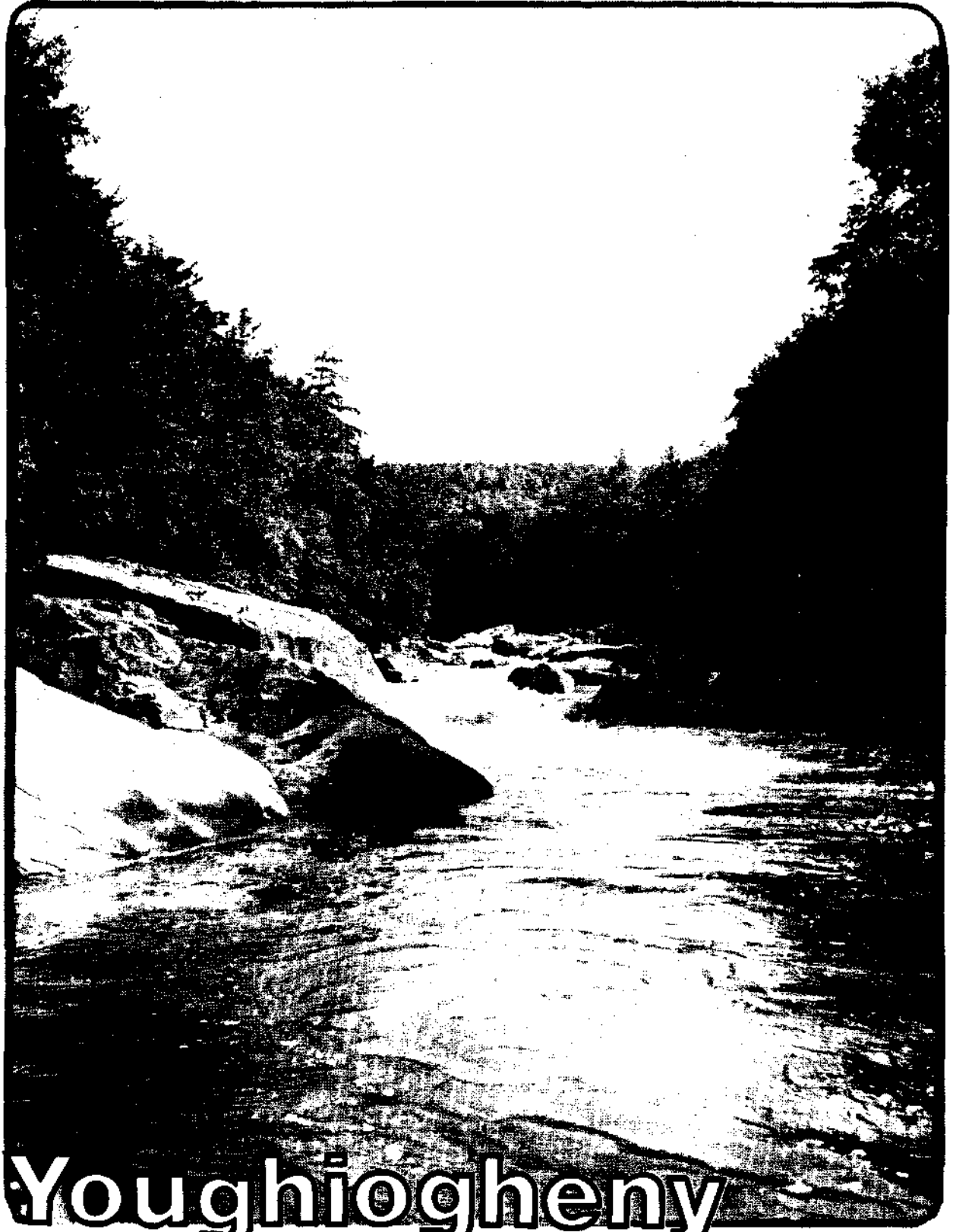


Final



Youghiogheny

**Wild and Scenic
River Study**

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

William J. Whalen, Director

FINAL REPORT

YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER

A WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS STUDY

MARYLAND - PENNSYLVANIA

SEPTEMBER 1978

Prepared by:

U.S. Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
(Formerly the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation)
Northeast Regional Office

Printed by the National Park Service

		<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION		1
SUMMARY		3
I. THE RESOURCE		7
THE RIVER'S ENVIRONMENT		9
The River	9	
Geology and Minerals	14	
Soils	16	
Vegetation	16	
Fish and Wildlife	19	
Climate	21	
THE RIVER IN HISTORY		22
Archeology	22	
History	22	
THE AREA TODAY		28
Population	28	
Transportation and River Access	29	
Economy	29	
Recreation	31	
Land Ownership	35	
Land Use	35	
Water Resources Development	38	
Water Rights	40	
Water Quality	41	
Air Quality	43	
II. PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS		44
THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT		46
Natural Values	46	
Classification	49	
THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT		51
Whitewater Use (PA)	51	
Recreation Safety (PA)	51	
Public Land Acquisition (PA)	51	
Public Lands in Garrett County (MD)	52	
Second Home Development (MD)	52	
Public Access and Private Rights (MD)	53	
Western Maryland Railway Abandonment (PA)	53	
State Protective Efforts (MD)	53	
Local Protective Efforts (MD)	54	
River Corridor Boundary (MD)	54	
Public Meetings (PA & MD)	54	
Advantages of National & State	55	
Designation (PA & MD)		

		<u>Page</u>
III. WILD AND SCENIC RIVER OPTIONS		58
RESOURCE PROTECTION OPTIONS		61
Pennsylvania Segment	61	
State Scenic River	61	
National Scenic River	61	
Maryland Segment	62	
State Wild River	62	
National Wild River: Plan A	62	
National Wild River: Plan B	62	
MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES		63
State Management	63	
Federal Management	63	
Joint State-Federal Management	64	
IV. PLAN FOR A WILD AND SCENIC RIVER		65
Objectives	67	
Boundaries	68	
River Corridor Management	70	
Recreation Access	72	
V. ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES		74
CONTINUATION OF EXISTING TRENDS: PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT		77
Environmental and Land Use Impacts	77	
Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends	78	
Economic and Regional Development Impacts	78	
Social Impacts	79	
CONTINUATION OF EXISTING TRENDS: MARYLAND SEGMENT		80
Environmental and Land Use Impacts	80	
Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends	81	
Economic and Regional Development Impacts	81	
Social Impacts	82	
PENNSYLVANIA SCENIC RIVER		83
Environmental and Land Use Impacts	83	
Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends	83	
Economic and Regional Development Impacts	84	
Social Impacts	84	

	<u>Page</u>
MARYLAND WILD RIVER: PLAN A	85
Environmental and Land Use Impacts	85
Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends	85
Economic and Regional Development	86
Social Impacts	86
MARYLAND WILD RIVER: PLAN B	87
Environmental and Land Use Impacts	87
Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends	88
Economic and Regional Development	89
Social Impacts	89
Appendix	

	<u>Page</u>
ILLUSTRATIONS	
Map: Basin and Location Maps	2
Map: The River in Maryland	5
Map: The River in Pennsylvania	6
Map: Topography - Maryland	10
Map: Topography - Pennsylvania	11
River Gradient	12
Map: Soil Associations	17
Photo Page	18
Historical Resources and Map	23-24
Map: Highways	30
Map: Public Land in Study Area	36
Map: Potential Hydroelectric Power Projects	39
Map: River Classification	50
Map: Pennsylvania National or State Scenic River	61
Map: Maryland State Wild River	62
Map: Maryland National River	62
Corridor Diagram	68
Proposed Protection Boundary	69
Recreation Access	73

TABLES	
River Characteristics	13
Climate	21
Population - Counties	28
Population - Minor Civil Divisions	28
Recreation Summary: Pennsylvania	33
Recreation Summary: Maryland	34
Potential Hydroelectric Power Projects	38
Air Quality	43
Summary of Proposed Action	72
Principles and Standards	90-92

INTRODUCTION

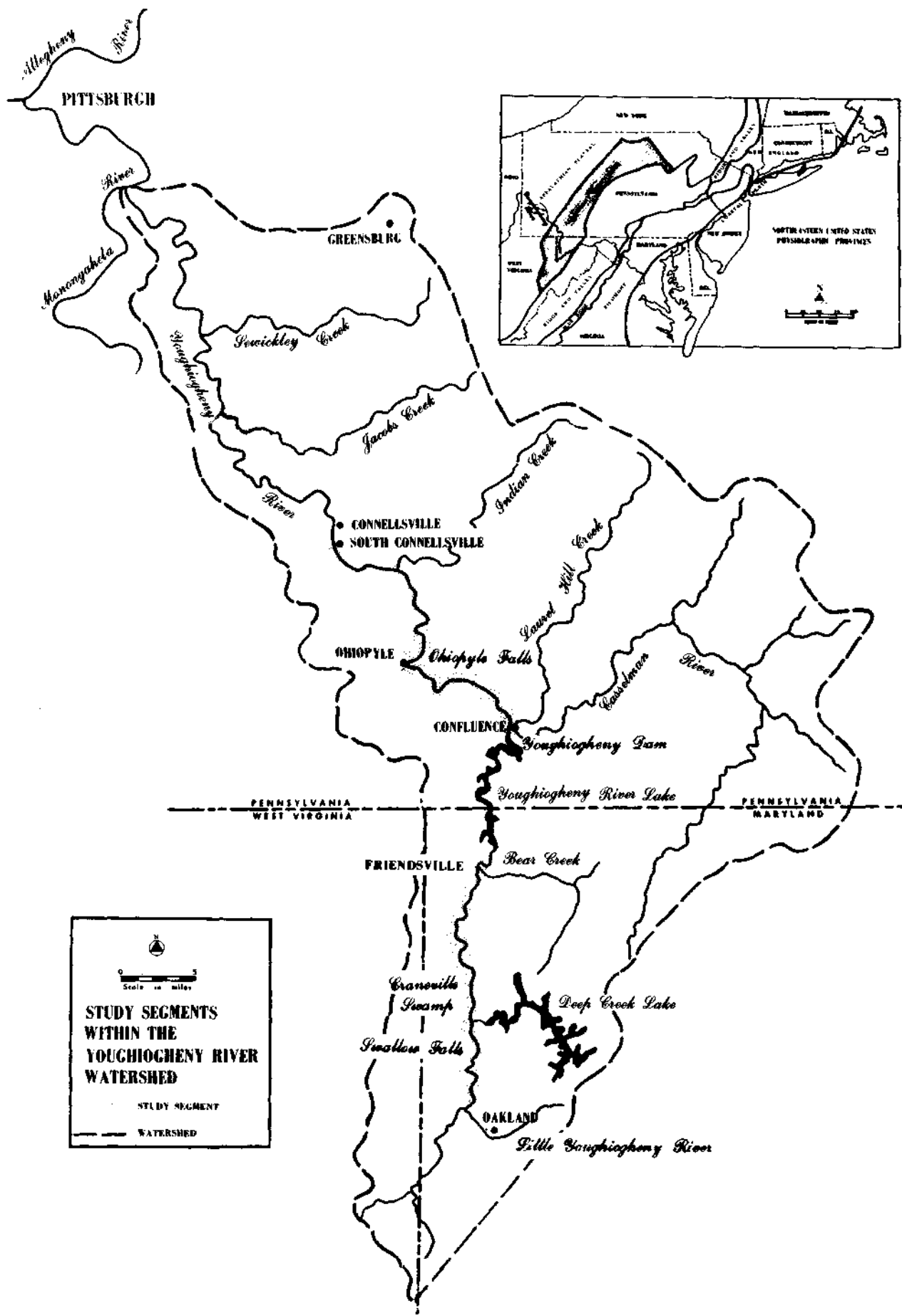
This report on the wild, scenic, and recreational qualities of the Youghiogheny River in Maryland and Pennsylvania was prepared under authority of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, Public Law 90-542, as amended. In the Act the Congress declared it

...to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Congress declares that the established national policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition to protect the water quality of such rivers and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes.

The Act established the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, designated eight rivers as initial components of the system and prescribed methods and standards by which additional rivers would be added to the system. The Youghiogheny, between Oakland, Maryland and Youghiogheny River Lake and between Youghiogheny Dam and Connellville, Pennsylvania, was one of 27 rivers designated initially by the Act for study as a potential addition to the national system. The study must determine the suitability of the Youghiogheny River for inclusion in the system, and, if it meets the established criteria, develop recommendations pertaining to management of the river and its environment.

An interagency field task force, led by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (formerly the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation), is responsible for preparation of the required study. The task force was composed also of representatives from the State of Maryland's Department of Natural Resources, and Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Resources; the Interior Department's National Park Service, Bureau of Mines, and Fish and Wildlife Service; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; the U.S. Forest Service; the Federal Power Commission; the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and the Ohio River Basin Commission. Other Federal and State agencies, recreation and conservation organizations, and interested groups have also been of assistance throughout the course of this study.

The terms study corridor, visual corridor, and river corridor have the same meaning and are used interchangeably throughout the report.



SUMMARY

The interagency task force has concluded that the 22-mile segment of the Youghiogheny River between Oakland and Friendsville, Maryland and the 27-mile segment of the Youghiogheny between Youghiogheny Dam and South Connellsville, Pennsylvania qualifies for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This conclusion is based on the substantial natural values of the river, especially its:

outstanding whitewater

The seven-mile segment between Ohiopyle and Stewarton, Pennsylvania has become northeastern United States' most popular rafting and kayaking river. Whitewater experts have rated the Maryland section as "difficult" to "exceedingly difficult", requiring experience and skill to navigate safely.

outstanding natural setting

Most of the Youghiogheny flows through a narrow, heavily-forested gorge. The lush vegetation on the steep slopes, combined with the swiftly flowing water, creates a setting of impressive grandeur. Ohiopyle Falls (Pennsylvania) and Swallow Falls (Maryland) are noted scenic areas. The Maryland segment has retained its essentially primitive character.

excellent trout potential

With recent improvements in water quality, the Youghiogheny is again supporting quality game fish. The Pennsylvania segment is well stocked with trout fingerlings and has the capability of becoming the finest trout stream in southwestern Pennsylvania. The Maryland segment provides a challenge to the expert trout fisherman and is considered unique in the State.

other notable values

The Youghiogheny River corridor is also notable for its botanical variety, rich wildlife habitat, improving water quality, and historic interest.

In addition to its considerable natural values, the Youghiogheny meets the criteria established by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior for evaluating wild and scenic rivers. Both study segments:

- * are in a free-flowing natural condition. Neither segment has been impounded, straightened, or otherwise modified.
- * are long enough to provide a meaningful recreation experience. The Pennsylvania segment is longer than the generally accepted standard of 25 miles. The Maryland segment's outstanding natural character makes it a worthy addition to the national system, even though its length is slightly less than what is usually required.
- * normally have sufficient water volume during the recreation season to permit full enjoyment of water-related outdoor recreation activities.
- * meet water quality criteria. In recent years, the Youghiogheny has been restored to a condition which supports the propagation of quality game fish. Further improvements are expected in the next five years.

Classification

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act stipulates that every river included in the national system shall be classified, designated and administered as one of the following:

1. Wild River Areas - Those rivers or section of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and water unpolluted.
2. Scenic River Areas - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.
3. Recreational River Areas - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

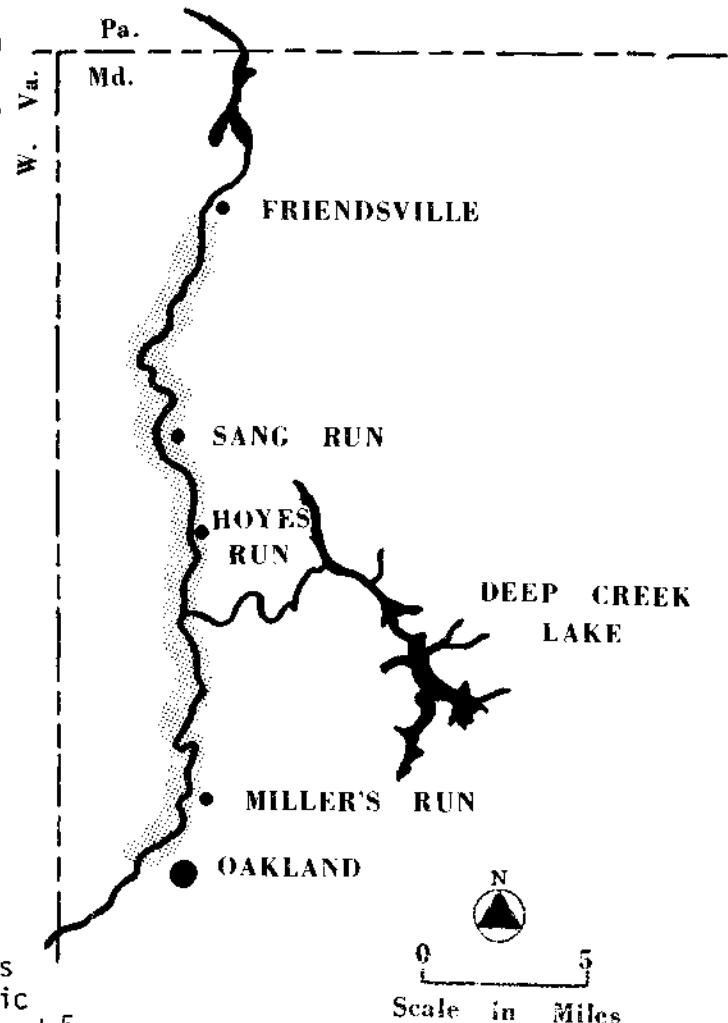
The interagency field task force concluded that the 22-mile Maryland segment qualifies as a WILD river and the 27-mile Pennsylvania segment qualifies as a SCENIC river. The Maryland segment meets the wild criteria because (1) it is in a free-flowing condition, (2) its water quality is being upgraded to meet the minimum criteria for primary contact recreation, (3) its shorelines are essentially primitive, and (4) the river corridor is generally inaccessible by road. The Pennsylvania segment generally meets these criteria except that railroad tracks parallel its entire length and therefore could not qualify as a wild river. It does, however, meet the scenic criteria.

Recommendations

To preserve the Youghiogheny River in its free flowing condition and to protect and enhance the river's natural values, it is recommended that:

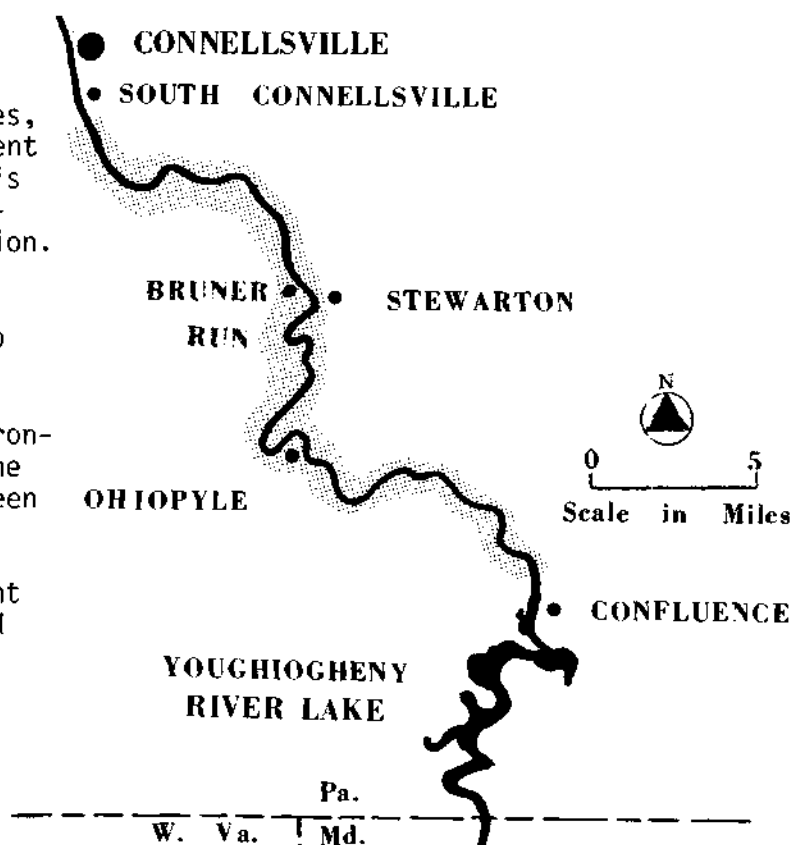
(MARYLAND SEGMENT)

- * The Governor of Maryland apply for National designation to the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with Section 2(a)(ii) of the Public Law 90-542, at such time as the State of Maryland would decide to include the 22-mile segment of the Youghiogheny River between Oakland and Friendsville, Maryland, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
- * The entire study segment be classified as WILD in accord with Section 2(b) of P.L. 90-542.
- * The protection boundary include the 11,400 acre area within the visual corridor (line-of-sight from the river as shown by the accompanying map.)
- * The State of Maryland continue to implement and maintain land use regulations which can protect the river's natural values. Such regulations will be developed with the maximum involvement of local governments and private citizens through established state procedure.
- * The State of Maryland include in its application for national designation a plan which assures long term protection of the Youghiogheny, which guarantees public access to the river and an appropriate trail system paralleling the river for recreational purposes and, at the same time, relieves local property owners of the legal burden imposed on them by trespassers.
- * The State of Maryland develop a trail system paralleling the river. The State of Maryland will consider utilizing abandoned railroads and tramways for a trail system.
- * Water pollution abatement efforts be continued and, where possible, accelerated by the State of Maryland, local governments, and appropriate federal agencies. Further attention should be devoted to abating acid mine pollution from state and interstate sources and eliminating untreated domestic sewage, especially from the Oakland area.



(PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT)

- * The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designate the 27-mile segment of the Youghiogheny River between Confluence and South Connellsville, Pennsylvania as a component of the Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers System.
- * The Governor of Pennsylvania apply for National designation to the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with Section 2(a)(ii) of the Public Law 90-542, at such time as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania would decide to include the Youghiogheny River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
- * The entire study segment be classified as SCENIC in accord with Section 2(b) of P.L. 90-542.
- * The protection boundary include the 10,300 acre area within the visual corridor (line-of-sight from the river as shown on the accompanying map).
- * The local governments, with assistance from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, implement and maintain zoning regulations for approximately 3,500 acres, to assure that development visible from the river is compatible with the purposes of river designation.
- * The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania continue to develop and implement strategies to promote safety and prevent environmental degradation of the whitewater stretch between Ohiopyle and Bruner Run.
- * Water pollution abatement efforts be continued and accelerated wherever possible by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in coordination with local and Federal concerns. The Department would carefully monitor strip mining activities in the Casselman River watershed.





The Resource

THE RESOURCE

THE RIVER'S ENVIRONMENT

- The River
- Geology and Minerals
- Soils
- Vegetation
- Fish and Wildlife
- Climate

THE RIVER IN HISTORY

- Archeology
- History

THE AREA TODAY

- Population
- Transportation and River Access
- Economy
- Recreation
- Land Ownership
- Land Use
- Water Resources Development
- Water Rights
- Water Quality
- Air Quality

This section, THE RESOURCE, applies the "Guidelines for Evaluating Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Areas", published by the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, to the resource inventory of the river and its surroundings.

THE RIVER'S ENVIRONMENT

The River

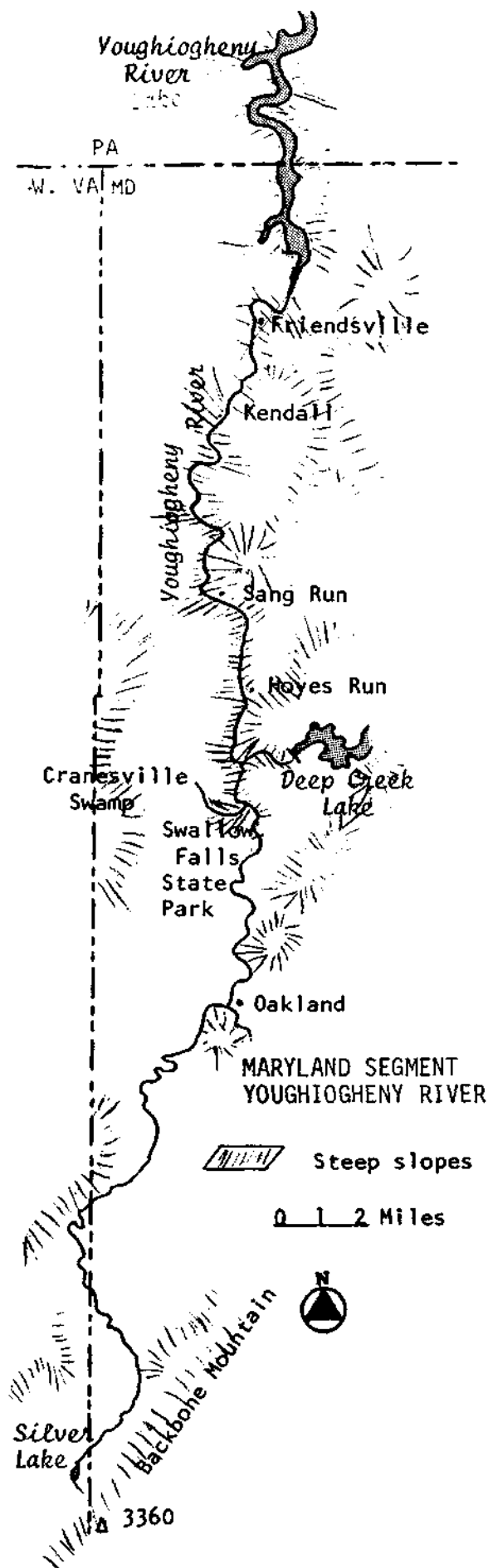
Heavily forested Backbone Mountain, Maryland's highest (3360 feet above sea level), extends, spine straight, northeasterly half-way across Garrett County from West Virginia. Backbone Mountain forms part of the Eastern Continental Divide, separating the land that drains via the Youghiogheny to the Gulf of Mexico, from the Atlantic seaboard land drained by the Potomac.

Runoff from Backbone Mountain gathers into Silver Lake (elevation 2492 feet) in West Virginia. In the 1-3/8 miles from Backbone's highest point to Silver Lake the land and water course drops 868 feet. The Youghiogheny River spills out of Silver Lake and for the next 20 miles drops less than 150 feet as it gently meanders, sometimes accompanied by roads or by the tracks of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad through rolling pasture land.

By the time the Youghiogheny passes under the Herrington Manor Road Bridge at Oakland, the southern terminus of the Maryland study segment, several tributary streams have joined the river. The flow is calm as the Youghiogheny disappears around a bend into a relatively remote area of few roads. For the next six miles downstream from Oakland the river is a series of placid pools - it drops only five feet per mile. Gradually, the river valley narrows and the slopes along the stream grow steeper and higher.

The Youghiogheny then enters a four mile stretch of falls and rapids. This white water section is studded with large boulders, and in places rock ledges hang a hundred feet above the stream. The river drops 280 feet in the four miles to Hoyes Run. Swallow Falls State Park is located along this section of the river. Visitors can enjoy this area's dramatic scenery on the drive to the park and while walking to Swallow Falls. Maryland's highest waterfall is also located in the park. Muddy Creek joins the Youghiogheny in a spectacular 70 foot cascade down an evergreen clad slope.

At Swallow Falls the Youghiogheny enters a deep valley that extends nearly 15 miles to Friendsville. At places the steep sides tower more than 800 feet above the river. The defile is impressive as it has the remote atmosphere of a semi-wilderness; the forests, although mostly second and third growth hardwoods, are impressive and the white water is spectacular.



Beyond Swallow Falls, northward, the river drops so sharply that it disappears from sight behind the massive boulders littering the canyon floor. At Hoyes Run, the river drop becomes more gradual and from Hoyes Run to Gap Falls the gradient is only ten feet per mile, but at Gap Falls the rate of descent increases again, to 88 feet per mile, and in some places it exceeds 100 feet per mile. Through this boulder strewn course the Youghiogheny is a wild runaway torrent. The Gap Falls to Kendall Run is the roughest white water section of the river in Maryland. These continuous rapids are a natural slalom course for kayaking, set within the confines of a narrow defile with towering bluffs and steep slopes - all densely wooded with evergreens, deciduous trees and rhododendron thickets. The rough deep valley stretch is unique in almost every respect, but it is only for the most experienced experts in covered craft or special, heavy duty rafts. During extremely high flows the river is too dangerous to be run safely, and during the mid-summer there may not be enough flow to float the river.

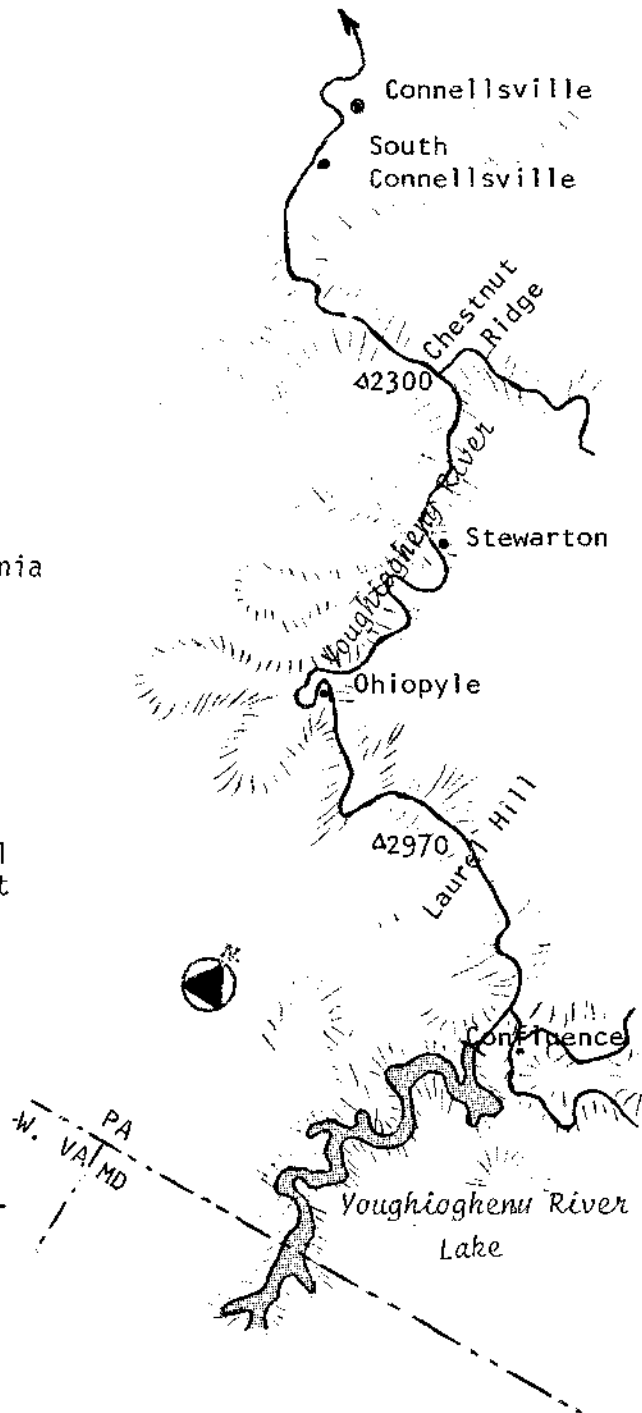
Before reaching Kendall, an old mining town long reclaimed by the forests, the river is funneled through a very impressive narrows. From Kendall to Friendsville the valley appears to open slightly. The gradient of this three mile run is 29 feet/mile. While the white water here is less difficult than in the reach that preceded, it is still for experts. The road bed of a tram that once ran from Friendsville to Kendall remains and can be followed along the river's east bank.

The corporate boundary of Friendsville forms the northern limit of the Maryland Wild and Scenic River Study segment of the Youghiogheny River. Friendsville is located on a bend in the river and is surrounded by hills. Below the town the river meets the backwater of seventeen mile long Youghiogheny River Lake, an Army Corps of Engineers flood control project build to protect Pittsburgh.

The lake is enclosed by steep slopes and during times of high water is very scenic. The reservoir is open to the public for recreation at several points and can be navigated in an open canoe.

Below the Youghiogheny River Lake dam the river resumes its free flow. This point forms the southern terminus of the Pennsylvania study segment. One mile below the dam the river flows past Confluence, a town of some 954 people. Here the Casselman River and Laurel Hill Creek join the Youghiogheny. With the added flow of these two streams, the river grows broad and powerful. From Confluence to Ohiopyle, the next town, the river drops 120 feet in 11-1/2 miles, as it flows through an immense canyon. Laurel Hill peaks at an elevation of 2900 feet, 1600 feet above the river. Rapids composed of large boulders and sharp ledges can be run by experienced canoeists - it is an impressive area. Much of the area is owned by Pennsylvania and used either as state gamelands or as part of Ohiopyle State Park.

Ohiopyle means "white-foam water over rocks" in the Algonquian language. It is an appropriate name for Ohiopyle Falls, an enormous, heavy white water 300 yard long rapid and fall located on a U-shaped loop of the river. Below the falls it is possible to re-launch rafts and kayaks into a series of six major rapids. Bounding the loop at Ohiopyle, the river swings into a deep gorge where mountains and whitewater form a breathtaking scene. The river funnels past great boulders and at places is nearly blocked by the huge rocks. Downstream from the loop the gorge becomes increasingly spectacular within confining narrows between the 500 foot high bluffs. At places the rhododendron and laurel seem to dip into the water. The whitewater is less difficult for the next few miles, then above Stewarton another series of six rapids is encountered. The section of the river between Ohiopyle and Stewarton is the East's most heavily used section of whitewater. Most visitors raft



PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT

YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER

 Steep slopes

0 1 2 Miles

this segment with commercial whitewater outfitters and guides. Over this seven mile stretch the river drops 150 feet.

From Stewarton to South Connellsville the river continues in its spectacular gorge. Below the Indian Creek Junction tree clad bluffs tower 1300 feet directly above the river. Through this ten mile stretch the river drops 100 feet. At South Connellsville, the northern terminus of the Pennsylvania study segment, the river leaves its wild gorge and enters the industrial expanse of Connellsville.

The remaining 45 miles to McKeesport contrast with the upstream sections of the Youghiogheny. The gradient decreases steadily and averages three feet per mile through this lower section. The last 25 miles of the river are industrialized.

Summary Statement

The Youghiogheny River can be described only in superlatives - even the casual observer is impressed with the outstandingly remarkable qualities of the river's scenery and its whitewater. Throughout both the Maryland and Pennsylvania study segments, the river flow is unimpeded - it meets the classification criteria of free-flowing. Much of the shoreline, particularly in Maryland, is accessible only by trail and is heavily forested and undeveloped.

Page 13 and the diagram below quantify some of the Youghiogheny's features.

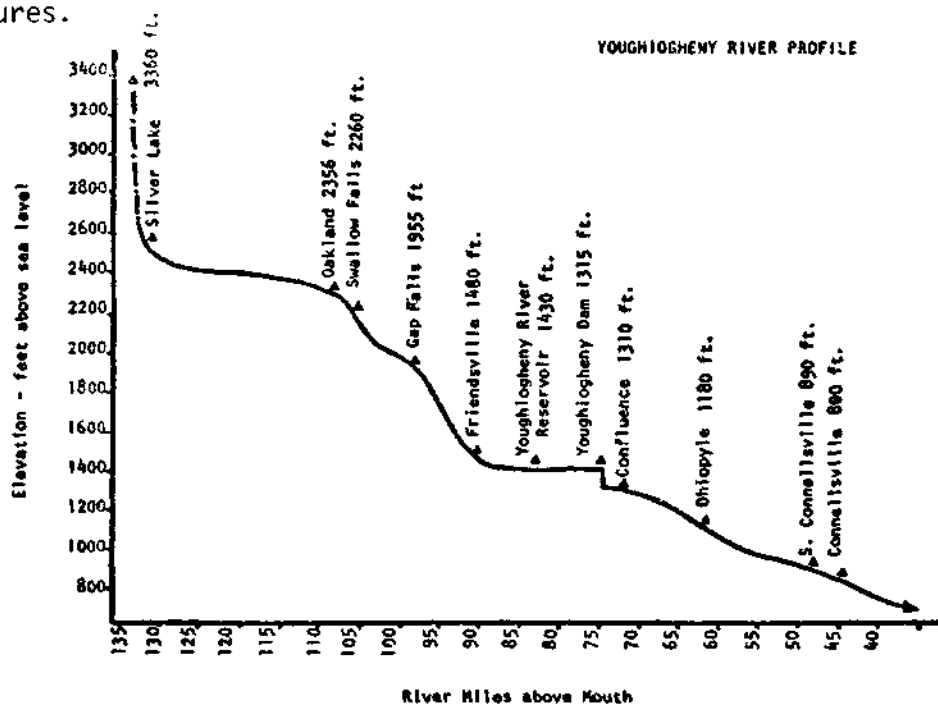


Table 1 RIVER CHARACTERISTICS

The Youghiogheny's most outstanding characteristic is its gradient, a very steep 28 feet per mile average for the two study segments. Other notable statistics about the river and the study area are:

THE RIVER BASIN

located in: Preston County, W. VA, Garrett County, Md., Somerset, Fayette, Westmoreland and Allegheny Counties, Pa.

1764 square miles in size

133 overall river length

2500 elevation at source 719 elevation at mouth

1781 overall change in elevation 13.4 average gradient

2980 cubic feet per second discharge at mile 15.3

THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY AREA

defined as: Garrett County, Md.; Somerset and Fayette Counties, Pa.

Maryland Study Segment - 22 miles long - Oakland to Friendsville

2356 feet of elevation at Oakland 289 cfs flow at Oakland

1490 feet of elevation at Friendsville 637 cfs flow at Friendsville

866 feet change in elevation 38.8 feet/mile average gradient

*Extremely difficult whitewater for experienced experts, only in decked craft or rubber rafts. Rapids range in difficulty from Class I easy through Class V exceedingly difficult. Portage required around Swallow Falls series. The Hoyes Run to Sang Run stretch is the only open boat stretch that is served by road access.

Pennsylvania Study Segment - 27 miles long - Youghiogheny Dam to South Connellsville

1315 feet of elevation Youghiogheny Dam 1957 cfs flow at Confluence

890 feet of elevation at South Connellsville 2540 cfs flow at Connellsville

425 foot change in elevation 15.9 feet/mile average gradient

*Whitewater varied Class I easy to Class IV very difficult rapids. Portage required around Ohiopyle Falls.

The river rating system is based on the International System and is identified as follows:

- Class I - Easy with occasional small rapids consisting of low, regular, wave patterns.
- Class II - Medium difficulty where rapids occur more frequently, usually retaining a regular wave pattern.
- Class III - Difficult with numerous rapids with higher, irregular standing waves, breakers whirlpools, and eddies.
- Class IV - Very difficult with long, extensive stretches of rapids with high, irregular standing waves and difficult breakers, eddies, and whirlpools.
- Class V - Exceedingly difficult with long continuous stretches of rapids consisting of difficult, irregular breakers and unavoidable partially submerged boulders in the path of the channel.

Geology and Minerals

The Youghiogheny River drains a portion of the Allegheny Mountains which are a subdivision of the Appalachians, the East's uplands. The Alleghenies extend from north central Pennsylvania through Maryland and well into West Virginia. These complex mountains hold the highest elevation of all three states. The Youghiogheny has its source on Backbone Mountain and works its way through the prominent Laurel Hill and Chestnut ridges.

The Alleghenies are old hills, in geologic terms, as are all the Appalachians. They have a long, complex history that began more than 500 million years ago during the paleozoic era. For more than 300 million years the Appalachian (Allegheny) area was a long trough filled by an arm of the ocean. For about 250 million years, sediments from eroding uplands washed into the area, slowly adding to the accumulating debris of marine skeletons. In later ages, the trough became a low lying swamp, teeming with primitive insects and reptiles. Two hundred million years ago, conditions changed and a geologic event known as the Appalachian Orogeny (mountain making) occurred. Pressures in the earth's crust caused the area to buckle and contort as the region was uplifted. The sea bottom and swamp sediments, thousands of feet thick, were pressed into huge folds. Entombed were plant remains that became today's coal beds.

The mountains produced by the early uplift were rugged and may have looked much like today's Alps. Time and the forces of erosion have rounded these ancient hills and subdued their height, but they remain a rugged barrier, at places inaccessible, with their cliffs and gorges always the dominant landscape feature.

The minerals contained in the Youghiogheny region of the Alleghenies are all associated with the area's sedimentary rocks. They include limestone which has both agricultural and construction applications, fire clays for bricks, high silica sandstones (glass) and, of course, coal which is the most important mineral commodity in the area.



ROCK FORMATIONS ALONG THE YOUGHIOGHENY

In 1975, coal production in Fayette, Somerset, and Garrett Counties was approximately 10.5 million short tons, with an estimated value of over \$250 million. Somerset County accounted for about 57% of this total, with an estimated value of \$160 million. The bituminous coal reserve

base* in Fayette County is estimated at almost 1.1 billion tons, while Somerset County's reserve base is 1.3 billion tons. Garrett County has a reserve base of about 633,700,000 tons or about 316,900,000 tons of recoverable reserves. These coals have a variable sulfur content (1-5%, 2-3% average) and moderate (10-15%) ash content, an amount which exceeds the Environmental Protection Agency's emission standards. However, mechanical cleaning can significantly reduce these values and allow some of the coals to be utilized in blending for coke manufacture. Coal rank is high volatile A to medium volatile bituminous.

Based on a review of minerals literature and using engineering procedures and geological inferences, the U.S. Bureau of Mines has calculated the coal reserve base within the Youghiogheny River study corridor. The Pennsylvania segment of the study corridor is estimated to hold 19 million tons of coal, while the Maryland segment contains 11 million tons. Based on an acquisition cost of nearly \$2 per ton of coal in the ground, the total cost of acquiring coal rights along the 49-mile river corridor would be \$50 to \$60 million. The total value of the coal reserves to be committed amounts to over \$500 million based on current spot prices for coal in this geographical area.

In 1976, three active coal strip mines were reported in the Youghiogheny River drainage basin, just northwest of McHenry, Maryland. Six other small active coal strip mines were also reported in the vicinity of Friendsville, Maryland.

In addition to coal reserves, two other fossil fuel resources are located in the study area. Fayette County presently accounts for five proven natural gas field wells and Somerset County is the site of an exploratory oil well. Two small gas fields in the central part of the Garrett County produce limited amounts of natural gas. A depleted gasfield at Accident, Maryland, is presently being used as a storage reservoir. None of these gasfields is located directly within the river corridor.

Other mineral resources in the study areas are sand and gravel deposits, limestone, clays, and peat. A sand and gravel pit near Sang Run has intermittent production, and another nearby in the vicinity of River Hill is active. Limestone and sandstone have been quarried in the past within the visual corridor of the Pennsylvania segment; these resources appear to be virtually unlimited. Two active limestone quarries are located near Sang Run.

Two major producers of refractories (heat resistant materials used in lining furnaces, etc.) operate open pit clay mines near Ohiopyle. The clay used is unique because of its high density and suitability for use in the manufacture of superduty refractories. No estimate of mineable clay reserves is currently available.

*The "reserve base" is an estimate of the amount of coal reserves, while "recoverable reserves" is the total amount of coal which is economically and technologically mineable at this time. It consists of coal beds 28 inches or more in thickness which could be mined by underground means to a maximum depth of 1,000 feet or which could be strip mined to a maximum depth of overburden of 120 feet.

Summary Statement

Geologic activity in the study area has produced a rugged landscape that contributes substantially to the Youghiogheny's scenic beauty. Also, that activity has created a valuable mineral commodity--coal--in commercially exploitable quantity. Other mineral resources are also important to the economy of the area.

Soils

Soils link geologic foundations with vegetation and greatly influence the appearance of the Youghiogheny study area (see soil associations map on the next page). The soils have developed on the materials weathered from the underlying rocks which are shales, sandstones and limestones. The wet-land areas, located in poorly drained depressions, accumulate erosional materials and are rich in organic matter. Peat has developed in the glades and has potential economic value as a soil conditioner.

In addition to significantly determining agricultural productivity, soils also influence development possibilities. The potential use of land is affected by a number of factors, including depth to bedrock, permeability, slope, wetness, and stoniness. Much of the Youghiogheny study area is steeply sloping land which is unfriendly to construction. This is another factor contributing to the region's sparse development. Use is for the most part concentrated in the areas of the most favorable site and soil condition.

Summary Statement

Unfavorable slope and soil conditions within the Youghiogheny River corridor have discouraged agriculture and other development.

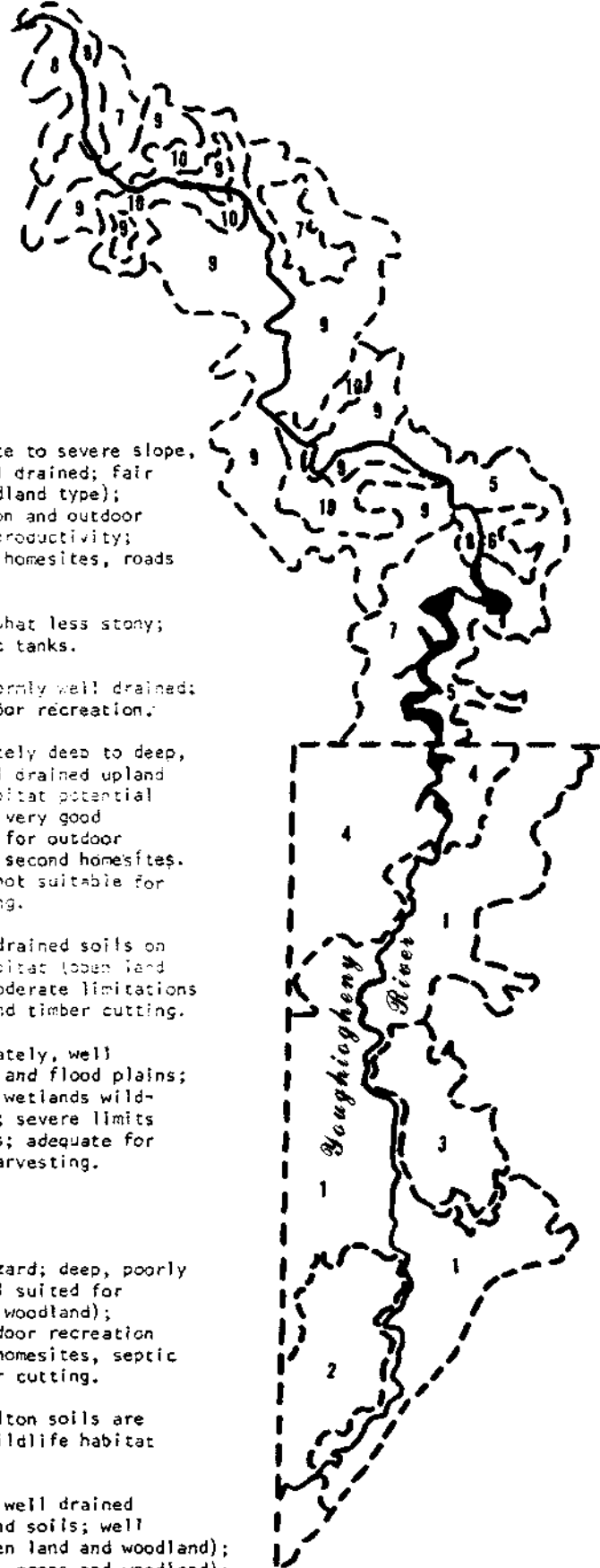
Vegetation

One of the features of the high Alleghenies is their boreal (sub-arctic) forests and mountain bogs known locally as glades. Cranesville Swamp, on the Maryland-West Virginia border, has received recognition under the National Natural Landmark Program as a site that possesses "exceptional value as an illustration interpreting the natural history of the Nation." This swamp, like other mountain glades in the Alleghenies, occupies a natural high elevation frost pocket. Cranesville Swamp drains sluggishly into Muddy Creek which flows over a six mile course into the Youghiogheny at Swallow Falls State Park via a 70 foot high water-fall. The cool moist conditions of the mountain bogs support plant and animal communities characteristic of the more northerly latitudes of Maine and Quebec. These areas are important for nature study and serve as significant remnants of North America's glacial past.

More than two-thirds of the Youghiogheny Study area is forested predominantly with northern hardwoods - oak, beech, birch, maple, hickory, ash and elm. White pine and hemlock stands relieve the sameness of the broad leaf trees, while rhododendron and mountain laurel thickets are found in hollows and along stream valleys.

SOIL ASSOCIATIONS

YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER



Number	Name	Characteristics
1	Dekalb-Gilpin-Cookport	Very stony upland loams; moderate to severe slope, well-drained and moderately well drained; fair wildlife habitat potential (woodland type); suitable for watershed protection and outdoor recreation; very good woodland productivity; moderate limitations for second homesites, roads and trails.
2	Gilpin-Cookport-Dekalb	Similar to number 1 except somewhat less stony; severe limits for on-site septic tanks.
3	Dekalb-Calvin-Gilpin	Similar to number 1 except uniformly well drained; Suitable for some kinds of outdoor recreation.
4	Gilpin-Wharton-Dekalb	Gently sloping to steep, moderately deep to deep, well drained and moderately well drained upland loams; fair to good wildlife habitat potential (open land and woodland types); very good woodland productivity; suitable for outdoor recreation; moderate limits for second homesites. Limitations caused by wetness, not suitable for roads, trails, and timber cutting.
5	Rayne-Berks-Hazelton	Moderate to severe slope, well drained soils on uplands; suited for wildlife habitat (open land and woodland); good woodland, moderate limitations for homesites, roads, trails, and timber cutting.
6	Atkins-Monongahela-Purdy	Moderate slope, poorly to moderately, well drained soils on upland valleys and flood plains; open space uses; well suited to wetlands wildlife; good woodland suitability; severe limits for homesites, roads, and trails; adequate for outdoor recreation and timber harvesting.
7	Gilpin-Wharton-Ernest	Similar to number 4.
8	Monongahela-Philo-Atkins	Moderate slope, severe flood hazard; deep, poorly to moderately well drained; well suited for wildlife habitat (open land and woodland); suitable for open space and outdoor recreation uses; severe limits for second homesites, septic tanks, roads, trails, and timber cutting.
9	Dekalb-Hazelton-Cookport	Similar to number 1 except Hazelton soils are non-stony and well suited for wildlife habitat (open land and woodland).
10	Upshur-Albrights	Moderate to severe slope, deep, well drained to poorly drained, reddish upland soils; well suited for wildlife habitat (open land and woodland); suitable for outdoor recreation, crops and woodland; severe limits for second homesites, septic tanks, and roads, suitable for trails and timber cutting.



FERNS



HEMLOCK



LAUREL

The forest that appears today is much different from the tree cover that originally stood in the area. Timber cutting has changed the region from mostly pine and hemlock, mixed with some hardwoods, to an area of second and third growth hardwood forests. Gone also are the chestnuts, victims of the chestnut blight. In Maryland, the forests around the Youghiogheny were cut over in the period from 1900 to 1920. The area has recovered, but as recently as thirty years ago the river corridor would not have shown its present unspoiled appearance - an appearance that is as much a result of the presence of nature as it is of the absence of man's development. Loggers reached almost all parts of the Youghiogheny valley with the exception of Swallow Falls, where virgin stands of pine and hemlock survive. More recently, logging has been conducted near the west side of the river just downstream from Oakland. A two mile stretch on the west side opposite Hoyes Run has been virtually clear cut from the ridge to several hundred feet from the river, and substantial logging has taken place downstream from Gap Falls on the west side.

At Ohiopyle the Youghiogheny loops almost completely back on itself, creating a 160 acre peninsula known as Ferncliff. With the exception of the steep slopes along the river, this area was lumbered in 1911 and again in 1947. The steep slopes which were never cut, are dominated by hemlocks and white pine and provide a dramatic backdrop to Ohiopyle Falls and the rapids contained in the river's loop. Ferncliff has received recognition as a National Natural Landmark because it is one of the best and most typical examples of a late (maturing) successional forest in the Alleghenies. It is an area of interpretative significance and it is of great value for nature study. At least thirty different kinds of plants of the southern Appalachians reach their northern limit along the Youghiogheny near Ferncliff and, due to the diversity of conditions, the area has an unusually rich variety of plant life.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is investigating several species of plants as candidates for possible inclusion on the Official List of Threatened Plant Species of the Department of the Interior. This includes the Platanthera peramoena, which may be found near the Youghiogheny in a dry bog in the foothills of Laurel Hill. Panax quinquefolius and Hydrastis canadensis may possibly grow along the Youghiogheny in Garrett County.

Summary Statement

The Youghiogheny study area offers interesting contrasts of botanical variety with its upland glades and lowland laurel thickets, Cranesville Swamp and Ferncliff.

Fish and Wildlife

The heavily forested habitat of the river area supports abundant wildlife. The whitetail deer is the major big game animal, but other smaller species are hunted or trapped, including gray and red squirrels, fox squirrel, rabbit, gray and red fox, raccoon, opossum, beaver, otter, mink, muskrat, and woodchuck. In Garrett County, squirrels are hunted more than any other game species. Game birds include the wild turkey, ruffed grouse, woodcock and, to a lesser extent, ring-necked pheasant. Numerous non-game species are present, with songbirds and hawk varieties being abundant. Migratory waterfowl make only moderate use of impoundments in the basin. Reptiles and amphibians common to the Northeast are also abundant. Reptiles present include wood turtle, snapping turtle, painted turtle, and green

snake. Bull frogs, leopard frogs, spotted salamanders, and red spotted newts are but a few of the resident amphibians. The Cranesville Swamp, noted in the vegetation section, supports an extraordinary number of different reptile, bird, and mammal species.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 recognized both threatened and endangered species. The Youghiogheny Basin contains both rare species and vital habitat areas. The bog turtle, (Clemmys muhlenbergi), whose status is undetermined, is very rare and is found in bog areas such as Cranesville Swamp, which is located just outside of the study corridor. It is being considered as a candidate for the official list of threatened species. The Eastern Fox Squirrel is also very rare but its status has also not been determined; it is found in certain tributary valleys. Black bear and bobcats, while not listed by the U.S. Department of the Interior, are becoming more and more uncommon. They still inhabit the area. The endangered American peregrine falcon does not presently nest in the Youghiogheny Basin, however, the habitat is suitable for this species. Until there was widespread use of DDT and other long-lasting pesticides, the falcon nested by the thousands throughout its North American range - from Alaska to Mexico - including even New York, Philadelphia, and other big cities. Now that these chemicals have been banned, efforts are being made at New York's Cornell University to breed captive birds for experimental release at historic eyrie sites, with the hope of restoring the nearly extinct species to its former range. The remote hills of the Youghiogheny Basin were once part of their habitat and could perhaps again serve as a nesting area, although presently there are no schedules for releases in the area. In Garrett County, the green salamander, the northern coal skink, and the mountain earth snake are endangered.

The entire Maryland study segment possesses excellent water for the propagation of brook, brown, and rainbow trout, in addition to other species of fish. In recent years, intensive stocking and the improvement of water quality have resulted in a considerable increase in the natural production of many species. Northern pike, pickerel, walleye, small and large mouth bass, are also found in pools along the river. The Maryland section of the Youghiogheny contains some of the most challenging trout fishing water in the state. In addition to game fish, the Maryland section has a diverse fish population of very rare or extirpated fish which could add scientific interest.

The Pennsylvania segment of the Youghiogheny abounds with outstanding trout habitat from Ohiopyle to Connellsville, primarily as a result of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission's biennial stocking of fingerling brown trout. Recruitment of trout from tributary streams has been validated. Natural reproduction of fish populations is expected to increase with the enhancement of water quality in the Casselman River - a major tributary of the Youghiogheny. According to the Pennsylvania Fish Commission, mine acid control for the Casselman basin, which downgrades this largest and potentially best cold water fishery in southeastern Pennsylvania, should receive the highest priority. Walleye, large mouth bass and northern pike are also found in this stream segment. From Ohiopyle through the lower reaches of the study segment, water temperatures are higher and in addition to trout, the fish population consists mostly of northern pike, walleye, large and small mouth bass and muskellunge.

Summary Statement

The Youghiogheny River and its surroundings offer an abundant habitat for a rich variety of animal species.

Climate

The high elevation of the Alleghenies affect the region's climate. The Youghiogheny area tends to be wetter, cooler, and cloudier than the surrounding portions of Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. As with the remainder of the Northeastern United States, the region is well suited for year-round recreational activities. The table that follows summarizes and generalizes the Youghiogheny's climate.

Table 2 CLIMATE

Total Annual Precipitation	45.9 inches/year
Normal Distribution of Precipitation	3.8 inches/month
Snow	60 inches/year
Normal January Temperature Range	22-43 degrees
Normal July Temperature Range	58-82 degrees
Average Number of Freeze Free Days	222 days
Average Number of Days above 90°F	4 days
Average Hours of Sunshine	less than 2200 hours
(Harrisburg more than 2400 hours; Annapolis more than 2600 hours)	

Summary Statement

Precipitation, dependable in both amount and distribution, is the area's most significant climate feature. Only during exceptional years is there insufficient precipitation to maintain adequate recreation flows within the Youghiogheny River.

THE RIVER IN HISTORY

Archeology

The Youghiogheny Valley was extensively occupied over a period of more than 10,000 years. It was a major passageway for people moving between the Potomac Valley and the Ohio Valley. Archeological records reveal that the first Indians were nomadic people who lived by hunting. Later they became village dwellers who not only hunted but grew crops, made pottery, and worked with a variety of tools.

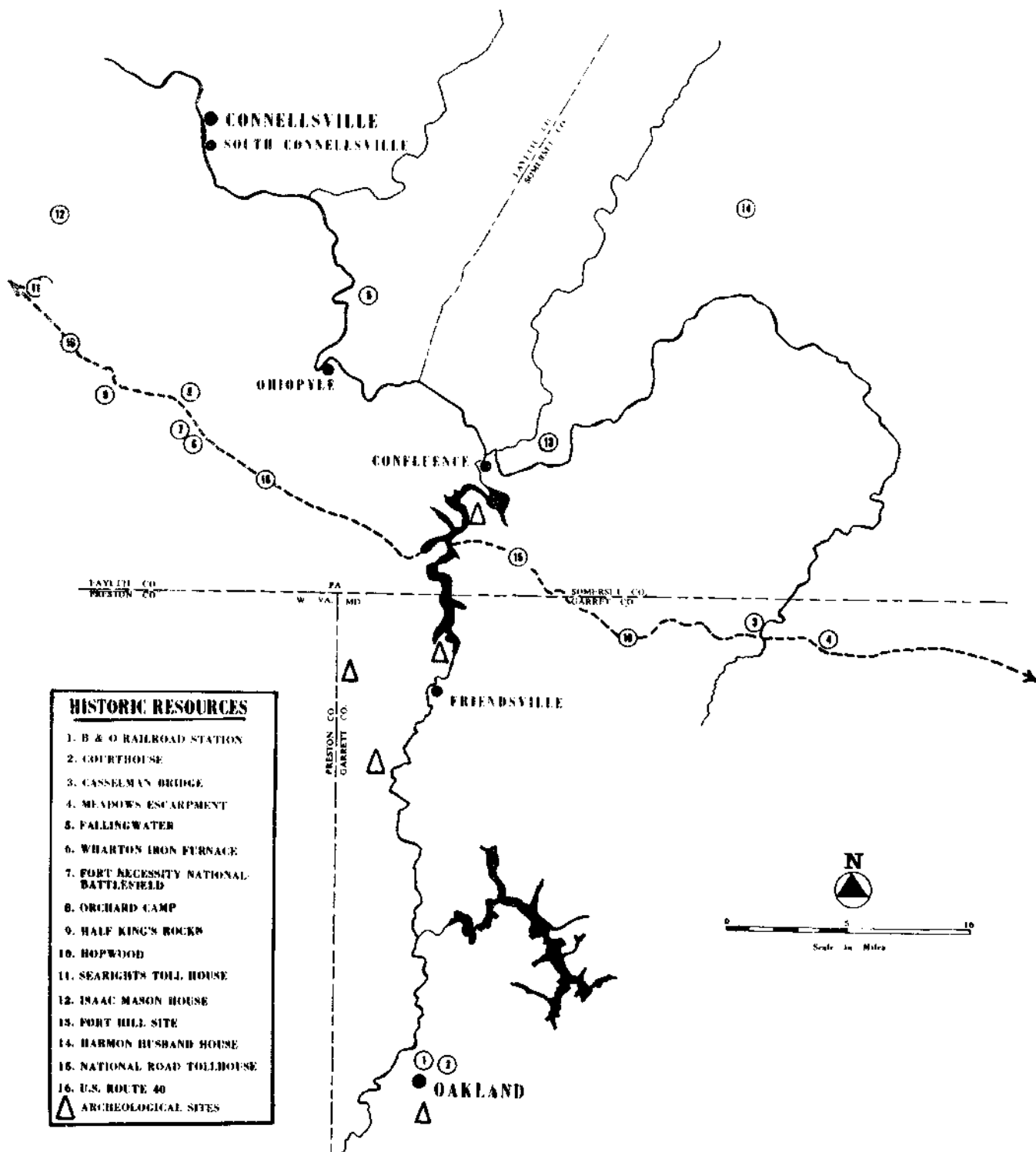
Of the twenty sites of archeological interest in the valley, all except one are under the waters of Youghiogheny Reservoir most of the time. Only during periods of very low pool are any of the sites available for study. However, there are many other sites that are known to exist along the river outside of the reservoir, but there has never been a proper survey to determine their number or extent.

Excavations near Sang Run have disclosed evidence of occupancy by Monongahela Indians during Middle and Late Woodland Intervals (900 - 1600 A.D.), but they unaccountably disappeared during the early 1600's leaving the land unoccupied. This culture, which may have descended from the highly developed cultures of the Mississippi Valley, built dome-shaped huts within stockaded villages often situated in commanding positions on hilltops. The culture's artistry is evidenced by finds of many stone and pottery fragments. They subsisted by farming, hunting and fishing.

Archeological study of the Fort Hill site east of Confluence revealed two palisaded Indian villages with extensive house and burial remains, dating from the Discovery Period (1500 - 1700).

History

The Delawares, Shawnees, and Iroquois were known to have used the area as a hunting and fishing ground. Indian mounds have been found in numerous places, particularly along the streams. The best known was Redstone Old Fort, located at the present site of Brownsville. During the mid-1700's, white men began showing a real interest in the area. Prior to that time, the area had been traversed by a number of traders and other wanderers, but they left no permanent mark. Both the French and English claimed the area. The French erected forts along the Ohio and the British considered this an intrusion on their territory. In 1753, the alarmed Governor of English Virginia, whose territorial claims extended to the Ohio country, sent Major George Washington to protect the French action. A short three months later, Lt. Col. Washington, at the head of a force of 150 militiamen, returned from Virginia to secure the Forks of the Ohio. Learning that the French had ejected the English garrison and were erecting Fort Duquesne at the forks, the Virginians



Garrett County, Maryland

1. *B&O Railroad Station. Oakland (1884)
One of the oldest railroad stations in the country. It is a large brick structure of architectural interest and has a circular tower with a conical roof as its most notable feature. The brick work is incredibly varied and imaginative with recesses and projections of various shapes and sizes.
2. Courthouse. Oakland (1907)
The Courthouse's architectural importance stems from its neo-classical Renaissance Revival masonry construction in the form of a Latin Cross with a central rotunda.
3. *Casselman Bridge. (1813)
A stone bridge built as part of the National Road, at the time it was the longest single-arch span in the country.
4. Meadows Encampment. (1755)
Braddock's army divided here for the assault on Fort Duquesne.

Fayette County, Pennsylvania

5. *Fallingwater.
Completed in 1939, this multi-level sandstone and concrete house is one of Frank Lloyd Wright's most widely acclaimed works. Set over the waterfall of Bear Run, the house and its surroundings form an integral component of the environment.
6. Wharton Iron Furnace.
Iron furnace built by Andrew Stewart. In operation until 1873, only the stone stack remains.
7. *Fort Necessity National Battlefield.
Site of first battle of the French and Indian War, July 3, 1754. Washington, with a force of Virginia militia, was forced to surrender the small stockade. Stockade and storehouse have been reconstructed.
8. Orchard Camp.
Braddock's army camped here on June 25, 1755, enroute to Fort Duquesne. Braddock also died and was buried here July 12, two days after his defeat by the French and Indians.
9. Half King's Rocks.
Site of Half King's (Tanacharison) camp. Half King, a Seneca chief, was an ardent ally of the English. He accompanied Washington on many of his trips and was with him at Fort Necessity.
10. Hopwood.
Hopwood (Monroe) was the most popular stopping place along the National Road. At least seven of the original taverns are still standing.
11. *Searights Tollhouse.
One of six tollhouses built by Pennsylvania after the State acquired control of the National Road. The recently restored structure consists of two story, octagonal tower and two rear rooms, all of brick.
12. *Isaac Mason House.
Two and one half story, stone, Georgian house with one story wing attached to each gable. Features large projecting central gable and a fine pedimented entrance, flat keystone window arches, and an elegant fanlight and highly decorated gable. The Isaac Mason House is of architectural importance.

Somerset County, Pennsylvania

13. Fort Hill Site.
Site of two palisaded Indian villages with extensive house and burial remains.
14. Harmon Husband House.
Site of Harmon Husband's farm. Husband was a political activist. Forced to flee North Carolina, where he was a leader of the "Regulators," he settled on a farm near here. He was a member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, (1777-1790), and was one of the thirteen insurrectionists arrested and taken to Philadelphia during the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794.
15. National Road Tollhouse.
Stone tollhouse with octagonal tower erected when Pennsylvania took over control of the National Road.

Maryland and Pennsylvania

16. U. S. Route 40 - "The National Road" (1811)
Braddock's Wilderness Road (1755); Washington's Route (1753-54); Colonel Cresap's Trail (1751); Indian Trail.

* On National Register of Historic Places.

proposed to fortify themselves at the mouth of Redstone Creek on the Monongahela, where they would be in a position to mount an attack downstream. A search for a wagon road to make this advance brought Washington to the Great Crossing (of the Youghiogheny River) on May 18, 1754. Encountering high water, he explored down the Youghiogheny as far as Ohiopyle Falls, with the "white frothy waters" of Indian lore. However, here the river was "narrow and with many eddies, full of rocks and rapids". He found Turkeyfoot (Confluence, Pa.) to be suitable for the location of a fort, noting its good gravel foundation. Washington crossed at Turkeyfoot and continued to Great Meadows. Learning of the French presence in the vicinity, he surprised a party of fifty in Jumonville Glen after marching his men all night in the rain. M. de Jumonville, the commander, and nine others were killed in the skirmish. The Jumonville Cross on Chestnut Ridge is now a landmark and Jumonville Glen has been acquired by the National Park Service. The Virginians then began to build a palisade at Fort Necessity, intending to hold their prisoners until reinforcements arrived. Other detachments completed a road to Redstone Creek. The French arrived first, surrounded Fort Necessity, and compelled the Virginians to capitulate and return to Virginia, leaving their cannon and equipment behind. Fort Necessity National Battlefield contains a replica of the original wooden fort.

In the following spring (1755), the British sent General Braddock to dislodge the French but he was killed and his troops routed. However, Braddock made a significant contribution to the opening of the wilderness by building a road from Cumberland to the Great Crossing. His grave is maintained along U.S. Route 40 at Orchard Camp near Fort Necessity.

The British Army under General Forbes returned again in 1758 and succeeded in capturing Fort Duquesne and ending French control of western Pennsylvania. George Washington accompanied all of the English military expeditions.

In later years, George Washington returned several times to western Pennsylvania to inspect land holdings that he had acquired while in military service. On his visit in 1784 he was also looking for a canal route to connect the Potomac to the Ohio River. The Little Youghiogheny (Casselman River) interested him the most, but as Pennsylvania and Virginia had competing interests at the time, he could not choose a route through Pennsylvania. On his return via Oakland, Maryland on September 26, 1784, Washington crossed "the Great branch of Yohiogany, which is about 25 or 30 yards over and impassable on account of the Rapidity of the Water, quantity of Stone, and Falls therein". He would have liked to discount these shortcomings, "but then, the Yohiogany lyes altogether in the State of Pennsylvania, whose inclination would be opposed to the extension of this navigation, as it would be the inevitable means of withdrawing from the trade of all their western territory".

Although the canal crossing was never to be realized, men in the next century would construct a railroad following the canal route that Washington had chosen. The upper Youghiogheny River has little claim on history's notice to date, although the railroad made Oakland a popular mountain resort in the 1890's. Nevertheless, the area was important to the Nation's growth.

One of the early industries of importance to the area was the iron industry. The first iron furnace west of the Alleghenies was erected in 1789 along Jacobs Creek, a tributary of the Youghiogheny River in Fayette County. The proximity of iron ore, limestone, water power, and extensive timber for charcoal encouraged the spread of the infant industry through other western Pennsylvania counties. This early technology was the forerunner of the higher developed iron and steel industry of which Pittsburgh is the modern center.

The early blast furnace was built of stone, the usual shape being rectangular, tapering toward the top. Generally located alongside a hill, it was loaded or charged from the top with iron ore, limestone, and charcoal for fuel. An air blast was forced through the stack of water-powered bellows. The product, molten pig iron, emerged from the bottom of the furnace and flowed into sand molds located in the casting house. The slag was drawn off enroute and discarded. Massive dumps of this slag are the only reminders of many furnaces now abandoned to time. Pig iron from the casting molds went on to a nearby forge where it was heated and hammered into bar iron. Bar or merchant iron was shaped into tools or implements by blacksmiths or processed into sheets or striped in separate mills.

Operations at an early blast furnace required 15 to 20 men around the clock and the support jobs such as making charcoal and hauling supplies and materials increased the work force to between 60 and 80. Also, from 30 to 50 horses were needed. The workers generally lived in one or two room log cabins in small communities fostered by the iron works. The remains of many stone furnaces can be found along the tributaries of the Youghiogheny. One of these furnaces, the Wharton Furnace in Fayette County, was restored in 1962 by the Commonwealth as a memorial to the iron industry. The stack and millrace of the Wharton Furnace have survived in good condition.

Any one of these old furnaces, many with beautiful locations along wooded streams, would be an interesting complement to a national wild or scenic river. Trails into furnace sites in the forest would provide pleasant diversion for the river traveler. Knowing the history, he could envision the river as both friend and adversary to the early men of iron.

As early as 1788 coal was reported to have been transported on the Monongahela. Later it was of tremendous importance in the lower Youghiogheny area. In the early years the industry developed slowly as the coal of the Connellsville area was too soft for transport. It was then discovered that this coal made excellent coking coal. The first real coke oven in the Nation was probably built in 1833 at Connellsville. By 1909, there were 579 plants operating 103,982 beehive coke ovens. After that year, the beehive ovens were beginning to be replaced by the more efficient by-product ovens located at or near the steel mills.

The first national road in the United States, presently a stretch of U.S. 40, traversed the area. In 1806 Congress passed an Act authorizing the National Road (or Cumberland Road) to be built to the Ohio River at Wheeling. Work started at Cumberland in 1811. By 1817 the road was open to the Youghiogheny, by 1818 to Uniontown, and completed to the Ohio River in 1820. Inns and taverns thrived and toll houses were placed along the road, some of which have been preserved.

The study area claims a number of other "firsts". The first iron chain suspension bridge in the Nation was built over Jacobs Creek in 1801, while the first bridge of iron construction west of the Allegheny Mountains was built (1839) over Dunlop Creek near Uniontown. In the same vicinity, Fort Gaddis (1769) is the only "settlers' fort", also, the only original fort still standing in western Pennsylvania. The first paper mill west of the Alleghenies (1797) was located at the mouth of Washington Run near Layton. Along the same stream, Washington's Gristmill Ruin is the only remaining relic of the leader in western Pennsylvania. Christopher Gist's Plantation, near Mount Braddock, was the nucleus of what was intended to be the first permanent English settlement west of the Alleghenies (1749). The Turkeyfoot Regular Baptist Church, also known as the Jersey Baptist Church, built near Ursina in 1775, is the oldest of its sect in the country.

Summary Statement

The Youghiogheny River and the land nearby played a significant role in the nation's early history. George Washington explored it during the French and Indian War and years later he considered the Youghiogheny as a potential canal route to the west. The region is dotted with recognized historic sites though none are directly on the river.

Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer in both Maryland and Pennsylvania reveal that no existing or known potential historic properties are located within the visual corridor.

THE AREA TODAY

Population

During the 225 years since the Youghiogheny Region was opened to settlement, the area has experienced steady but gradual growth. However, the population of the three-county study area decreased slightly in the 1960-70 decade as compared to a general increase of 15% for both Pennsylvania and Maryland and a nationwide increase of 13% during the same period. Though outward migration has contributed to these recent declines, the population of the three counties is expected to slowly increase through 1990.

Table 3 POPULATION (Study Area Counties)

County	1960	1970	% Change	Projected 1980	Projected 1990
Fayette (PA)	169,340	154,667	-8.7	152,000	155,000
Somerset (PA)	77,450	76,037	-1.8	79,000	83,000
Garrett (MD)	20,420	21,476	+5.2	22,000	25,000
Total or Average	267,210	252,180	-5.6	253,000	263,000

Population density within the three counties is comparatively sparse. Garrett is Maryland's least densely populated county. It has 33 people per square mile while the State population density averages more than ten times as much with 397 people per square mile. Somerset County has 71 people per square mile and Fayette County has 193 people per square mile which compares with an average of 262 people per square mile in Pennsylvania.

The townships, boroughs and minor civil sub-divisions bordering the two Wild and Scenic River study segments of the Youghiogheny are sparsely settled as the listing that follows demonstrates. Only 31,000 people live in these towns.

Table 4 1970 POPULATION OF COMMUNITIES BORDERING STUDY SEGMENTS

Garrett County, Md.		Fayette County, Pa.		Somerset County, Pa.	
Oakland	7042	Henry Clay Township	1420	Addison Township	803
Sang Run	974	Stewart Township	704	Confluence Boro	954
Accident	1308	Ohlotype Borough	140	Lower Turkeyfoot	
Friendsville	2270	Springfield Township	2629	Township	611
		Dunbar Township	7366		
Maryland		Connellsville Township	2554	Pennsylvania	
Total	11,594	S. Connellsville Boro	2385	Total	19,566

Transportation and River Access

Principal automobile access to the vicinity of the Youghiogheny River is by the Pennsylvania Turnpike and U.S. Routes 40, 119, and 219. State highways and secondary roads cross the river at several points including Oakland, Swallow Falls, Sang Run and Friendsville in Maryland and at Confluence, Ohiopyle and Connellsville in Pennsylvania.

The National Freeway (Corridor E), U.S. Route 48, is being built by the Appalachian Development Highway Program to generate benefits to Maryland from the economic and recreational development opportunities. While sections of the Freeway have been built, the entire roadway has not yet been completed. When finished and linked with other high speed, limited access corridors, it will make the area "closer" to the large cities and make it more attractive for all types of recreation. The Maryland section of the Youghiogheny will be more convenient to recreationists coming from Baltimore, Washington and West Virginia and may be expected to experience greater use.

Much of the river corridor is not readily accessible by road but may be reached on foot or by water. A railroad parallels the river in the Pennsylvania segment, however, there is no passenger railway service provided. Charter air service is available near Connellsville, while Morgantown, West Virginia and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania have commercial air service.

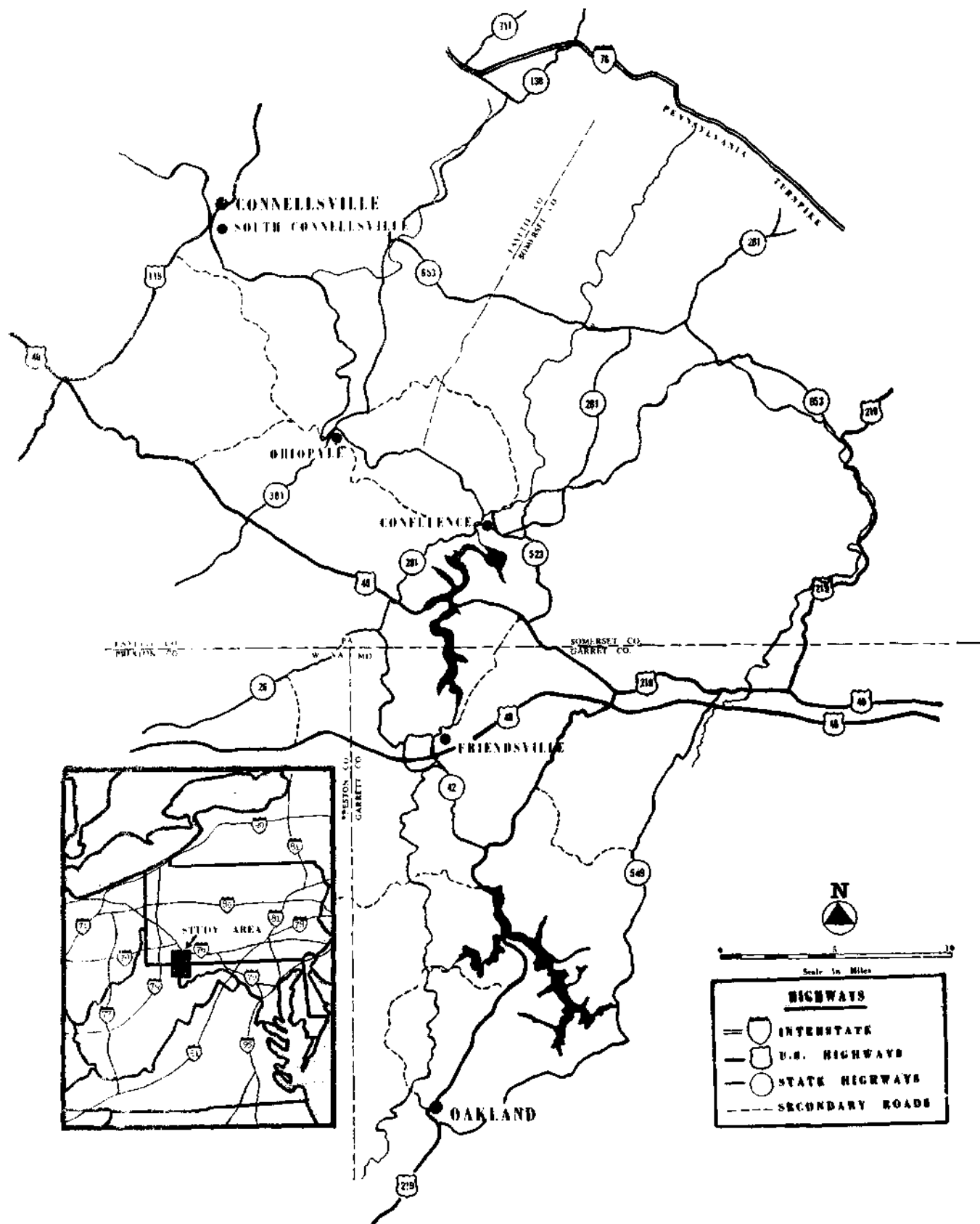
Limited access to the river limits full enjoyment of the fishing opportunities on the Youghiogheny. Much of the land immediately adjacent to the river has steep embankments and is strewn with large rocks and boulders. Private ownership of large portions of the streambank on the Maryland segment of the river and the limited number of roadways has made it difficult to get to the river, although in the past landowners have been very generous in allowing fishermen access.

Summary Statement

With the completion of U.S. Route 48, a four-lane limited access highway, it is now easier for motorists to get to Garrett County, Maryland. However, access to the Youghiogheny River is restricted by topography and private ownership.

Economy

Over 78,000 people are employed in the three-county study area with Fayette County accounting for 59% of the total. Both Fayette and Somerset Counties continue to show economies based largely on the manufacturing and wholesale-retail trade sectors. These sectors



account for 57% of Fayette County's work force and 47% of Somerset's. Mining is still a viable element of the economic base of Somerset County, employing approximately 18% of the county's workers.

As of July 1975, Fayette County displayed the largest rate of unemployment for the study area. Approximately 10.3% of this county's work force was unable to find work, compared to a national average of 8.7%. On the other hand, Garrett County possessed the lowest rate with an average of 7.6%.

Garrett County is making a transition from an economy based on lumbering, mining and agriculture to an economy oriented to government, manufacturing, retail trades and services. The civilian labor force engaged in agriculture declined from 19% in 1950 to 6.4% in 1970.

All three counties were below the national average in terms of median family income based on 1970 data. In comparison with a national family income of \$9,586, the median family income for Garrett County was \$6,023 while those for Fayette and Somerset were \$7,150 and \$7,034 respectively. The median family income for Maryland was \$11,063 and for Pennsylvania it was \$9,558.

The lack of a large labor force, industrial sites, highway facilities and immediate access to market areas has acted as a deterrent to heavy industrialization. However, light industry, such as apparel and small specialized machinery parts manufacturing, could be attracted to this area. The highest potential for economic growth appears to reside in the development of the area's outstanding recreational and unique scenic qualities. It is estimated that one-third of the present income of Garrett County may be attributed to recreation.

Summary Statement

Population for the three county study area has declined in recent years due to outward migration, but the population is expected to increase gradually toward the end of the century. Family incomes are below both state and national averages. Recreation, which already provides a substantial percentage of income in the region, offers the highest potential for economic growth.

Recreation

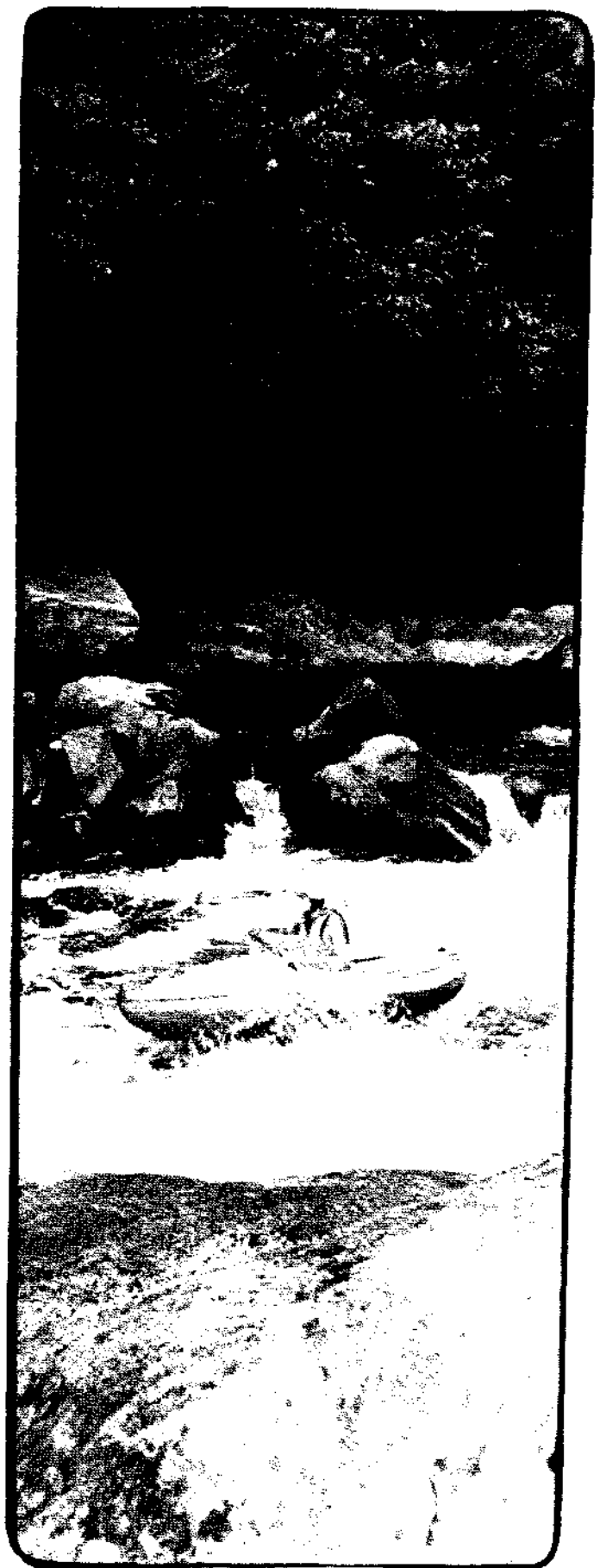
The three-county study area is prime recreation county, with more than 182,000 land and water acres (10% of the counties' total area) devoted to recreation use. Ninety-six percent of the study area's recreation resources have been classified as "natural environment areas" indicating suitability for sightseeing, camping, hiking, canoeing, and picnicking.

Most of the remainder is categorized as "general outdoor recreation areas", which contain more intensively developed lands that provide a wider range of recreation activities. Deep Creek Lake and Youghiogheny Reservoir offer power boating, water skiing, fishing, swimming and sailing. Pennsylvania maintains extensive state gamelands in both Somerset and Fayette Counties for both deer and small game hunters. Nineteen percent of Garrett County's land is owned by the State and managed, for the most part, as State forests.

Bear Run Nature Reserve, located four miles north of Ohiopyle, is owned and operated by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Its 1,700 acres contain mountain trout streams, nature trails, and scenic overlooks. A notable attraction nearby is the Conservancy's "Fallingwater" built by Frank Lloyd Wright. This home, built over Bear Run Creek for Edgar J. Kauggman, is world-famous for its unique architectural design. The Conservancy also manages the Brooks Bird Sanctuary.

Ferncliff Nature Reserve, a National Natural Landmark, is now administered as part of Ohiopyle State Park. It is a favorite field research area for botanists and naturalists.

Recreation use of the Youghiogheny is most intensive along the Pennsylvania segment, where the river weaves through Ohiopyle State Park. The park has become a major recreation attraction, with visitation increasing almost 300% between 1970 and 1978 to 1,000,000 annual visitors. Sightseeing, white water boating, picnicking, and camping are the most popular pursuits.



KAYAKING BETWEEN THE BOULDERS

The river is used for whitewater rafting, kayaking, and fishing. Since 1970, whitewater use has grown dramatically. Only 17,000 persons rafted or kayaked the seven-mile stretch between Ohiopyle Falls and Stewarton in 1970, but more than 100,000 persons now travel that section annually. Commercial outfitters service most novice rafters. During summer weekdays, whitewater use averages 600 persons daily on the seven-mile segment. On weekends, 1,200 persons are daily "on river".

Recognizing steady improvements in water quality due to mine pollution abatement effort, in 1973 the Pennsylvania Fish Commission began a program of stocking the Youghiogheny with fingerling trout. By the second fishing season, 12,000 recreation days were attributable to these efforts. With continued water quality improvements and wider public knowledge of the trout stocking program, fishing on the Youghiogheny and its tributaries is likely to become a more popular sport.

By 1980, recreation use of the river corridor in Pennsylvania will increase almost 100% over current levels, due mostly to the opening of a bicycling and hiking trail paralleling the river. This estimate assumes that the Commonwealth will resolve legal difficulties associated with gaining title to the abandoned Western Maryland Railroad right-of-way and will quickly convert that property into a foot and bicycle trail. The trail, which will run along the entire Pennsylvania study segment, is expected to become extremely popular and to ultimately account for more than one-half of recreation use along the river.

In the next two years, whitewater recreation use should grow moderately to 125,000 recreation days annually and then level off as capacity levels are reached. However Pennsylvania is making an effort to control use levels on the whitewater reach in Ohiopyle State Park. The new system considering daily maximum capacity, maximum per hour, outfitter agreements and launching times for all levels is now being implemented. Capacity level studies have been exhaustively conducted and their recommendations are being implemented. Under close management the recreation use will grow through a more even distribution of river use over the week days and more evenly during the weekend morning and afternoon hours.

Table 5 RECREATION SUMMARY: PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT

	<u>Whitewater Use</u>	<u>Fishing</u>	<u>Bicycling/Hiking</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total				
Recreation Days	100,000	15,000	----	115,000
1980 Total	125,000	25,000	50,000 *	200,000*
Recreation Days				
1990 Total	125,000	50,000	75,000 *	250,000
Recreation Days				
* Assumes conversion of the Western Maryland Railroad right-of-way into a hiking and bicycling trail.				

On the Maryland segment, recreation activity is focused at Swallow Falls State Park. About 90% of the 150,000 annual attendees at the park visit Swallow Falls for sightseeing and some picnicking. Based on past trends, visitation is expected to remain relatively stable in the foreseeable future.

Fishing has become a significant activity along the Youghiogheny's Maryland segment. For the past few years, the State has stocked the river with both adult trout and trout fingerlings. While no firm statistics have been compiled on the number of fishermen taking advantage of this program, a conservation estimate indicates 5,000 recreation days are now attributable to fishing in this study segment. Due to the challenge the river offers to the expert fishermen, the Youghiogheny is considered a unique trout fishery in Maryland.

Whitewater use of the Maryland segment is slight, since it requires experience and skill to safely navigate it. Hiking along a privately owned right-of-way extending several miles upstream of Friendsville attracts several thousand persons annually.

Total recreation activity within the Maryland corridor now exceeds 144,000 recreation days. This use level is expected to increase by only 4,000 by 1980. No significant change in the pattern of activity is anticipated, i.e., sightseeing at Swallow Falls will remain the predominant attraction, with fishing and hiking being the important secondary uses.

Table 6 RECREATION SUMMARY: MARYLAND SEGMENT

	<u>Sightseeing</u>	<u>Fishing</u>	<u>Hiking</u>	<u>Hunting</u>	<u>Whitewater Use</u>	<u>Total</u>
1976 Total Recreation Days	133,000	5,000	4,000	2,000	200	144,200
1980 Total Recreation Days	135,700	5,500	4,900	2,200	300	148,600
1990 Total Recreation Days	149,300	6,500	6,700	2,600	500	165,600

Summary Statement

The three-county study area abounds in scenic and recreational attractions. State parks on the Youghiogheny River are well used and visitation is expected to increase over the years. The whitewater use of the Pennsylvania segment of the river is approaching the saturation point.

Land Ownership

Over 95% of the land in the Maryland study corridor of the Youghiogheny is in private hands. There are four sizeable state properties in the vicinity of the river: Mount Nebo Wildlife Management Area, Herrington Manor State Park, Garrett State Forest, and Swallow Falls State Park. Each has a small amount of acreage within the river corridor though none of these holdings border directly on the river. Fifteen hundred acres of land bordering the river, including Swallow Falls, is owned by the Pennsylvania Electric Company (PENELEC). A long-term lease arrangement between the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks (now Department of Natural Resources) and PENELEC permits public use of the land around the river and waterfalls at the state forest. Other major institutional or corporate land owners within the Maryland corridor are Piney Mountain Corporation, Mountaineer Farms, and the Frazee Lumber Company.

In Pennsylvania, the largest landowner along the corridor is the Commonwealth, with extensive gamelands and Ohiopyle State Park. Two quasi-public groups also own land along the river. The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's holdings include Brooks Bird Sanctuary and the Kaufmann Preserve on Bear Run. Camp Carmel, owned by a church group, is adjacent to Indian Creek.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company owns track on the east side of the Pennsylvania segment. Recently, the Western Maryland Railroad Company has abandoned its line between Confluence and Connellsville and donated the right-of-way to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

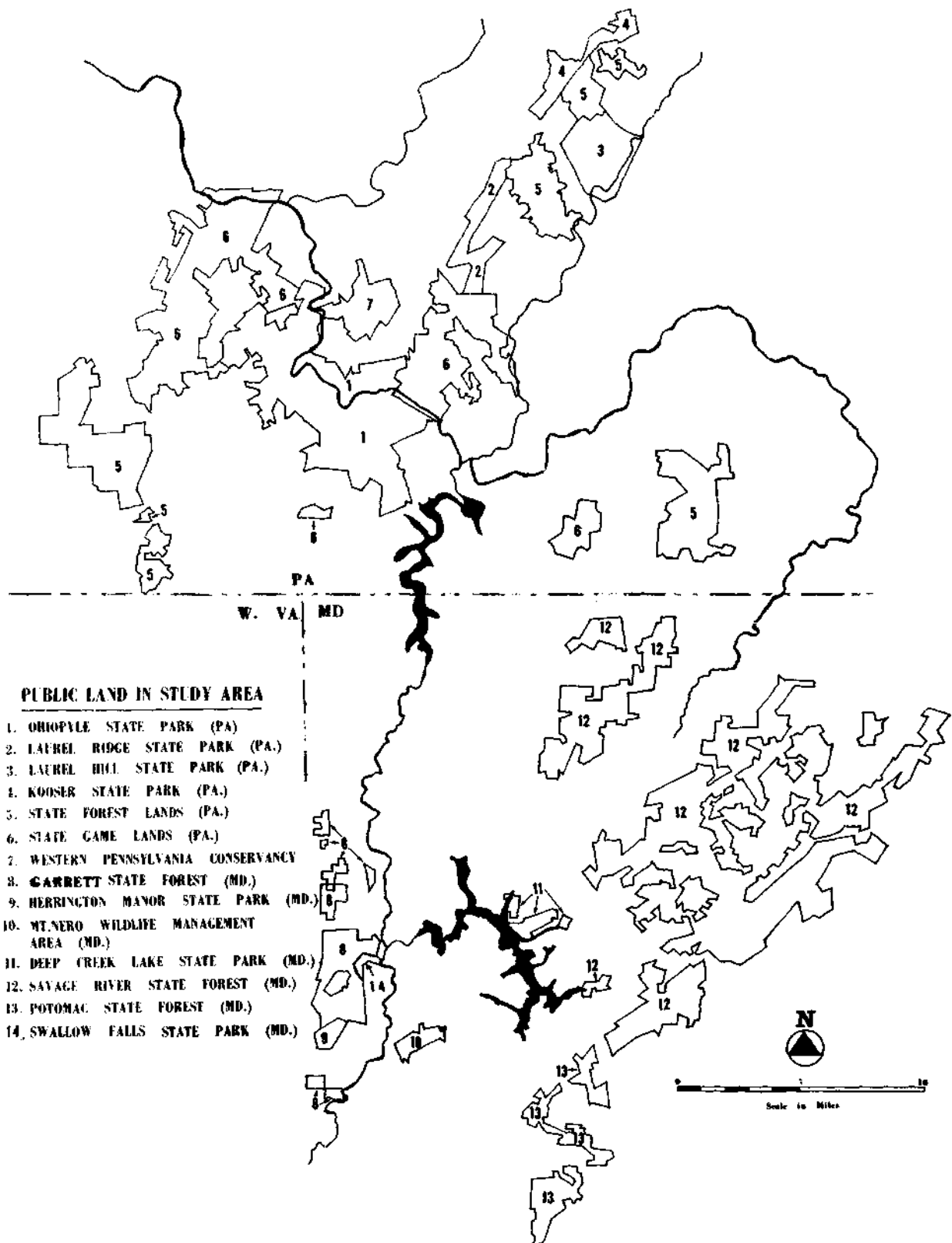
Summary Statement

Most of the land along the Youghiogheny River in Maryland is privately owned; in Pennsylvania, Commonwealth is the largest landowner.

Land Use

Land use within the Youghiogheny corridor has changed little in recent years. It is this lack of change and development that has left the river banks in their natural condition and has resulted in the consideration of the two river segments for inclusion within the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The Maryland section of the river is very primitive in condition. Most of it is forested and serves as rich wildlife habitat. With the exception of the virgin hemlock stand at Swallow Falls State Park, the entire area has been harvested for timber, though not since the 1920's. Much of the forest cover is mature. The corridor's steep slopes and general inaccessibility have made timber harvesting too costly to be very profitable and thus not well suited for commercial operations.



Agricultural use makes up only a small percentage of the total land use pattern for the Maryland river corridor. There are only about 100 acres under active cultivation for corn and grain crops, while another 700 acres are used for pasture and hay production. The decline of agricultural use of land has contributed some to the subdivision of farm land into vacation home sites. It appears that the development of vacation homes will continue to play a significant role in changing land use patterns in the corridor. The largest development in the study corridor - Youghiogheny Mountain Lake development - utilized forest lands for vacation home sites.

Industrial use is minimal. The PENELEC Deep Creek Power Plant is located at Hoyes Run and there is an inactive gravel quarry at Sang Run. Small settlements are located at these sites and at Swallow Falls. Recreation and wildlife management use takes place at Garrett State Forest and Mount Nebo Wildlife Management Area.

The land use pattern in the Pennsylvania segment differs significantly from the pattern in Maryland. Because 6,800 acres adjacent to the river are owned by the Commonwealth as Game Lands and as Ohiopyle State Park, the primary use of the corridor in Pennsylvania is recreation and wildlife management. Likewise, the lands owned by Camp Carmel and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy are in recreation and conservation uses. Other unoccupied land is in forest cover or pasture. Two Pennsylvania municipalities, Confluence and Ohiopyle, occupy a small portion of the Youghiogheny Corridor. The combined population of these two boroughs is approximately 1,100. While both communities anticipate future growth, vast expansion is not expected. Future development in the Pennsylvania Corridor will most likely center around second home construction and recreation related industries.

Right-of-way of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad borders the river between Confluence and South Connellsville. The B&O is still active in hauling freight, while the Western Maryland line has been abandoned. Other industrial development of the river corridor is immediately downstream of the study segment terminus at the corporate limit of South Connellsville.

Summary Statement

Private lands in Maryland are mostly forested and in their natural condition. The development of vacation home sites is the most likely future use. The large holdings of publicly-owned land in Pennsylvania will remain in their present conservation use.

Water Resources Development

While there are no impoundments on the study segments, two major dams have a direct impact on the Youghiogheny River. Youghiogheny River Lake, managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has separated the Maryland-Pennsylvania river segments since 1948. This facility is designed primarily for flood control, although water releases from the lower part of the reservoir permit the maintenance of a coldwater fishery (especially trout) downstream, and low-flow augmentation for navigation and pollution abatement.

Since 1924 a dam has been maintained at Deep Creek, a tributary of the Youghiogheny in Maryland, for hydroelectric power generation. Water is provided by conduit from Deep Creek Lake to the power plant at Hoyes Run on the Youghiogheny's main stem. The Hoyes Run facility is a peaking station that usually operates five days a week with a daily duration of several hours. Routine releases raise the Youghiogheny's water level approximately 1.4 feet during the short period of operation.

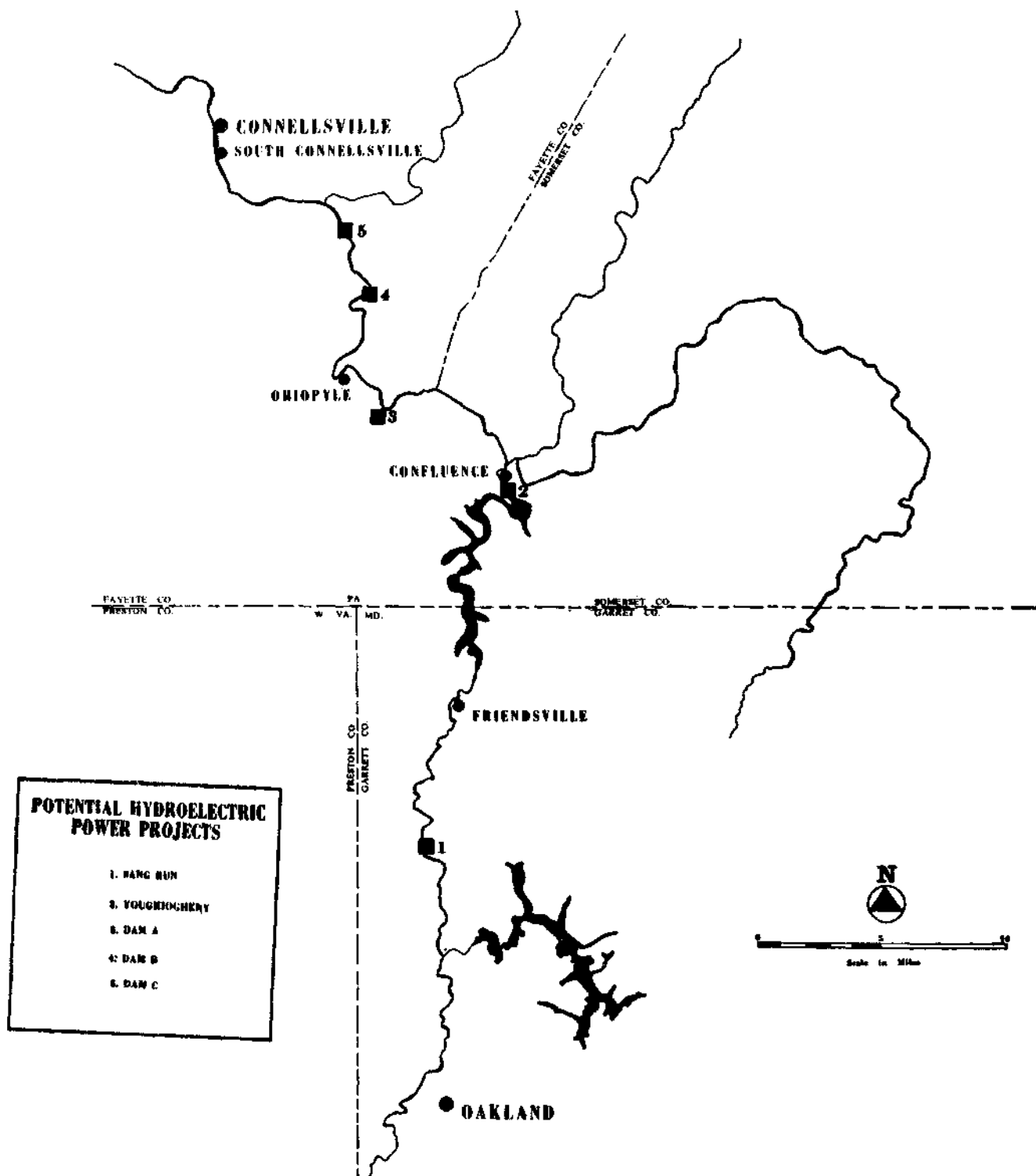
Approximately 900 feet of the Youghiogheny's "head" (the river's drop in elevation) has not yet been developed for hydropower. Sixty percent of this generating potential lies on the Maryland segment, in the vicinity of Sang Run. In 1966, the Federal Power Commission listed the Sang Run site, along with four sites on the Pennsylvania segment, as potential hydropower projects. However, the Commission has noted that no plans currently exist to develop these areas and that no utility companies have expressed any interest in them. Moreover, the Ohio River Basin Commission's 1975 study of the Monongahela River Basin excluded all five sites from its recommended plan for power.

Table 7 POTENTIAL HYDROELECTRIC POWER PROJECTS

<u>Project</u>	<u>Capacity (kilowatts)</u>	<u>Annual Generation (million kw hrs.)</u>	<u>Gross Head (ft.)</u>
Sang Run	48,000	153	560
Youghiogheny	24,000	76	126
Dam A	25,000	80	85
Dam B	25,000	80	85
Dam C	15,000	49	50
	<u>137,000</u>	<u>438</u>	

Source: Federal Power Commission

The Corps has been requested by a Congressional Resolution adopted on 23 September 1976 to examine the feasibility of developing hydro-electric power facilities in the Youghiogheny River Basin, including possible modification of the existing Youghiogheny River Lake for power. Additionally, the potential power sites previously identified by FPC will be re-examined.



Five gauging stations are currently maintained on the two study segments of the Youghiogheny at Oakland and Friendsville, Maryland, and at Youghiogheny Dam, Confluence and Connellsville, Pennsylvania. Average flows range from a high of 2540 cfs at Connellsville to a low of 289 cfs at Oakland. Maximum discharges generally occur from March through May.

Whitewater canoeing potential exists throughout the recreation season in most sections of the study segments of the river. An adequate flow level is maintained in the Pennsylvania section of the stream due to controlled releases from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Youghiogheny Dam, which is managed for flood control and low flow augmentation for navigation and pollution abatement. The operation of Youghiogheny River Lake is sometimes modified to provide increased flows for special events by downstream whitewater users, when such modifications are compatible with the projects authorized purposes. However, low flows sometimes constitute a problem for the kayaker or rafter on the Maryland segment of the Youghiogheny during late summer and early fall. For a few hours each week day, this situation is ameliorated by releases from PENELEC's Deep Creek Lake Project, but they generally do not occur on weekends.

Summary Statement

Releases from existing water resources development projects on the Youghiogheny and its tributaries affect water flow levels in the river, to the advantage of whitewater users. There are no known proposals for hydropower or flood control reservoir construction on the two study segments of the Youghiogheny.

Water Rights

Since 1933, the appropriation and use of water in Maryland is subject to control by State law (Appropriation or Use Permit, Section 8-802, Natural Resources Article, Annotated Code of Maryland). Except for specific exemptions for farm use and uses prior to 1933, the statute covers all commercial, industrial, and municipal withdrawals of ground and surface waters in the Maryland portion of the Youghiogheny River watershed.

Additionally, another State of Maryland permit, the waterway construction permit, is required to change in whole or part the course, current, or cross section of any stream or body of water within the State.

In Pennsylvania, water rights are based on riparian doctrine. Thus, the owner of land bordering a river or stream is entitled to use the water to benefit his land. Use by the adjacent owner is tempered, however, by the concept of "reasonableness" -- a user cannot appropriate water in amounts which unduly infringe on other riparian owners' rights to also benefit from a stream's flow. "Reasonableness" is not precisely defined, but is instead determined on a case-by-case basis whenever a dispute arises.

In Pennsylvania, river bottom lands within the low water marks are owned by the Commonwealth in accordance with legislation dating from 1782. Maryland's laws recognize riparian owners who hold title under patents issued prior to March 3, 1862, as also the owners of the river bed where non-tidal waters are involved. Thus, the Youghiogheny's river bed is owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and by adjacent

landowners or by the State of Maryland in Maryland, dependent upon date of patent. In both states, the public retains rights of navigation and, it appears, clear, to fishing in Maryland.

Even though this is a complex and partially unresolved area of the law, it is clearly the case that there are public rights to the water itself and for such activities as navigation, fishing, and waterway construction even though the bottom may be privately owned.

Water Quality

Paramount among recent events affecting the Youghiogheny River is the general improvement in the river's capability for supporting aquatic life and water-based recreational activities. Water samplings indicate a continuing upgrading in water quality and it is generally conceded that the Youghiogheny can be restored to its natural condition if pollution abatement programs continue.

The Youghiogheny's Pennsylvania segment is expected to meet the Commonwealth's water quality standards within nine years. When accomplished, the 27-mile stretch will be suitable for swimming, water supply (domestic, wildlife, and industrial), natural fishery productivity, and boating. The river's dissolved oxygen level is high, indicating that it is capable of supporting a large variety and population of fish. The quality of water from Youghiogheny River Lake downstream to the Casselman River is suited for a coldwater fishery, and the Pennsylvania Fish Commission maintains a trout stocking program along that section.

Acid mine drainage constitutes the largest contributing factor to water quality degradation on the Pennsylvania segment. Two tributaries of the Youghiogheny, the Casselman River and Indian Creek, still discharge some acid mine water into the main stem. The major source of pollution on the Casselman is a large complex of abandoned coal mines located 35 miles upstream from its mouth. Average acid loads downstream have significantly declined in the past few years as a result of state abatement programs in the Casselman drainage basin. Indian Creek acid mine problems originate from an extensive interconnected network of underground mines in which water with a high acid content is collected and transported by flume from Indian Creek Reservoir. Acid and alkaline discharges downstream from Indian Creek merge and neutralize chemical imbalances.

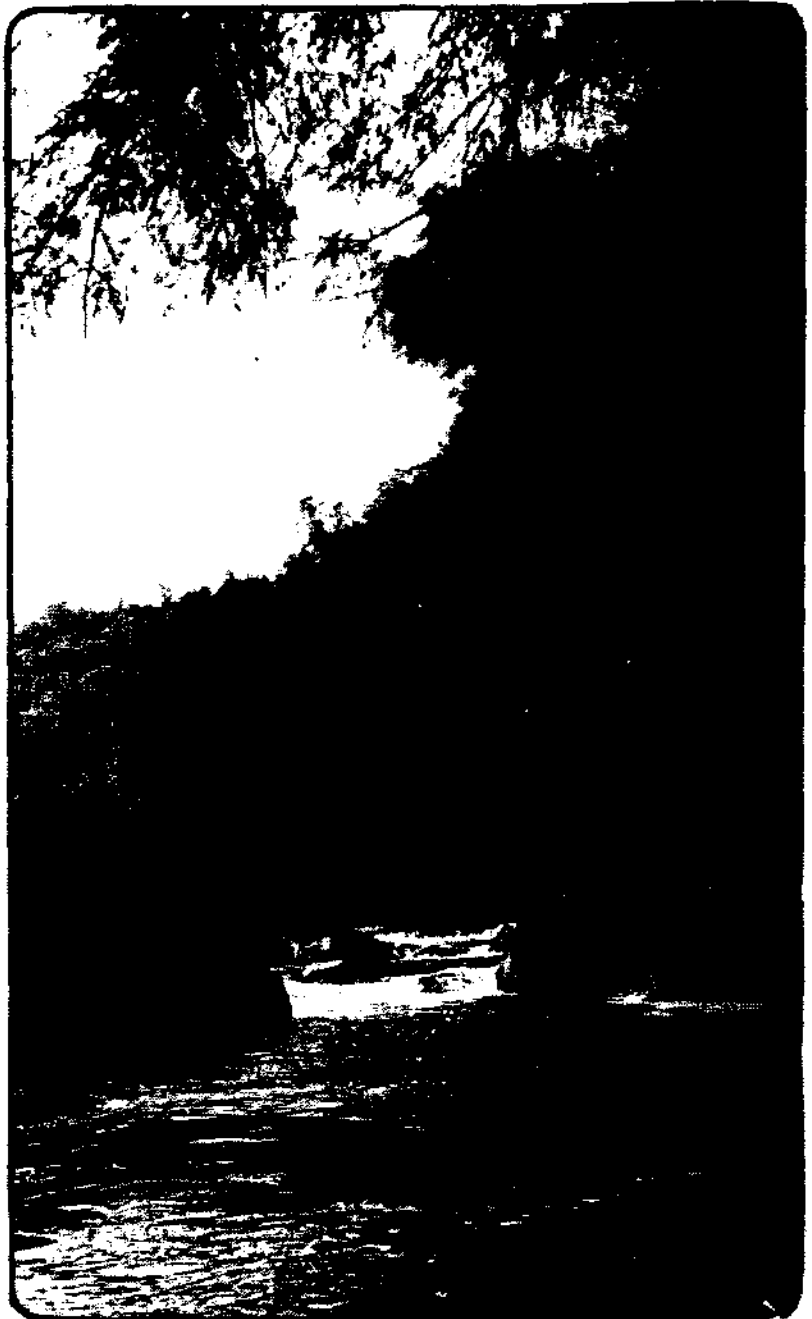
The Ohio River Basin Commission's 1975 draft report on the Monongahela River Basin recommends a mine drainage abatement plan for the Casselman River watershed which would significantly reduce acid loads entering the Youghiogheny. This project has been given "priority one" status, indicating that action should begin within the next five years. Total detailed planning costs, which would be federally funded, are estimated at almost \$5,000,000 (1969 dollars). An Environmental Protection Agency funded "research and development project" for mine drainage control in the Snowy Creek-Laurel Run watershed in West Virginia was initiated in 1975 and should contribute to improved water quality in the Maryland segment of the Youghiogheny.

Discharges of untreated sewage pose another water quality problem in the Pennsylvania segment. The town of Ohiopyle has a secondary sewage treatment plant, and several areas along the Pennsylvania river corridor are the discharge sites for small institutional treatment plants. However, in early 1976, the Borough of Confluence put into operation a sewage treatment system consisting of new collection lines and a 140,000 GPD treatment plant providing secondary treatment.

The water in the Maryland reach of the Youghiogheny is generally of good quality. Based on state standards, the river has been classified "Natural Trout Waters", indicating its suitability for such activities as fishing, swimming, and white-water recreation. As a fishery resource, the Youghiogheny is considered to have the highest potential for a sustained trout fishery in the entire State of Maryland.

Past as well as some present mining activity in the vicinity of the Youghiogheny tributaries in West Virginia and Maryland has resulted in water quality degradation on the river's main stem. Minedrainage is a significant problem in the section from Oakland to Millers Run, due to acid loadings from the Snowy Creek and Laurel Run watersheds. Untreated domestic wastes from the Little Youghiogheny partially neutralize this acid. The effects of mine drainage are not detectable at Swallow Falls, four miles downstream of Oakland. This is a vast improvement from the late 1940's and 1950's when the acid levels recorded at Friendsville were high.

The Youghiogheny receives untreated sewage discharges at Oakland and Friendsville. It is anticipated, however, that the discharges from Oakland will be eliminated by 1980. A federal facilities planning grant to the Garrett County Sanitary District will permit



THE YOUGHIOGHENY HAS GREAT VARIATION IN FLOW TYPES

development of a sewage treatment plant for the towns of Oakland and Crellin. One of the alternatives to be considered will be a tie-in to a recently completed facility now serving the nearby towns of Lock Lynn and Mountain Lake Park. A sewage treatment facility has recently been installed at Friendsville.

Summary Statement

In years past, pollution in the Youghiogheny has been considerable, but recent efforts have improved the river dramatically to the extent that both study segments now support significant sport fisheries.

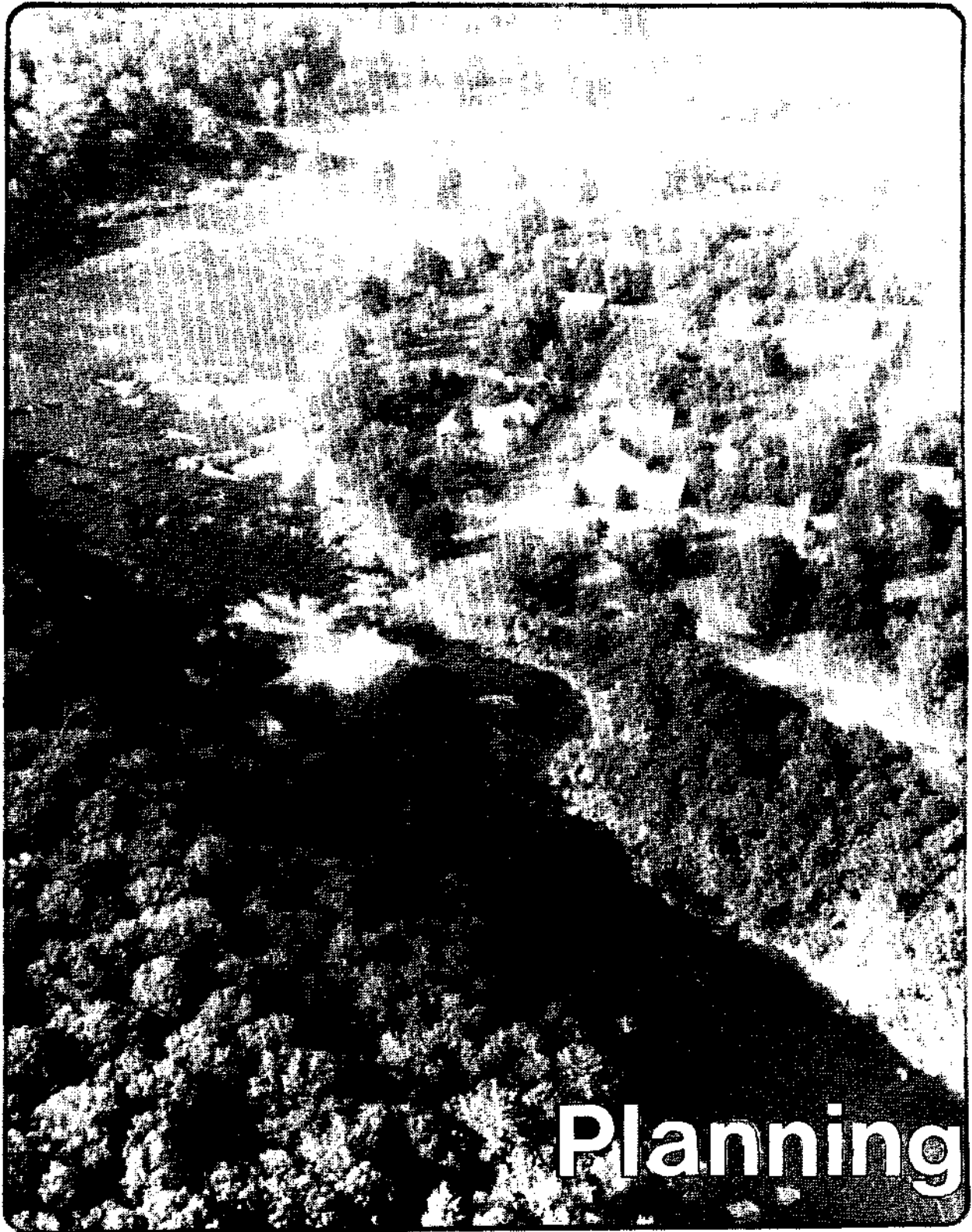
Air Quality

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, air quality in the Youghiogheny River study area is excellent. The closest monitoring station to the river is at Oakland, Maryland. A comparison of 1974 readings at that site with Maryland's other monitoring stations indicates that the air in the Youghiogheny region contains less nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter than any place else in the state. Only one other location in Maryland (Cove Point, Calvert County) registered lower sulphur dioxide amounts.

Table 8 AIR QUALITY: YOUGHIOGHENY STUDY AREA

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Oakland 1974 Readings</u>	<u>National Standards*</u>	
		<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
Sulphur Dioxide	5	80	--
Nitrogen Dioxide	16	100	100
Total Suspended Particulates	35	75	60

* National primary standards are limits set to protect the public health, while secondary standards are designed to protect public welfare. The lower the actual reading, the better the air quality. Readings are in micrograms per cubic meter of air.



Planning Considerations

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Natural Values
Classification

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

Whitewater Use (PA)
Recreation Safety (PA)
Public Land Acquisition (PA)
Public Lands in Garrett County (MD)
Second Home Development (MD)
Public Access and Private Rights (MD)
Western Maryland Railway Abandonment (PA)
State Protective Efforts (MD)
Local Protective Efforts (MD)
River Corridor Boundary (MD)
Public Meetings (PA & MD)
Advantages of National Designation and State Designation (PA & MD)

Before a realistic strategy for adequate resource protection can be shaped, it is necessary to be aware of the river's major natural elements, as well as to understand the differing human interests, concerns, and perceptions affecting its use. Therefore, this section focuses on the Youghiogheny's environmental values as they relate to wild and scenic river criteria and sketches the major issues surrounding the river's future.

THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Natural Values

Both the Maryland and the Pennsylvania sections of the Youghiogheny River qualify for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. In arriving at this conclusion, information was gathered

from field inspections, published materials, written and verbal communications with various resource specialists and private citizens. This data was then evaluated in light of criteria outlined in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and evaluation guidelines prepared by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior.

As required by the Act, the Youghiogheny River and its immediate environment possesses "outstandingly remarkable" natural values. Primary among these are the river's:

* outstanding natural setting

Most of the Youghiogheny flows through a narrow, heavily-forested gorge. The lush vegetation on the steep slopes, combined with the swiftly flowing water, creates a setting of impressive grandeur. Ohiopyle Falls (Pennsylvania) and Swallow Falls (Maryland) are noted scenic areas. The Maryland segment has retained its essentially primitive character.



NAVIGATING AROUND A BEND



RAPIDS AND BOULDERS

* outstanding whitewater

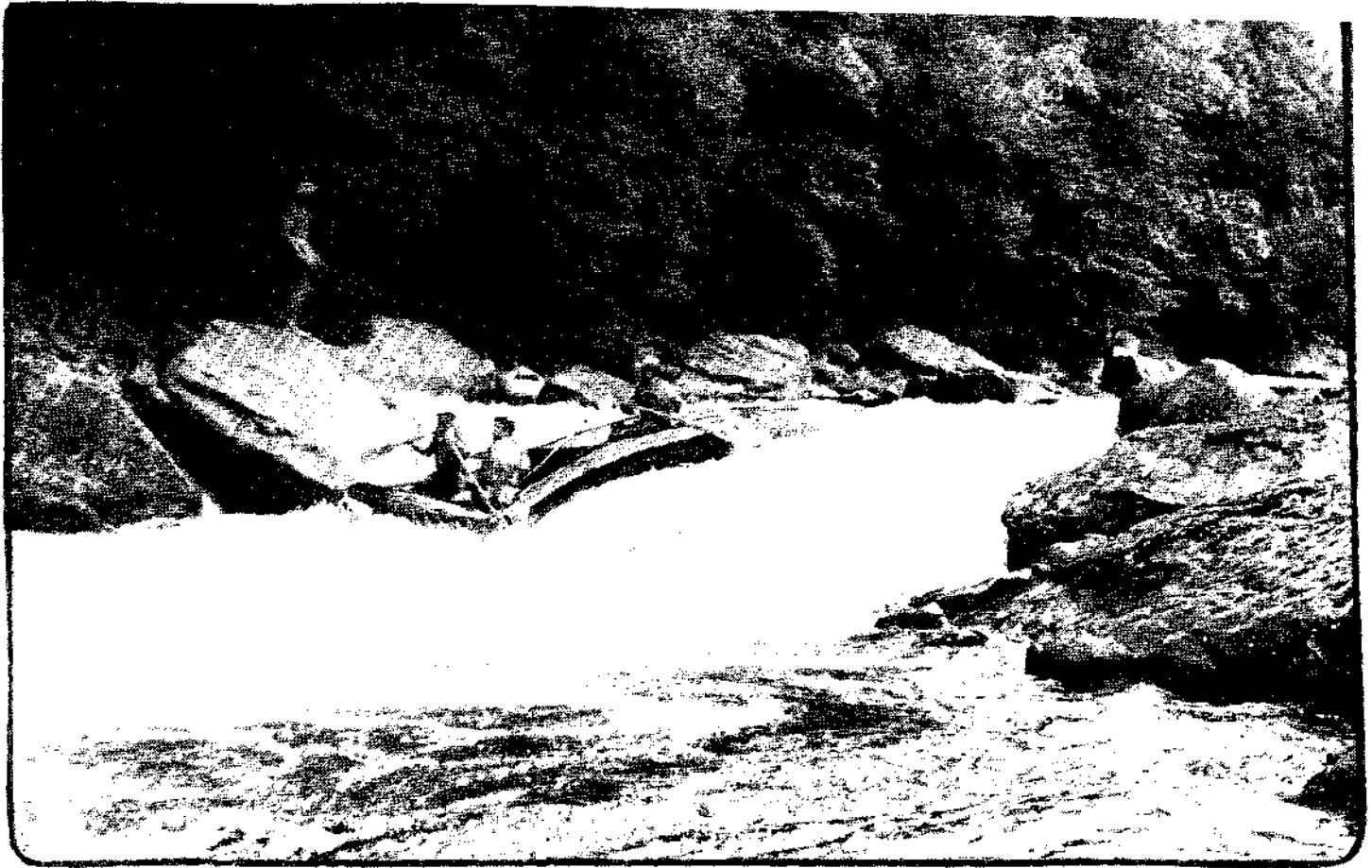
The seven mile Ohiopyle to Stewarton, Pennsylvania section has become the northeastern United States' most popular rafting and kayaking river. Whitewater experts have rated the Maryland section as "difficult" to "exceedingly difficult", requiring experience and skill to navigate safely.

* excellent trout potential

With recent improvements in water quality, the Youghiogheny is again supporting quality game fish. The Pennsylvania segment is well stocked with trout fingerlings, and has the capability of becoming the finest trout stream in southwestern Pennsylvania. The Maryland segment provides a challenge to the expert trout fisherman and is considered unique in the State.



GOOD TROUT FISHING WATERS



ONE OF THE MOST HEAVILY RAFTED WHITEWATER STRETCHES IN THE NATION

The Youghiogheny River corridor is also notable for its botanical variety, rich wildlife habitat, improving water quality, and historic interest.

In addition to its considerable natural values, the Youghiogheny meets the criteria established by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior for evaluating wild and scenic rivers. Both study segments:

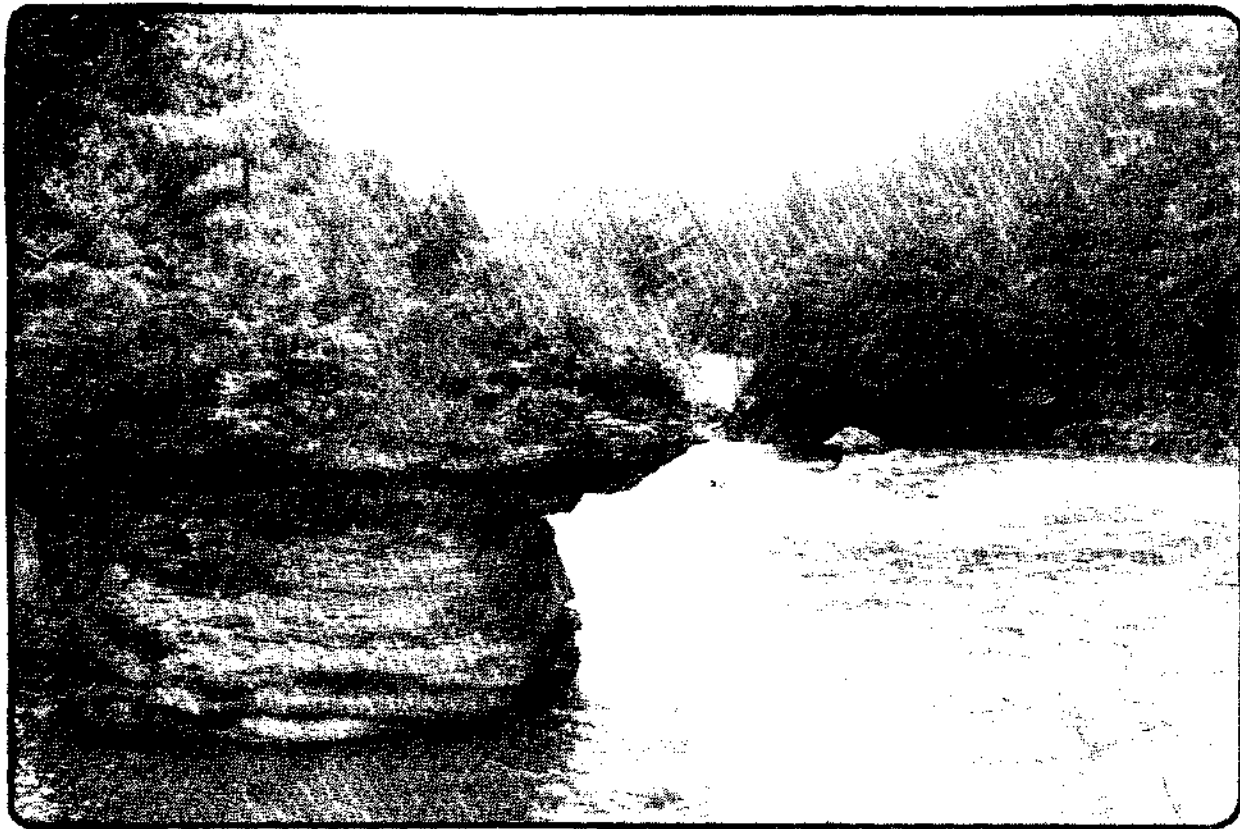
- * are in a free-flowing natural condition. Neither segment has been impounded, straightened, or otherwise modified; however, railroad embankments occasionally border the river.
- * are long enough to provide a meaningful recreation experience. The Pennsylvania segment is longer than the generally accepted standard of 25 miles. The Maryland segment's outstanding natural character makes it a worthy addition to the national system, even though its length is slightly less than is usually required.
- * normally have sufficient water volume during the recreation season to permit full enjoyment of water-related outdoor recreation activities.
- * meet water quality criteria. The Youghiogheny has been restored to a condition which supports the propagation of quality game fish. Further improvements are expected in the next five years.

Classification

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act stipulates that every river included in the national system shall be classified, designated, and administered as one of the following:

1. Wild River Areas - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and water unpolluted.
2. Scenic River Areas - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.
3. Recreational River Areas - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

The 22 mile Maryland study segment of the Youghiogheny River qualifies as a WILD river; the 27 mile Pennsylvania segment qualifies as a SCENIC river. These classifications are based on field investigations conducted in 1971 and 1975 and reflect the condition of the resources at the time of examination.



ROCK FORMATION AT SWALLOW FALLS

The issues outlined below provide part of the framework which will shape any planning proposal for the Youghiogheny River. These factors must be considered in developing realistic, long-term policies to guide recreation, conservation and other uses of the river.

Whitewater Use (PA)

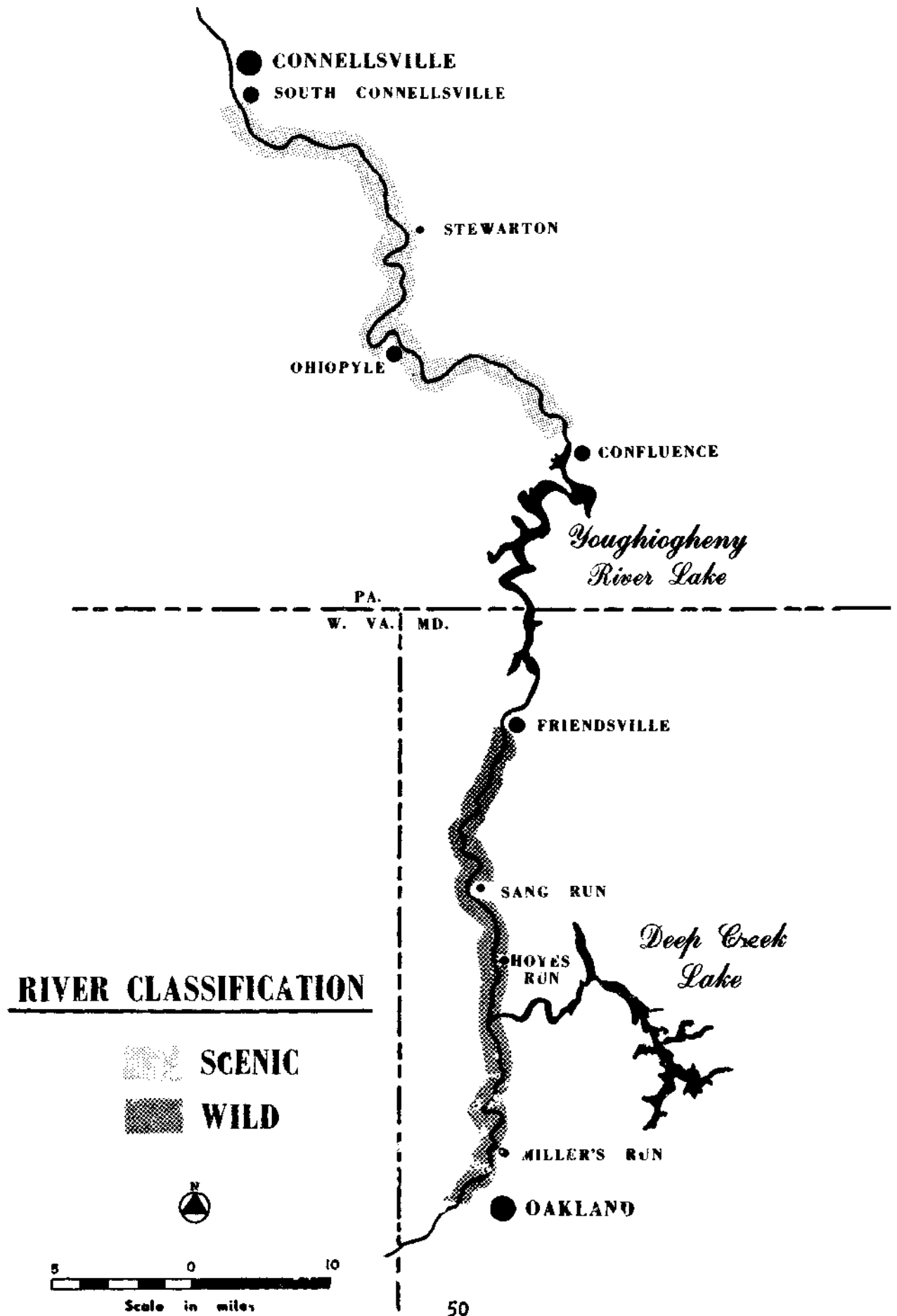
The seven-mile segment between Ohiopyle and Bruner Run has become northeastern United States' most popular rafting and kayaking river. Presently, 100,000 people a year engage in whitewater activity mostly during June, July and August. The number of persons is steadily increasing, and by 1980 about 125,000 visitors are expected to raft or kayak the river. Given the level of whitewater interest and the moderate size of the preferred river segment, overcrowding and congestion have developed and are expected to become even more problematic. The recreation management challenge is to accommodate whitewater users in a manner which assures both them and other recreationists (fishermen, hikers, etc.) of a quality outdoor experience. At the present time there is a potential conflict developing between fishermen and boaters. The future managing agency will most likely take actions to alleviate any conflicts between river users.

Recreation Safety (PA)

Whitewater rafting poses serious risks of injury. Given the large number of inexperienced persons who now travel the Ohiopyle to Stewarton section, there is a need to continue a formal safety program on the Youghiogheny. The Pennsylvania Fish Commission cooperated with the Department of Environmental Resources in the development of its present agreement with the four outfitters that are utilizing Ohiopyle State Park Lands for float trip marshalling and launching purposes. That agreement provides for safety and equipment standards as well as public liability insurance. It establishes stipulations for the maximum number of trips per day per outfitter and daily trip scheduling. The Bruner Run site is being developed for emergency access and the abandoned Western Maryland Railroad grade will be used for emergency access along the entire seven-mile whitewater reach.

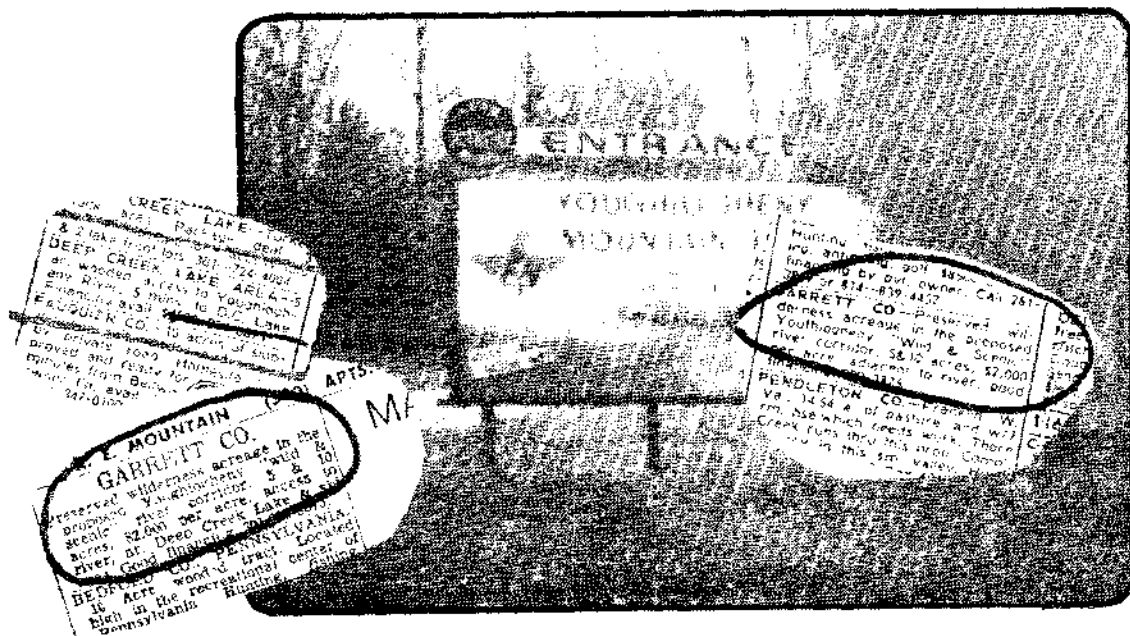
Public Land Acquisition (PA)

In recent years, the Commonwealth has acquired considerable property in Fayette and Somerset Counties for use as parks and gamelands. Much of this acquisition has been necessary to the creation of Ohiopyle State Park. Communities impacted by the park, such as the Borough of Ohiopyle, are concerned that any further increase in public landholdings will severely restrict their growth potential and erode their tax base. The residents of communities along the Youghiogheny are thus apprehensive about potential national scenic river status for the river, fearing that such designation would require additional public acquisition. The option of obtaining easements to maintain protection of the visual corridor while allowing limited private use of the property and permitting the property to remain on the tax roles, possibly at slightly reduced valuation, should be considered.



Nineteen percent of Garrett County is owned by the state and managed as state forests, parks, and wildlife management areas. This relatively high percentage has generated concern among some residents that any further public acquisitions may seriously erode the county's remaining property tax base. Such concerns have prompted a state law which requires approval of the County Commissioners prior to any state purchase of an individual tract in excess of 100 acres. The 22-mile stretch would involve 11,400 acres. Any plan for preservation of the Youghiogheny through public purchase of land along the river will have to consider the impact of such a program on the County's interest in stabilizing the overall amount of publicly-held land. As for the Pennsylvania segment, the option of obtaining easements to maintain protection of the visual corridor while allowing limited private use of the property and permitting the property to remain on the tax rolls, possibly at slightly reduced valuation, should be considered.

With the improvement in the Youghiogheny's water quality and the nationwide surge in interest in river-oriented recreation, the river now has high potential for light density second home development. Opening of the National Freeway, which passes through Friendsville, contributes to the river's development potential by making the area more accessible. As a result, decisions made in the next few years about the river's future will determine whether the Youghiogheny retains its primitive character or is transformed into a sparsely populated vacation home setting.



LAND SPECULATION ALONG THE YOUGHIOGHENY

Public Access and Private Rights (MD)

With the exception of the state park site at Swallow Falls, there are no public access sites along the Youghiogheny's Maryland segment. Thus, persons using the area for fishing, canoeing, hiking, hunting, or other recreation purposes travel across privately-held land. While some recreationists may first ask a landowner's permission before doing so, most do not. This situation is unsatisfactory for both groups concerned--recreationists do not have easily identifiable locations for gaining access to the river's amenities, while local property owners confront a trespass problem (and inconveniences such as littering). Accommodation of both groups' interest necessitates a plan which provides for selected access and use areas, controls the amount of recreation use, and clearly indicates acceptable behavior when visiting the river. This is especially important, since more use is inevitable because of improving automobile access to Garrett County.

Western Maryland Railway Abandonment (PA)

The Western Maryland Railway has abandoned its line from Connellsville, Pennsylvania to Frostburg, Maryland. This includes the right-of-way which parallels the Youghiogheny in Pennsylvania along the river's western bank. This right-of-way was transferred to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy which plans to convey it to the Commonwealth for development into a hiking and bicycling trail. Some conveyance problems are still unresolved, due primarily to the costs that would be incurred in maintaining or removing several bridges along the route. Conversion of the right-of-way into a trail would provide additional recreation opportunities along the Youghiogheny.

State Protective Efforts (MD)

The Maryland scenic rivers program was established in 1969. The first rivers, including the entire Youghiogheny, were put into the system in 1971. In 1974, the state law was amended to provide special protection for the 20-mile section of the Youghiogheny from Millers Run to Friendsville by designating it as a state wild river and prohibiting strip mining within the river corridor. The Department of Natural Resources was directed to adopt rules which regulate land use and development in the "wild" area and on "adjacent land areas within the scenic corridor where development would affect the primitive qualities" of the river. The Maryland statute also incorporates the balance of the Youghiogheny and its tributaries into the state wild and scenic rivers system. Designation in the National System could intensify the inherent conflict between the recreational use of the river and maintenance of the river in a wild state.

State regulations for the protection of the Youghiogheny have been circulated for public comment. In their proposed form, the regulations create river corridor zones which permit development on parcels ranging in size from two to ten acres. Most of the land is zoned for ten acre minimum lots. In March and April 1976, the Department of Natural Resources

conducted public hearings on the regulations. Public reaction ranged from opinions that the rules were too restrictive on private landowners to concern that they would be too permissive to protect the river's primitive character. The regulations were adopted in May 1976 and have been in effect ever since. Minor changes to the text of the regulations and a significant reduction of the corridor width are now in preparation.

Local Protective Efforts (MD)

In its 1974 "Development Plan for Garrett County", the Garrett County Planning Commission supported the objective of preserving the river and its setting. That Plan placed the Youghiogheny in the public recreation and open space category of land uses and outlined possible protection techniques. On March 30, 1976, the Commission unanimously resolved that preservation of the Youghiogheny in its wild state "ought to be the highest priority for public land ownership in Garrett County". Currently, there is no parks and recreation department or similar agency at the county level, thus county assistance in creating and managing a wild river is not readily available.

River Corridor Boundary (MD)

Maryland's Department of Natural Resources has established a 10,600 acre visual corridor from Millers Run to Friendsville with the assistance of a U.S. Forest Service computer program. The corridor was defined under winter time conditions, and its boundaries are similar to those delineated by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service through topographic analysis. Some Garrett County residents and organizations, including the Garrett Soil Conservation District, have suggested that a smaller area would be sufficient to offer visual protection. So far, no specific alternatives have been offered, however.

Public Meetings (PA & MD)

In April 1976, meetings were held in Ohiopyle and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and in Accident and Cockeysville, Maryland to acquaint people with options for protecting and managing the river. In general, persons attending the meetings favored long-term preservation of the Youghiogheny, although opinions on how best to protect the river varied considerably (ranging from complete reliance on existing private landowners to extensive public acquisition).

Persons living near the Pennsylvania segment were concerned that national designation might require land acquisition, further reducing the amount of taxable property in municipalities which have already been affected by creation of Ohiopyle State Park. In this regard, the Ohiopyle Borough Council requested a delineation and exclusion of all lands within the borough from any designation. Alternative land protection measures, such as local zoning and scenic easements, were suggested by several persons. Additionally, there was interest in providing a safe rafting exit on land currently in public ownership, limiting the number of access roads through scenic areas, and providing adequate sanitation and safety services for recreationists.

Maryland residents favored maintaining the wild character of the Youghiogheny. Most appeared to accept the need for a formal protection strategy which would involve a cooperative effort among landowners and the state, although some persons felt that preservation of the corridor could be accomplished solely through the voluntary efforts of private landowners. Complete reliance on zoning for long-term protection was criticized on two grounds--such regulation would not guarantee that the river's primitive character would be maintained, and it would not compensate local landowners for loss of some land rights. However, some persons saw land use regulations as a useful temporary measure until a more comprehensive approach could be implemented. Some concern was expressed that national designation might result in large increases in the number of visitors to the river. Finally, several people expressed the opinion that the visual corridor probably was substantially less than the approximately 11,000 acres indicated by state and federal technical assessments.

In March 1977, a meeting was requested by the townships bordering the Pennsylvania segment to discuss the proposal. Local residents expressed considerable opposition to the designation of the Pennsylvania segment. They were concerned about the study's effect on properties, tax base, protection, local roads, individual rights, littering, recreators, state efficiency, and the railroad abandonment.

Advantages of National Designation and State Designation

There has been some discussion by involved agencies as to whether the Youghiogheny River should be designated as a component of the National Rivers System and/or the State Rivers System. The advantages of each type of designation which assumes State management are summarized below:

1. Protection - National designation provides protection from federally licensed or funded water resources projects, such as dams, water conduits reservoirs, powerhouses, transmission lines, and other project works (Section 7 of P.L. 90-542). In addition, the Secretary of the Interior can be an appellant agency - thus two levels of review to help insure protection.

With State designation, Sections 2 and 5 of the Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Act 283 may provide protection from encroachments, such as dams, water resources projects, major highway development, and power generating facilities. Section 8-406 of the Maryland Wild and Scenic Rivers Act indicates that a dam or other structure impeding the natural flow of a scenic and wild river may not be constructed, operated, or maintained in a scenic and wild river, and channelization may not be undertaken, unless the Secretary of Natural Resources specifically approves. The Governors, through the Ohio River Basin Commission, would most likely determine the decision on project development. In addition, some initial decision-making power by a federal agency could be eliminated by State designation.

2. Water Quality - National designation could provide an added compulsion to improve the water quality (Section 12(c) of P.L. 90-542).

Even without National designation, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources functions and cooperates with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Federal regulatory programs. The Commonwealth's water quality regulations are as stringent as those of the Federal Government.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources' water quality legislation controls runoff from strip mines. No mining is permitted in the visual corridor and there are restrictions on mining in buffer areas.

3. Land Acquisition - There are no restrictions on land acquisition or regulation for a State-managed river in the National System.

Full title acquisition is permitted under the State Forest Lands System; easements by Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Act 283. Donations and property exchanges permitted under Act 275, Section 1902-A; Forest Powers and Duties.

There are no provisions for full title acquisition or easements in the Maryland Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. However, Section 8-410 of the Act indicates that funds under Program Open Space may be used to purchase, or otherwise pay for, any property taken without just compensation or on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis.

4. Funding - National designation may provide a better priority for financing from existing Federal programs of compatible projects, which are improving the stream and its watershed.

Normally, the same amount of funds are available for state designation as National designation. Pennsylvania is more interested in adequate annual operation and maintenance support than with capital development or acquisition assistance.

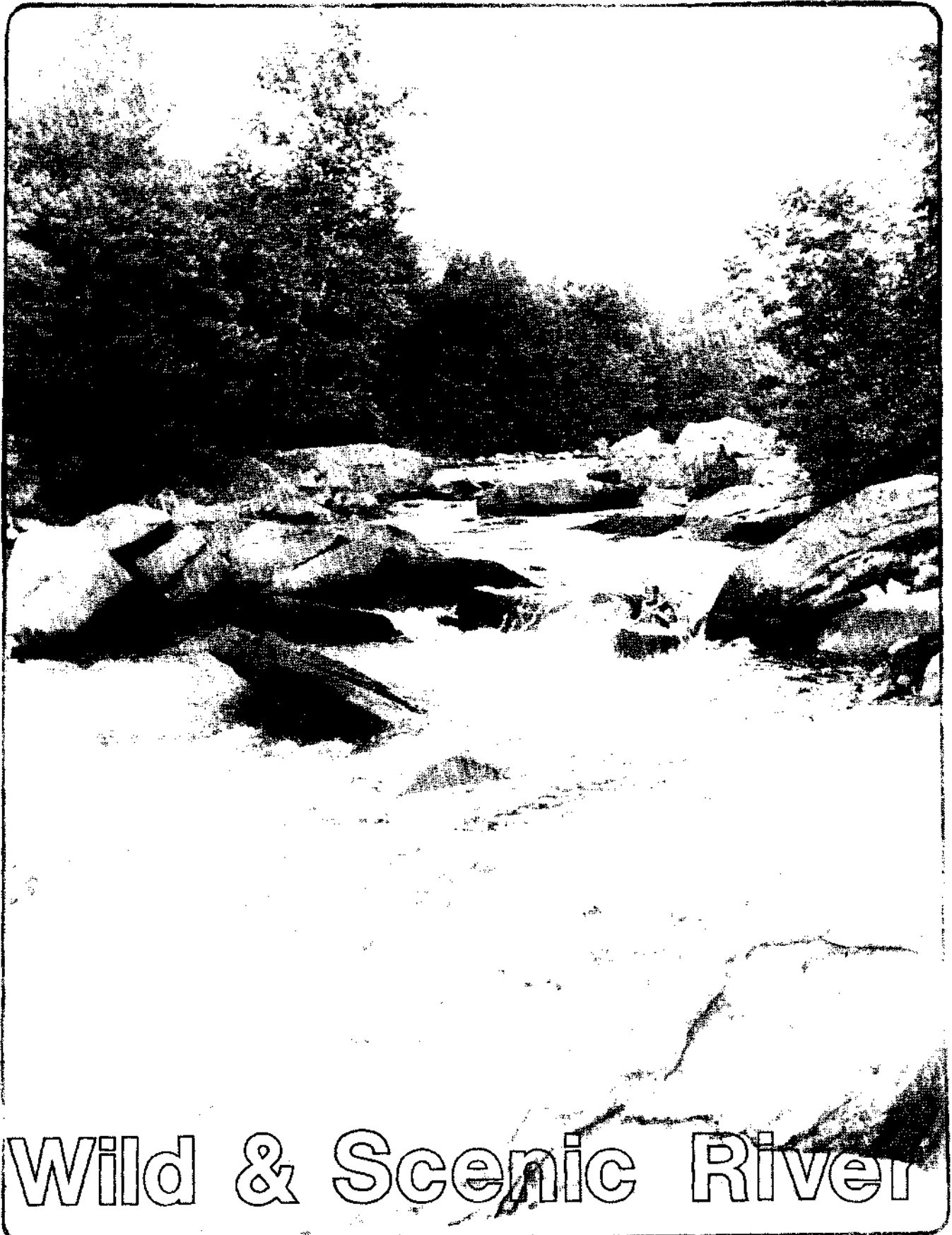
5. Management - National designation may assist the states in better management programs by meeting certain Federal standards of management.

State system has flexibility of management, since no National Standards are required. State programs are tuned and refined to state requirements and citizen needs.

6. Recognition - National recognition would follow national designation; while statewide recognition would follow State designation.
7. Support - In Maryland there is some support for national designation. However, local support and cooperation may best be assured in the long-term by the States.
8. Permanency - The existing national act is more permanent than a state act because any change would involve the whole Nation rather than one State.

On the other hand, concern for the Youghiogheny is in Maryland and Pennsylvania and in the Youghiogheny area, in the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environmental Resources, in their administration, in the General Assembly, and in many and varied organizations.

9. Expediency - The State System process is usually more expeditious than that for the national system.



Wild & Scenic River Options

WILD AND SCENIC RIVER OPTIONS

RESOURCE PROTECTION OPTIONS

PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT

State Scenic River
National Scenic River

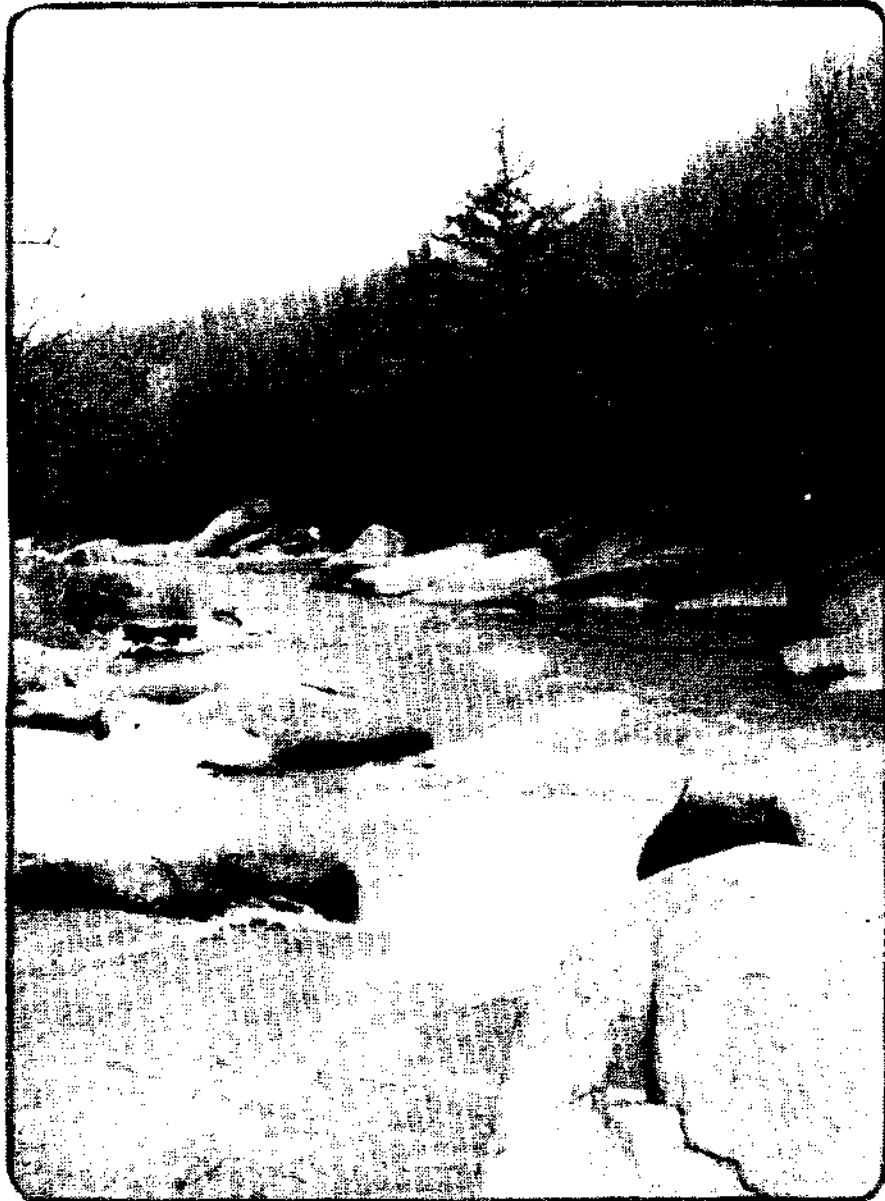
MARYLAND SEGMENT

State Wild River
National Wild River: Plan A
National Wild River: Plan B

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

State Management
Federal Management
Joint State-Federal Management

In the process of developing a wild and scenic river plan, careful consideration is given to alternative resource protection measures. Also, an assessment is made of potential resource managers. This section outlines options for the Youghiogheny. It is from these alternatives that a particular resource management strategy is selected for recommendation. A detailed analysis of the environmental, economic, and social impacts of each option is contained in the last chapter of this report.



FAST AND BOULDER STREWN

PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT

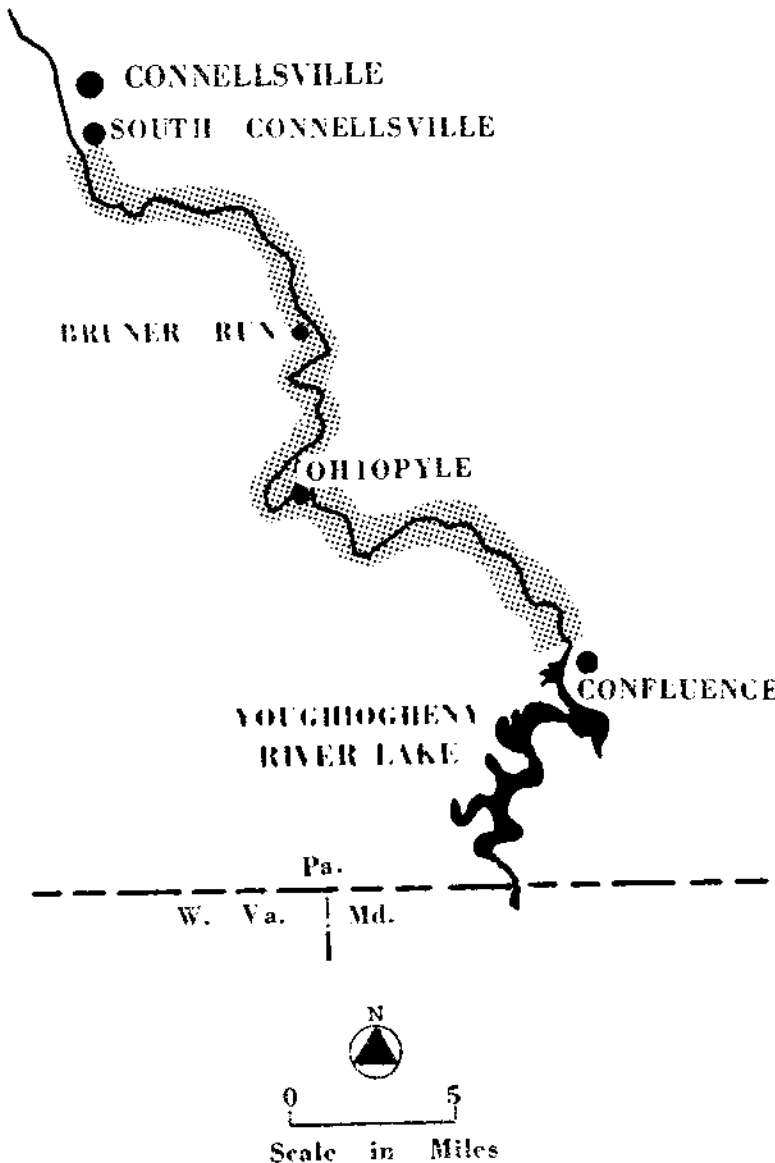
State Scenic River

Two options are being considered for the Pennsylvania segment. The first would include the 27-mile segment from Confluence to South Connellsville as a State Scenic River. This would involve the continuation of the State's present management policies as State owned gamelands and Ohiopyle State Park. Land along the river would be devoted primarily to recreation and open space uses.

In the process of the Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Program, an inventory of the resource first verifies its indigenous values, and a management framework is then established through the public participation process. It addresses the land, water and administrative aspects of river corridor management and control. Local governments are encouraged to implement protective measures on private holdings within the scenic river corridor.

National Scenic River

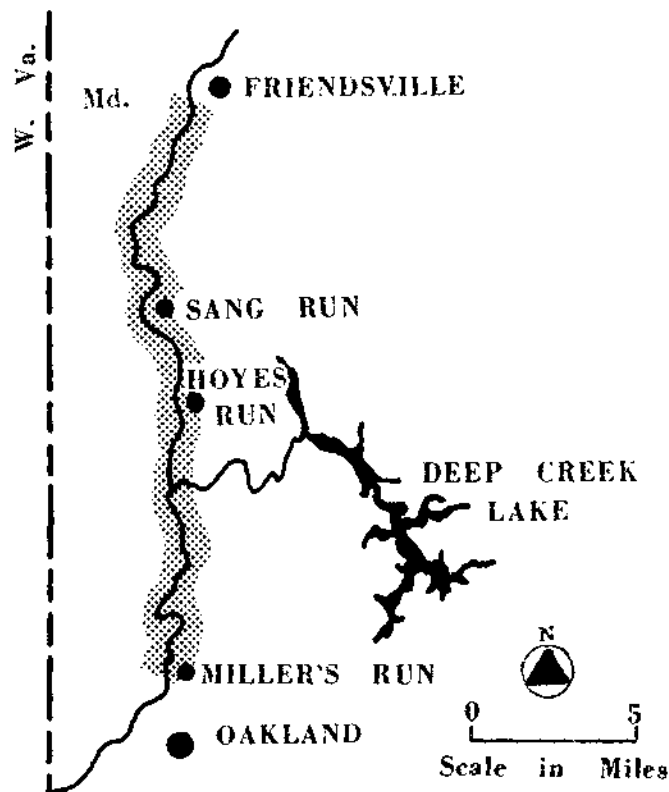
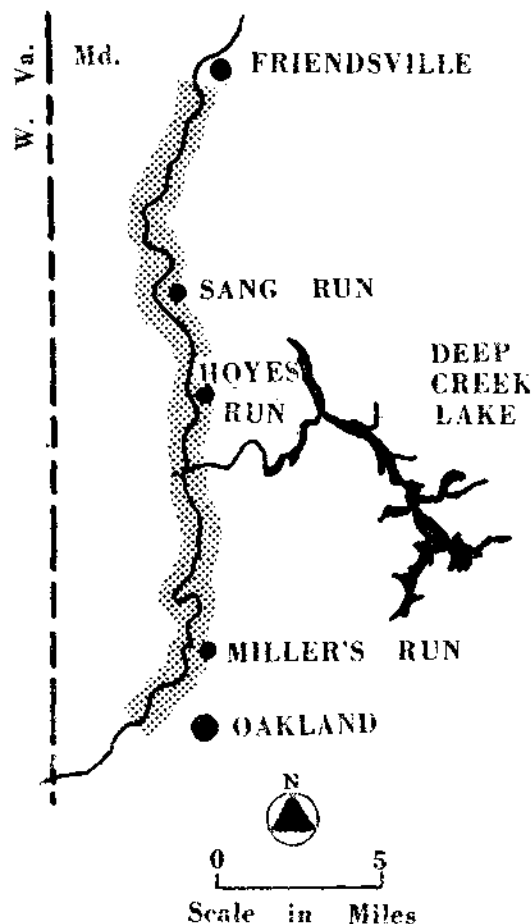
The second option being considered is designation and administration of the Confluence to South Connellsville segment as a National Scenic River. Protection from further degradation and misuse would be afforded to the 10,300 acre visual corridor (line-of-sight from the river) through which the river flows by land ownership and conservation zoning. Prior to designation, a recreation management plan would be developed which incorporated regulations for eliminating river congestion and for boater safety in the Ohiopyle to Bruner Run whitewater section.



MARYLAND SEGMENT

State Wild River

The 20-mile segment from Millers Run to Friendsville is now protected as a State Wild River. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources worked with a citizens committee to formulate zoning regulations, published in May 1976, that provide protection within the 10,600 acre visual corridor. Land within the corridor is placed into one of three zones that would permit second home and other development on parcels ranging in size from two to ten acres. Most of the land is zoned for 10 acre minimum lots. No additional public recreation areas are provided under the zoning proposal.



National Wild River: Plan A

State zoning of the 22-mile river corridor from Oakland to Friendsville could result in designation of the Youghiogheny as a National Wild River. This would involve a visual corridor of 11,400 acres. In addition to zoning, national designation would require improved public access to the river for recreation. This access could be provided by specific recreation sites and a foot and bicycle path paralleling the river.

National Wild River: Plan B

Preservation of the Youghiogheny River could be accomplished through designation as a National Wild River. Under this option, over 11,000 acres -- comprising the visual corridor from Oakland to Friendsville -- would be publicly acquired. Various land protection techniques would be appropriate, including cash purchase of full title and development rights, exchange of excess State land holdings in Garrett County, if any, for land adjacent to the river.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

During the course of this study, various alternatives for the future management of the Youghiogheny River have been explored. If the river is added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, its segments could be administered by the states, by a federal agency, or through a joint state-federal effort.

State Management

Both the Pennsylvania and Maryland segments could be protected as state managed streams in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Section 2(a)(ii) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act established the procedure for accomplishing this. Essentially, that provision requires the Governor of the State involved to submit an application for river designation to the Secretary of the Interior, together with a plan for assuring the long-term protection of the resource. Such state-managed rivers must be permanently administered as national river areas at no ongoing expense to the United States. However, other costs involved in the protection of the river resource can be borne by federal and state funds.

If this management alternative is selected, administrative responsibilities for the Pennsylvania segment would most likely be placed with the Department of Environmental Resources. Since over 50% of the Pennsylvania segment flows through Ohiopyle State Park, it would be possible to manage the river through the existing park structure. Both the Pennsylvania Fish Commission and Pennsylvania Game Commission (independent state agencies) have an interest in the Youghiogheny and are involved in aspects of the river's administration. Pennsylvania's fishing and boating program is administered by the Pennsylvania Fish Commission, while the game program is determined by the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

On the Maryland side, the state's Department of Natural Resources would be the appropriate managing agency. Supervising recreational use of the river could be accomplished either by establishing a separate unit or by expanding the responsibilities of Swallow Falls State Park personnel to include the Youghiogheny.

Federal Management

The Youghiogheny River could be administered as a federal component of the national rivers system by an agency of the U.S. Government. This could involve Interior Department agencies such as the National Park Service. Also, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would be an appropriate agency, since it has played an important role along the Youghiogheny since the 1940's through its operation of Youghiogheny Dam and Lake. If one of these agencies is selected, all costs for planning, acquisition, recreation facility development, and administration would be borne by the Federal government.

No federal management has been considered for the protection of the Youghiogheny River in Pennsylvania, since most of the study system is already protected by Ohiopyle State Park. Maryland has expressed some interest in federal management, however, almost all of the study segment is already a component of the Maryland Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Joint State-Federal Management

A cooperative state-federal approach to managing the Youghiogheny could take several forms. Through a series of formal agreements, areas of responsibility could be defined for each agency involved. For example, a Federal agency could assume recreation management duties, while the state assured adequate land use regulations and maintained special programs such as fish stocking. Alternatively, the federal role could predominate, with the state providing assistance through such programs as strict control of water quality on tributary streams.



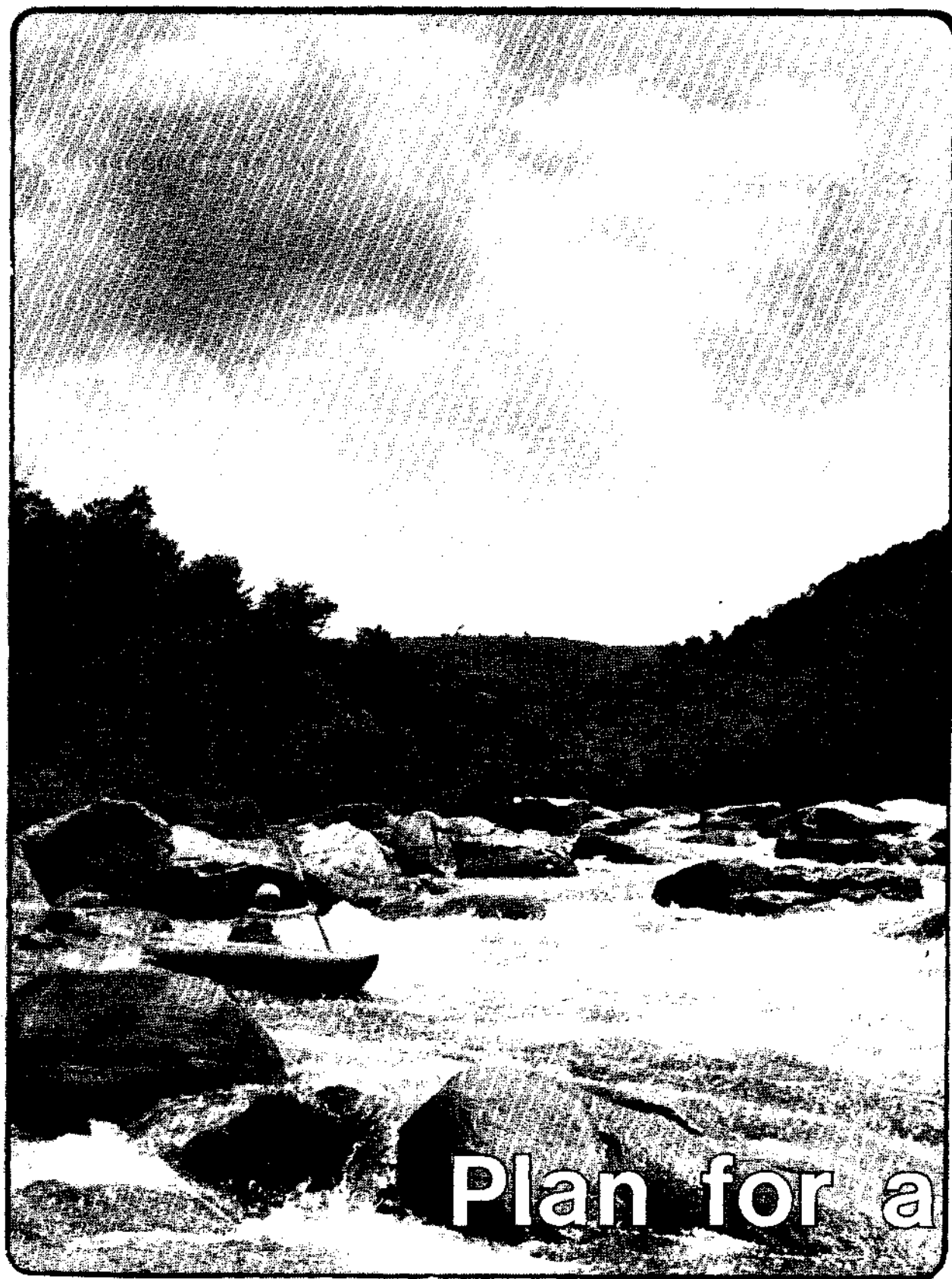
DURING LOW WATER

Given the substantial investment the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has made along the Pennsylvania segment, any realistic joint management approach there would include only a limited federal role. Federal ownership of lands along that section would be impractical, since it would necessitate extensive intergovernmental property transfers without increasing the level of river protection available. Also, such a scheme would seriously impair the Commonwealth's development of Ohiopyle State Park.



MUDDY CREEK FALLS

Since there are no large public landholdings on the Maryland segment, the range of possibilities for a joint management approach is broader. For example, land use protection efforts could become a shared responsibility, with the federal agency acquiring critical natural areas and access sites while the Department of Natural Resources monitored land use regulations for the balance of the visual corridor. Alternatively, the federal role could be limited to recreation management, with the state assuming most of the administrative responsibility for the river.



Plan for a
Wild & Scenic River

PLAN FOR A WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

Objectives
Boundaries
River Corridor Management
Recreation Access

Preparation of a wild and scenic river plan involves setting the management objectives to be pursued, defining the plan's boundaries, deciding upon management arrangements, and offering guidelines for proper resource use and adequate public access. The plan which follows seeks to preserve the Youghiogheny River's outstanding values. It permits compatible land and water uses while regulating the intensity of those uses in conformance with the natural character and "carrying capacity" of the resource. The goal is to permit public and private use of the river corridor while discouraging overuse.

Objectives

In order to assure its preservation as a scenic river, the Youghiogheny should be managed to:

- * Protect the outstanding scenic values of the river corridor.
- * Preserve the free-flowing condition of the waters.
- * Maintain and upgrade water quality.
- * Provide high quality outdoor recreation opportunities.
- * Maintain and enhance the outstanding quality of fish and wildlife resources.
- * Maintain good air quality.
- * Provide for a level of recreation use that minimizes deterioration of land and water resources.



A HEAVILY WOODED STRETCH DURING LOW WATER

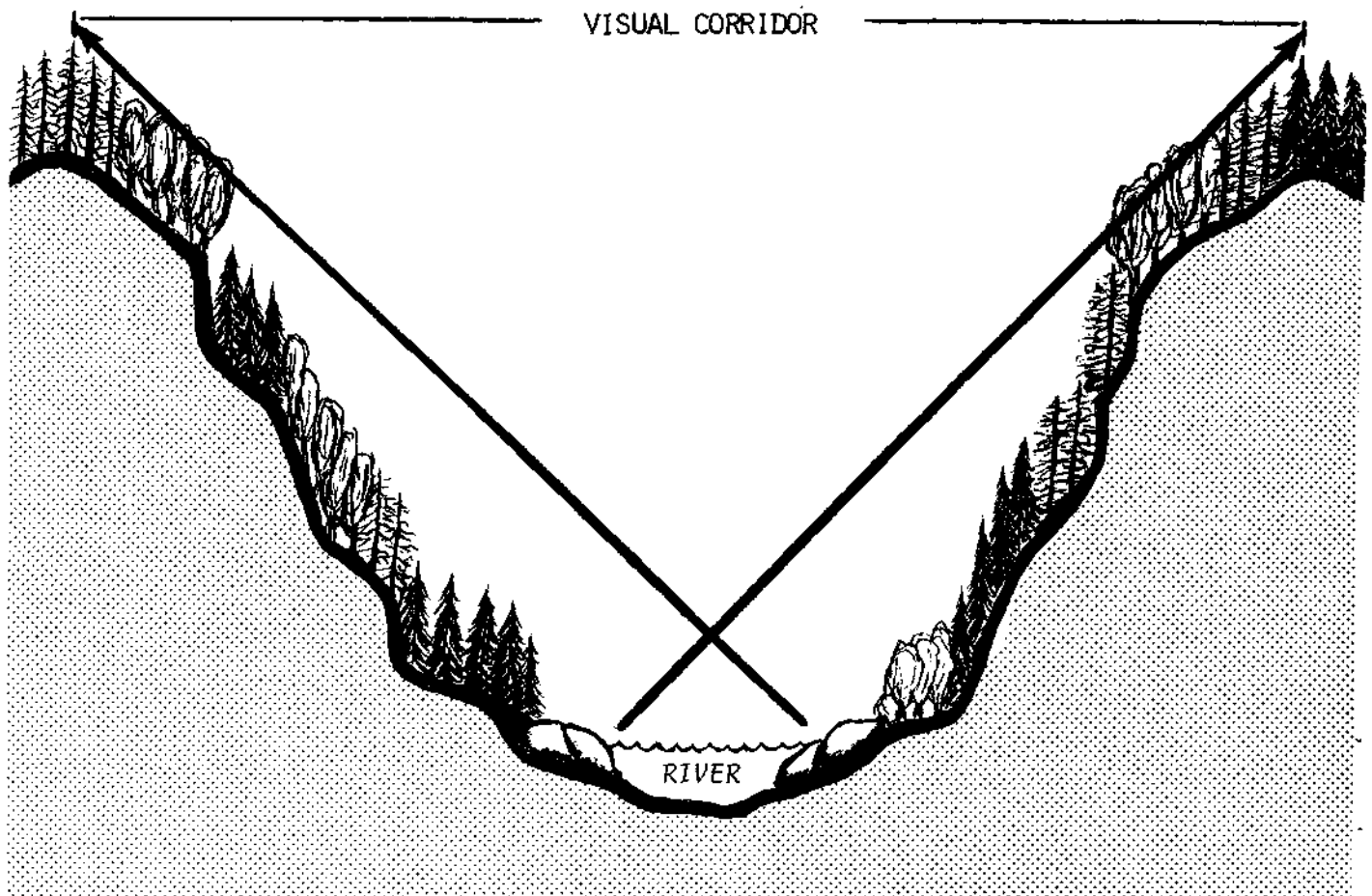
Boundaries

Two segments of the Youghiogheny River are recommended for national river status:

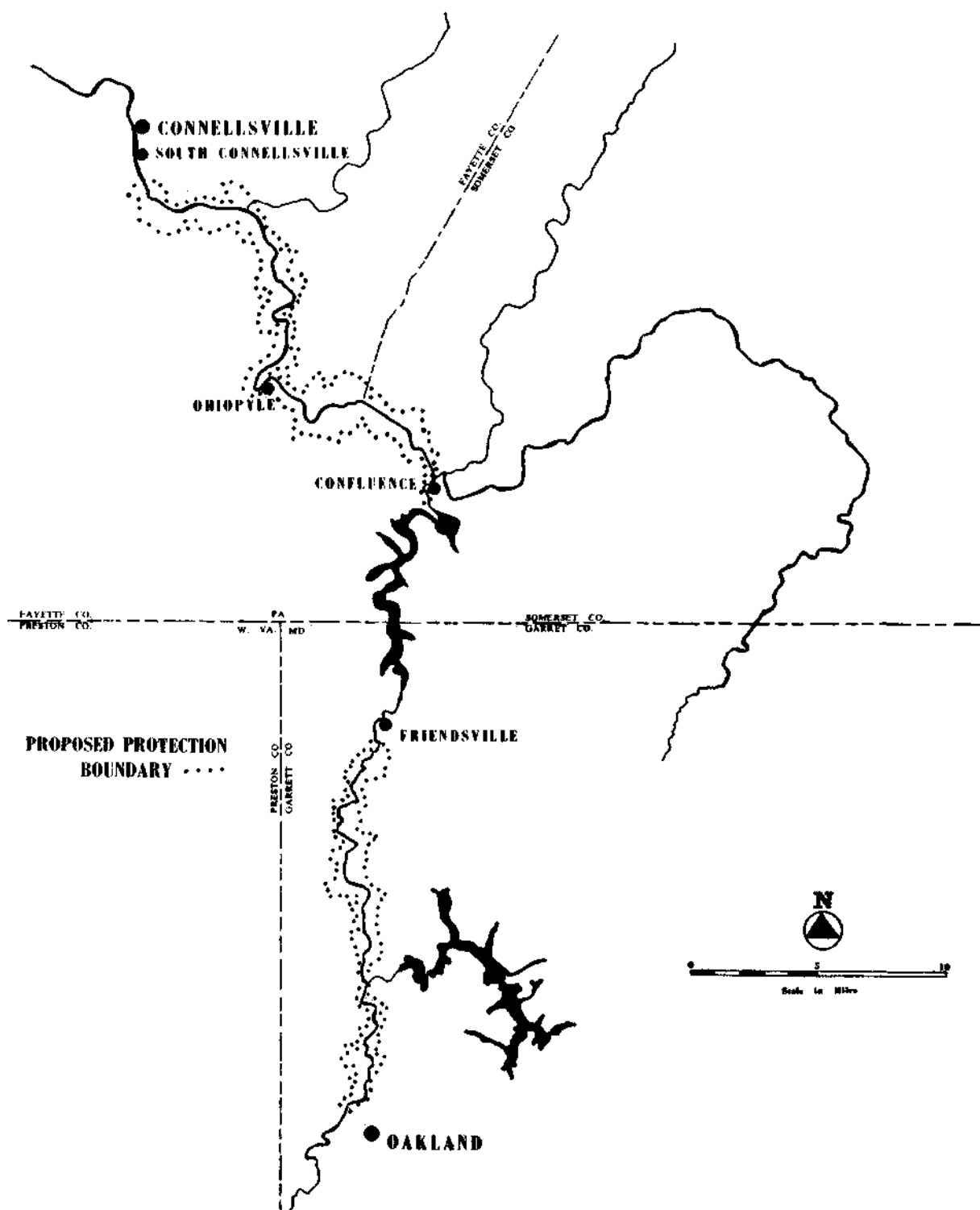
Oakland to Friendsville, Md. 22 miles

Youghiogheny Dam to South Connellsville 27 miles

In order to preserve the river's natural values, especially its scenic quality, a lateral boundary comprising the visual corridor (line-of-sight from the river) should be established. This involves 11,400 acres on the Maryland side and 10,300 acres along the Pennsylvania segment.



CORRIDOR DIAGRAM



River Corridor Management

The 27-mile Pennsylvania segment between Confluence and South Connellsville qualified for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and could be added to the system as a state-administered National Scenic River upon application by the Governor of Pennsylvania to the Secretary of the Interior. Responsibility for land and water management would generally reside with the Commonwealth, which now owns about two-thirds of the visual corridor.

The "Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Inventory" of 1975 identified this Youghiogheny River segment and a number of its tributaries, including Meadow, Cucumber and Jonathan Runs and a segment of Indian Creek, as candidates for study and possible inclusion in the State Scenic Rivers System. Designation and management as a State Scenic River would require the formal support of the Governor and Legislative action by the General Assembly. Through the study process successfully established by the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) for other State Scenic River candidates, the public is afforded ample opportunity to assist in the development of designation, management and administration proposal. It is the policy of DER to cooperate with local residents, river users, local governments and agencies and appropriate State agencies to develop acceptable public goals and programs for the use and protection of this significant natural and recreational river resource.

Ohiopyle State Park serves numerous and diverse recreational needs. River-boating is one of the Park's primary recreational attractions and activities. Both private and commercial boating on the river are and will continue to be managed in a manner consistent with the natural capability of the river to support such use, and in keeping with the capacity of related park facilities. Increased fishing activity on this river segment, for example, requires that recreational management plans assure nonconflicting opportunities for both fishing and boating as well as other recreational uses in this area.

In addition to DER, both the Pennsylvania Fish Commission and the Pennsylvania Game Commission (which are independent agencies) would also play an active role in protecting the river's values. The Fish Commission has established a substantial trout stocking program for the Youghiogheny and that program's continuation and expansion would contribute to the river's attractiveness. The Fish Commission, which administers Pennsylvania's boating safety program, could be involved in protecting the Youghiogheny. Similarly, the Game Commission manages lands within the proposed corridor boundary for wildlife purposes. Their wildlife management efforts are an important element in protecting the river's character.

DER does not have any plans for the acquisition of large portions of land in the Youghiogheny River Valley. The Secretary of Environmental Resources has previously stated that if additional lands become available on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis, DER would consider acquiring the lands, provided such lands are necessary for the operation of the Ohiopyle State Park and any future bicycle and hiking trails from Confluence to South Connellsville. Therefore, in order to protect the remaining 3,500 acres in the visual corridor not under public ownership, local communities with their own zoning measures may be sought.

With the assistance of local governments and federal agencies, DER should continue and, wherever possible, accelerate its water pollution abatement efforts with attention devoted to minimizing acid mine drainage, especially from the Casselman River.

While the entire Youghiogheny River in Maryland is a component of the Maryland Rivers System, the 20-mile segment between Millers Run and Friendsville, is protected as a "wild river with regulations on use and development. This segment plus the two miles to Oakland could be administered as a National Wild River by the State of Maryland, upon application by the Governor to the Secretary of the Interior.

Under this proposal, Maryland's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) would assume primary responsibility for land and water management. Approximately 90% of the corridor's 11,400 acres would remain in private ownership, subject to land use regulations promulgated by DNR. Light density development would be permitted on lots ranging in size from 2 to 10 acres, with most of the corridor being zoned into 10 acre minimum lots. Commercial timber harvesting would be permitted, subject to review and approval of cutting plans by DNR. This review process would assure that sound forestry management practices are adhered to so that soil erosion and adverse scenic impacts are kept to a minimum.

In submitting its application for national river status, the state would include a management plan that guarantees public access to the river for recreational purposes. Currently, the Swallow Falls site is the only public recreation area along the river. In order to accommodate visitors' desires to enjoy the Youghiogheny's natural amenities while relieving local property owners of the burden imposed on them by continual trespass, additional publicly-owned access areas are needed. Adequate recreation services can be provided by developing several new sites with rustic facilities and by locating a foot trail parallel to the river. This would require acquisition by the state of about 800 acres.

In addition to enforcing comprehensive land use regulations within the river corridor, a public agency could appropriately consider other land protection techniques. Thus, protection of the Youghiogheny could also involve cash purchase of full title and development rights, exchange of excess state landholdings in Garrett County if any, for land adjacent to the river

Maryland's DNR, with the assistance of local governments and federal agencies, should continue and, wherever possible, accelerate water pollution abatement efforts. Attention should be devoted to eliminating untreated domestic sewage, especially from the Oakland area.



EXCELLENT WHITEWATER RAFTING

Recreation Access

The Youghiogheny's substantial natural values, especially its scenic character and whitewater, make it a prime recreation resource. The river and its adjacent lands can be enjoyed by the general public if a sufficient number of access points are provided. Through careful site selection and design, rustic facilities, trail and boat launching, and take-out points can be developed which:

- * accommodate visitors' desires to enjoy the river's natural amenities.
- * maintain a high quality recreation experience by regulating the level of recreation use.
- * minimize the burden of trespassing on local property owners.

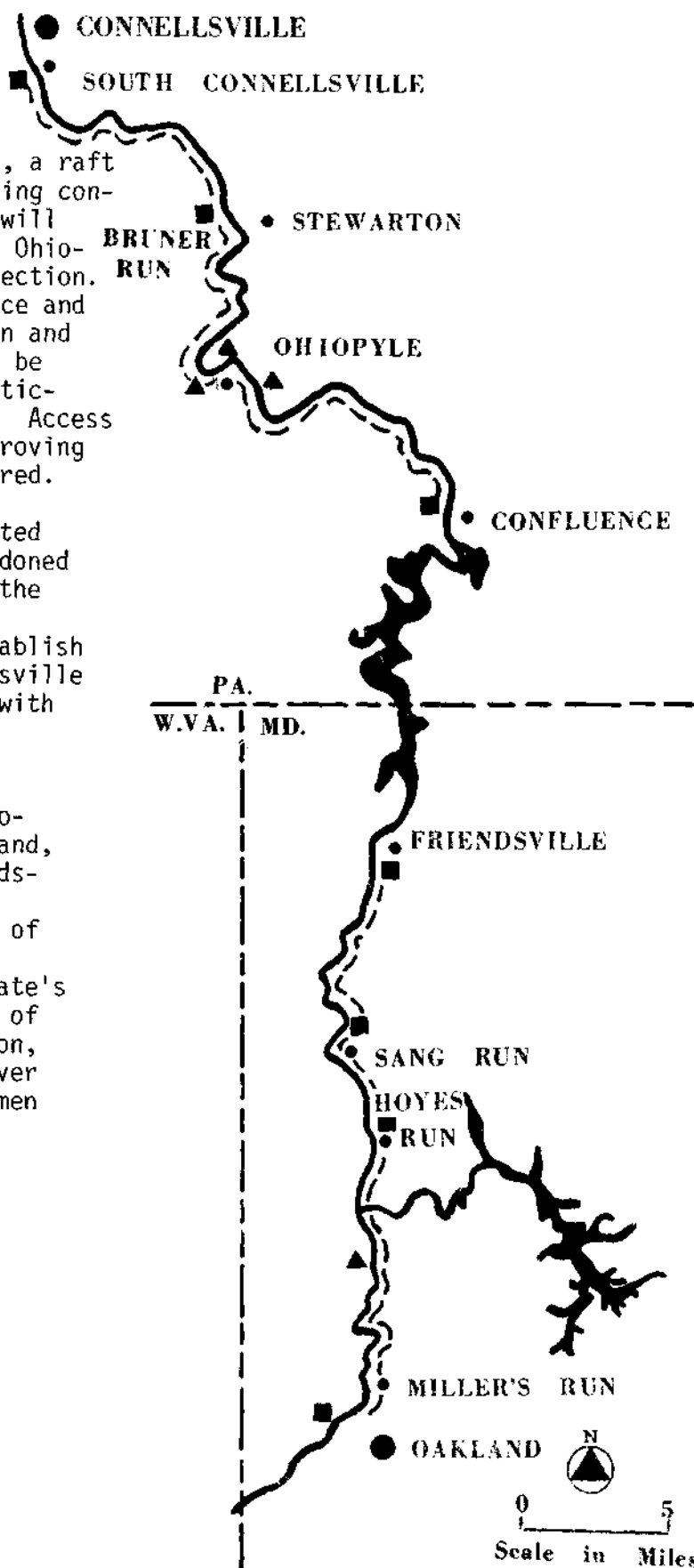
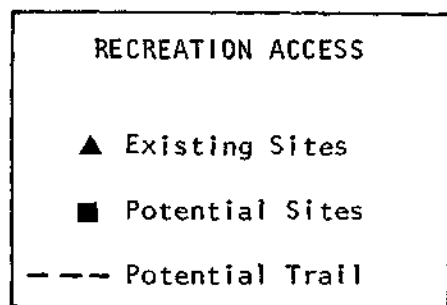
Table 9 SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

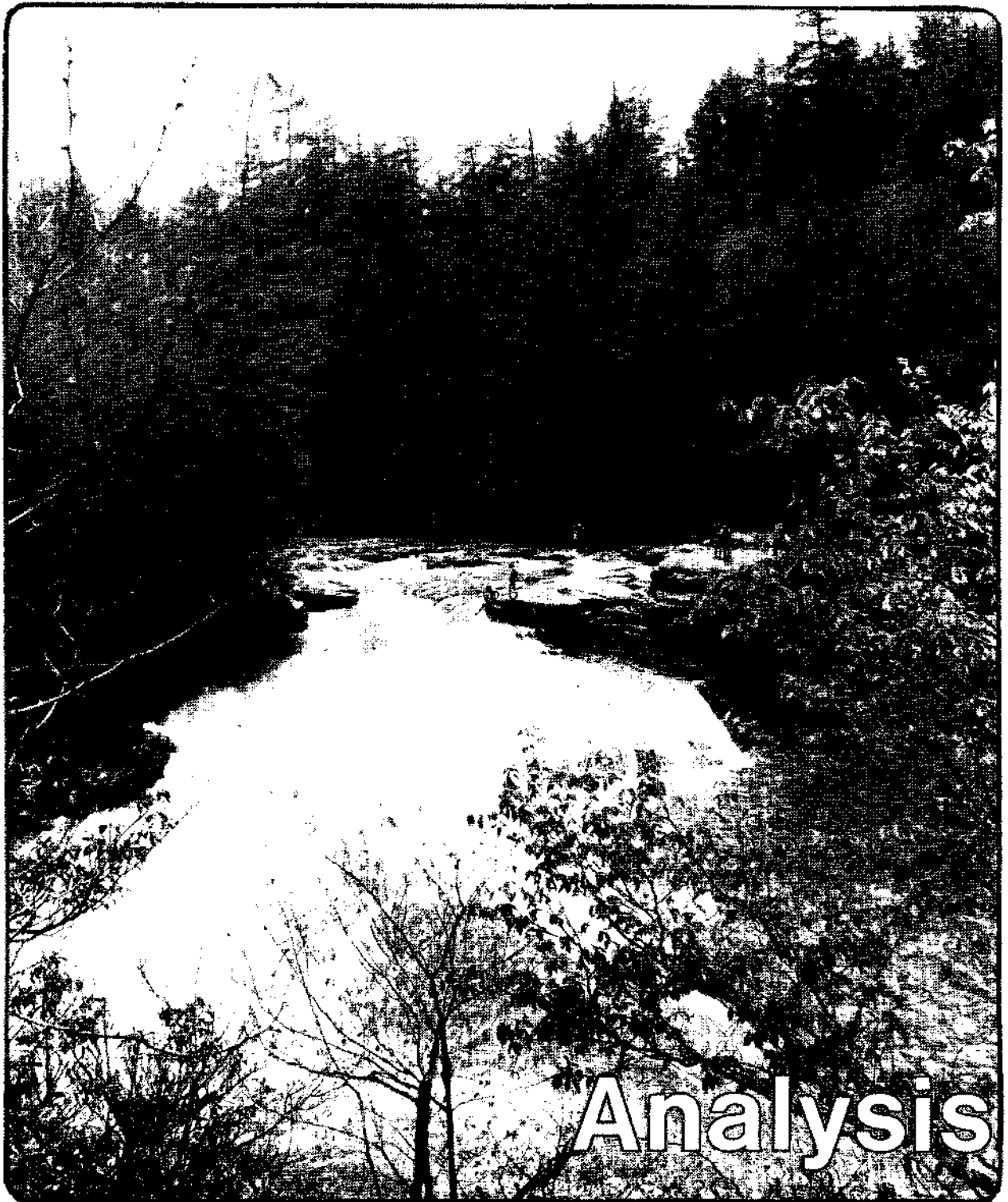
	Pennsylvania	Maryland
Designation	Scenic	Wild
River Length (miles)	27	22
Corridor Protection (acres)		
Full Title Acquisition	*	800
Existing Public Lands	6,800	200
Zoning Regulations	3,500	10,400
	<u>10,300</u>	<u>11,400</u>
Cost Estimates ('78 \$)		
Land Acquisition	--	\$ 950,000
Recreation Development	\$965,000	625,000
Total Capital Expense	\$965,000	\$1,560,000
Annual Operation & Maintenance	\$170,000	\$ 76,000
Management Responsibility	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	State of Maryland

- * It is the current policy of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to purchase available land for the expansion of Ohiopyle State Park entirely on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis. Therefore, the amount of land that will be available and the resultant cost is unpredictable.

Along the Pennsylvania segment, a raft and kayak take-out point is being constructed at Bruner Run. This will serve recreationists using the Ohio-pyle to Stewarton whitewater section. The stretches between Confluence and Ohiopyle and between Bruner Run and South Connellsville could also be more utilized for boating, particularly for open-decked canoes. Access in these stretches for the improving fishery should also be considered. In the near future, hiking and bicycling facilities are expected to be available along the abandoned right-of-way being donated by the Western Maryland Railway. The Commonwealth will probably establish trail heads near South Connellsville and Confluence in conjunction with the trail's opening.

Access to the Youghiogheny's Maryland segment would be appropriate in the vicinity of Oakland, Hoyes Run, Sang Run, and Friendsville. Whether all of these locations, or some combination of them, should be opened to the public will depend upon the state's plan for recreation management of the river corridor. In addition, a foot path paralleling the river would permit hikers and fishermen to explore the river's scenic character.





Analysis of Alternatives

ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES

CONTINUATION OF EXISTING TRENDS: PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT

- Environmental and Land Use Impacts
- Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends
- Economic and Regional Development Impacts
- Social Impacts

CONTINUATION OF EXISTING TRENDS: MARYLAND SEGMENT

- Environmental and Land Use Impacts
- Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends
- Economic and Regional Development Impacts
- Social Impacts

PENNSYLVANIA SCENIC RIVER

- Environmental and Land Use Impacts
- Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends
- Economic and Regional Development Impacts
- Social Impacts

MARYLAND WILD RIVER: PLAN A

- Environmental and Land Use Impacts
- Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends
- Economic and Regional Development Impacts
- Social Impacts

MARYLAND WILD RIVER: PLAN B

- Environmental and Land Use Impacts
- Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends
- Economic and Regional Development Impacts
- Social Impacts

Guided by the U.S. Water Resources Council's "Principles and Standards for planning Water and Related Land Resources", five alternative plans for the Youghiogheny area have been developed and analyzed. The purpose of the information displayed and evaluated in this section is to provide a basis for decisions regarding the future of the Youghiogheny River area. The three National Wild and Scenic River options (with three management options) emphasize environmental quality. These alternatives should not all be construed as recommendations of this report. The recommended alternatives are identified in the text and the accompanying tables. The remaining alternatives are hypotheticals included to provide contrast to the recommendations and to provide basic information on the costs and benefits of adopting one approach over another. The aim of these plans is to show a full range of possibilities to assist in making decisions about the recommended plan.

Each alternative is compared to an "Existing Trend" alternative which reflects a continuation of existing environmental and economic trends. Each is discussed within the basic framework of the four accounts system in accord with the Principles and Standards. The four accounts represented are: (1) Environmental Quality, (2) National Economic Development, (3) Regional Economic Development, and (4) Social Well-Being. For discussion purposes, the economic and regional development accounts have been considered separately to aid decision makers in reviewing the specific conservation and recreation impacts of each alternative.

These impacts are incorporated into the various "display accounts" in a series of tables. Each display account compares the alternative under discussion to both the "No Action" alternative and to the proposal.

Information was provided by Federal, State and local agencies, organizations and individuals, as well as through public meetings and field inspections. Examination of current laws, other plans, regulations and policies regarding resource use supplemented these sources. A case study approach was taken in those instances where precise data were unavailable.

The "Existing Trends" situation illustrates current programs and policies that are likely to continue if no new action is taken as a result of this study. This alternative involves state and local government programs as well as private sector activity.

Along the Pennsylvania study segment, the Commonwealth is expected to continue its development of Ohiopyle State Park. In contrast, the Maryland section of the Youghiogheny River will remain largely in private ownership, with regulation of use and development from Millers Run to Friendsville.

Section 7 of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits the Federal Power Commission from licensing any new projects or construction which are water resources projects (defined as changing the free-flowing characteristics of a river) on, or directly affecting, any rivers that are components of the National System. Power generating facilities would normally be considered water resource projects, whereas utility crossings would not normally be considered as such. The Act does not provide for any air quality restrictions.

CONTINUATION OF EXISTING TRENDS: PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT

Environmental and Land Use Impacts

Land use and ownership patterns along the Pennsylvania segment of the Youghiogheny have been changing from private open space to public recreation lands. However, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources does not have any plans for the acquisition of large portions of land in the Youghiogheny River Valley. The Secretary of Environmental Resources has stated that if additional lands become available on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis, the Department would consider acquiring the lands provided such lands are necessary for the Ohiopyle State Park and any future bicycle and hiking trails from Confluence to South Connellsville. Additionally, the Western Maryland Railway has donated its abandoned roadbed paralleling the western bank of the Youghiogheny to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. The Conservancy plans to transfer ownership to Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Resources, which will then convert the right-of-way to a hiking and bicycling trail. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad's trackage paralleling the river on the east will remain in operation.

Pennsylvania's park and gameland efforts will assure the long-term environmental integrity of the majority of the Youghiogheny segment from Youghiogheny Reservoir downstream to South Connellsville. In its recent scenic rivers inventory, the Commonwealth's Department of Environmental Resources listed the study segment as a "first priority A" stream, that is, a river having statewide significance and a "most immediate need for protection and urgent need for additional study".

Lands within Ohiopyle State Park will be maintained in their natural condition, with recreation use concentrated on-river, along the proposed trail, and at several selected access points. Maintenance of a high quality trout fishery within the Youghiogheny is a prime concern of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission, which maintains a biennial stock program of 160,000 fingerling trout. If water quality is stabilized or improved, the study segment will be established as the best trout area in southwestern Pennsylvania. Wildlife productivity will be maintained through the management efforts of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, which controls 2,000 acres of state gamelands within the visual corridor.

Coal extraction or other mining activity is not likely to occur within the visual corridor, since such activity is not considered compatible with the Commonwealth's recreation plans.

Under "Existing Trends" conditions, it is unlikely that hydroelectric power development will occur, even though the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will conduct a feasibility study for the development of hydropower at Youghio-

gheny Dam. In 1966, the Federal Power Commission listed four potential hydropower sites on the Youghiogheny in Pennsylvania. However, the Commission has noted that no plans currently exist to develop these sites and that no utility companies have expressed any interest in them. The Ohio River Basin Commission's 1975 study of the Monongahela River Basin excluded all four sites from its recommended plan for power.

Aside from coal, no other energy resources are known to exist along the Youghiogheny, thus no other energy development is contemplated there.

Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends

If current trends continue, recreation will remain the primary use of the Youghiogheny River. With the Commonwealth's policy to acquire lands for the expansion of Ohiopyle State Park entirely on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis, land acquisition costs cannot be estimated. Recreation development will require \$950,000 in capital expenditures while annual operation and maintenance costs are estimated at \$170,000.

Recreation use between 1978 and 1980 will increase on the Pennsylvania segment due primarily to the opening of a hiking and bicycling trail on the former Western Maryland Railway right-of-way. By 1980, annual recreation days* will exceed 200,000, of which 62% will be attributable to rafting, kayaking, and canoeing. A 20% gain in total recreation use is projected between 1980 and 1990, due primarily to additional trail use. Whitewater use will level off at about 125,000 recreation days, as the physical capacity of the Ohiopyle to Bruner Run "run" is attained.

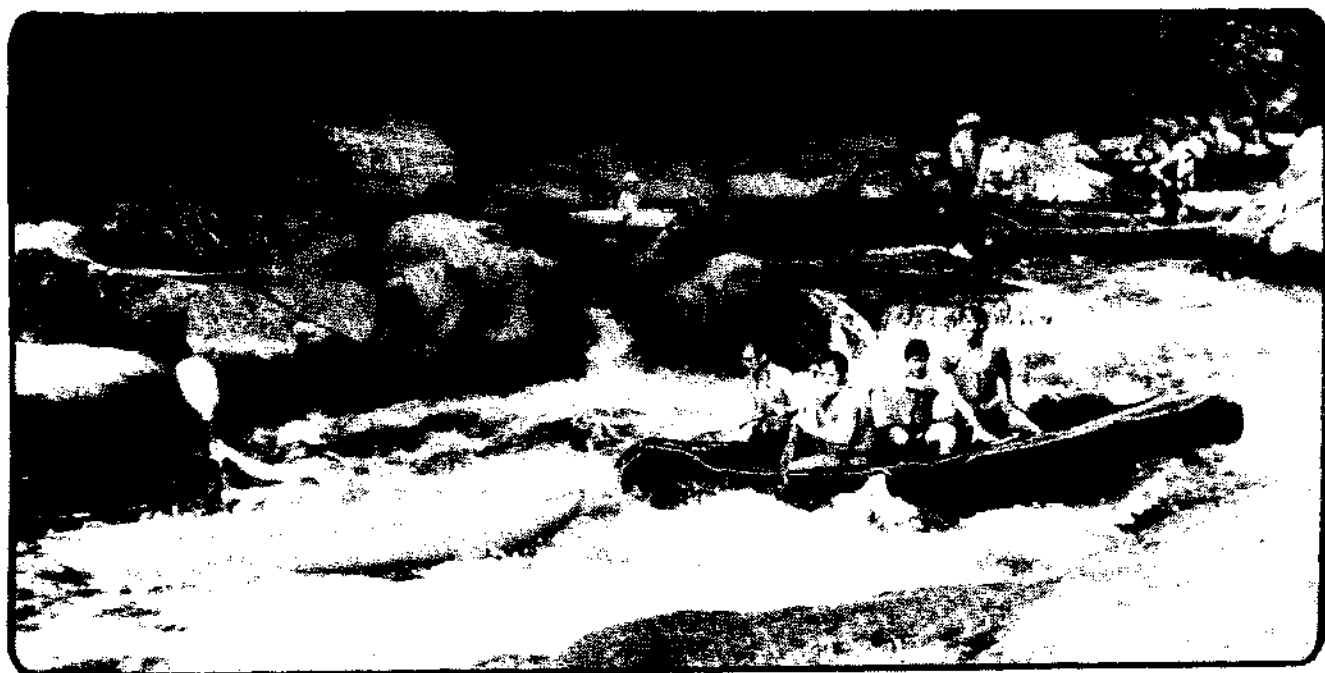
Economic and Regional Development Impacts

Expenditures by recreationists comprise the major portion of river-generated economic activity. Along the Pennsylvania side, such expenditure should approach \$5,300,000 annually by 1980 and reach almost \$6,000,000 per year by 1990. Due to the attractiveness of Ohiopyle State Park and the widespread interest in the Youghiogheny's whitewater recreation opportunities, the majority of river users are persons who do not live in either Fayette or Somerset County. Thus, an estimated 85% of total expenditures is attributable to spending by non-residents.

* A recreation day consists of one person engaged in recreation activity for one day or a part of one day. Thus a person who rafts for four hours engages in one recreation day of activity.

Social Impacts

Whitewater use in the Ohiopyle to Indian Creek segment has reached congestion levels, with over 100,000 persons rafting and kayaking there in 1977. During the recreation season, an average of 700 persons float this seven mile stretch each weekday while 1,400 travel it on a weekend day. This has produced a "crowding" effect which diminished the scenic and recreational experience on-river. Pennsylvania is now making an effort to control use levels on the whitewater reach in Ohiopyle State Park. The new system considering daily maximum capacity, maximum per hour, outfitter agreements and launching times, for all levels is now being implemented. Under close management, the recreation use will grow through a more even distribution of river use over week days and more evenly during the weekend morning and afternoon hours.



RAFTS AND KAYAKS ARE USED IN THE WHITEWATER STRETCHES

CONTINUATION OF EXISTING TRENDS: MARYLAND SEGMENT

Environmental and Land Use Impacts

If existing trends continue, the regulation of use and development by Maryland's Department of Natural Resources will be the primary land use determinant along the Youghiogheny's Maryland segment. The regulations apply to the 20-mile visual corridor from Millers Run to Friendsville, a land area of 10,500 acres. Ninety-eight percent of this acreage is now privately owned. Three zones have been established which permit development densities ranging from one structure per two acres to one structure per 10 acres. Zone 1 includes those areas within the scenic corridor of maximum remoteness and ruggedness which are generally inaccessible by road or trail, and where shoreline and adjoining lands of the wild river are essentially primitive in character; Zone 2 includes those areas within the scenic corridor which are accessible in places by roads and trails, but where shorelines and adjoining lands are less primitive than Zone 1, but are largely undeveloped; and Zone 3 includes those areas within the scenic corridor that are readily accessible by road and where the shorelines and adjoining lands have limited development. No land use regulation, either at the state or local level, is contemplated for the two-mile river segment from the Youghiogheny's confluence with the Little Youghiogheny River (at Oakland) to Millers Run.

With recent improvements in water quality, the Youghiogheny's Maryland section has become a prime location for second home development. It is expected that this development potential will be realized within the next decade. As a result, the river's primitive character will disappear and be replaced by a sparsely populated vacation home setting. Assuming that only limited development would occur on land having a 20% or greater slope, regulations would permit a maximum of 800 dwellings within the zoned river corridor. At a density of one building per two acres, the unzoned visual corridor upstream of Millers Run could support about 400 dwellings. Thus, as many as 1,200 second homes could be accommodated along the Youghiogheny under the "No Plan" situation. Maximum development will probably not occur rapidly, however. Thus, only 300 structures are projected to be "in place" by the year 1990. The soil conditions would preclude use of septic tanks in connection with dense development.

Currently no plans exist for additional public acquisition along the Maryland segment. Thus, total state holdings are expected to remain stable at about 200 acres, most of which is located at Swallow Falls.

The Maryland segment is now considered a unique trout fishery due to its inaccessibility and flow characteristics. The state now stocks about 2,000 adult rainbow trout and 20,000 to 30,000 fingerling trout annually. Some natural reproduction is suspected, but no data exists on how significant this is. The stocking program is likely to continue so long as water

quality remains good. The long-term viability of trout fishery is probably dependent upon the extent of development. If development adversely affects water quality, or if it results in a severe limitation on public access, continued stocking by the state may become unjustifiable.

Coal extraction or other mining activity is not likely to occur within the visual corridor, since Maryland's scenic rivers statute prohibits strip mining or any other form of mineral extraction which involves surface disturbance within the zoned area. No hydropower development is contemplated along the river. While the Federal Power Commission has listed Sang Run as a potential site, no interest has been expressed in developing it, and the Ohio River Basin Commission has excluded Sang Run from its recommended plan for power in the Monongahela River Basin. Operations at the Hoyes Run peaking station, which is supplied with water from Deep Creek Lake, are expected to continue at present levels.

Aside from coal, no other energy resources are known to exist along the Youghiogheny, thus no other energy development is contemplated there.

Timber harvesting is expected to remain a relatively minor activity that will be concentrated between Oakland and Sang Run. The age of the stands have made timber cutting uneconomical there for the past 17 years. Where small cuts occur between Millers Run and Sang Run, they would be regulated under state zoning to minimize adverse environmental and scenic impacts.

Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends

Recreation use of the Maryland segment is unlikely to grow appreciably under "Existing Trends". Thus, only a 2% increase is projected between 1978 and 1980, with a further gain of 11% in the 1980-1990 period. Of the 144,000 recreation days occurring along the Maryland segment now, over 90% results from sightseeing and related activity on state land at Swallow Falls. This pattern is not expected to change significantly.

The State of Maryland is not expected to add to its land holdings or intensify its recreation management role along the river. Thus, no recreation development costs are anticipated.

Economic and Regional Development Impacts

Relatively minor economic impacts are associated with a continuation of existing trends. Recreationists will spend approximately \$722,000 by 1980 and \$810,000 by 1990. Seventy-five percent of this will be expended within Garrett County by non-residents.

Social Impacts

The likely development of second homes along the river will adversely affect the scenic values of the Maryland corridor. Persons travelling to the river for recreation will find that the primitive character of the Youghiogheny will have disappeared, to be replaced with light density development. Thus, the sense of solitude which the river has provided to persons from the nearby urban centers will be diminished and perhaps lost. Assuming that significant subdivision and construction activity will occur by 1990, it is probable that public access to the Maryland segment will be more restricted than at present. As individuals make substantial investments in the corridor, it is likely that they will become more reluctant to permit casual access over their property.



OCCASIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALONG THE MARYLAND SEGMENT AT SANG RUN

PENNSYLVANIA SCENIC RIVER

Under this option, which is the proposal for the Pennsylvania segment, 27 miles of the Youghiogheny River between Confluence and South Connellsville would be protected as a scenic river. It would be managed within the state system and could be added to the National system. The 10,300 land acres visible from the river would be included in the designated corridor.

Environmental and Land Use Impacts

This option conforms with the Commonwealth's current land and water use plans for the Youghiogheny. With most of the area incorporated into Ohiopyle State Park, public land and water management responsibilities would be the responsibility of the Department of Environmental Resources, the Fish Commission, and the Game Commission. The remaining 3,500 acres in private ownership would be the responsibility of the local governments, who would be provided technical assistance from the Commonwealth.

A high quality environment along the river would be maintained under this alternative. Land within the designated corridor would remain in a natural condition and be used primarily for recreation. Human use would be concentrated on-river, along the trail established over the abandoned railroad right-of-way, and at selected access points. About 2,000 acres would be managed for wildlife productivity by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. While the Fish Commission would continue its trout stock activity, further upgrading of the water quality would result in the establishment of a stable, moderate-size natural fishery composed of species such as brown trout.

As in the Existing Trends situation, no resource extraction activity (including coal mining and timber harvesting) and no hydropower development would occur if this option were selected.

Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends

The Commonwealth presently considers land purchases necessary to the completion of its Ohiopyle State Park holdings only on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis. Development of recreation facilities requires \$950,000, while annual operation and maintenance costs are estimated at \$170,000.

Recreation use of the Youghiogheny will increase 82% between 1977 and 1980, due mostly to the opening of a hiking and bicycling trail of the former Western Maryland Railway right-of-way. In order to enhance the whitewater experience, this option envisions limitations on rafting and kayaking. Acceptable levels of whitewater use would eventually be

determined by the Commonwealth and could range from 50,000 to 100,000 recreation days of whitewater use by 1980. The Commonwealth has indicated, however, that a reduction to the lower limits is unlikely. Instead, there would be a redistribution of use.

Economic and Regional Development Impacts

Expenditures by persons travelling to the Youghiogheny for recreation should reach \$3,300,000 by 1980 and \$4,000,000 by 1990. These amounts are 38% less than would result by 1980 under "Existing Trends" and 33% less than such 1990 expenditures due to the losses associated with restrictions on whitewater use. Study region spending by non-residents will account for 75% of these totals.

Social Impacts

The most significant impact of this option over the situation where no national designation would occur results from whitewater use restrictions. A recreation management plan for national designation should incorporate procedures for eliminating or reducing river congestion in the Ohiopyle to Bruner Run section. If the river is managed well, it could accommodate more use. More control may be placed on weekend use by a variety of measures. If use becomes too high, future measures to reduce its use should be taken. Safety and environmental degradation should be used as deterrents. As a result, persons who were on-river would have a keener sense of the natural environment enveloping them, rather than being constantly aware of a large number of other recreationists. Enhancement of the on-river recreation experience through user restrictions will also benefit hikers and fishermen. These groups will be more likely to enjoy the river when it is less crowded with rafts. Nevertheless, most whitewater users are more concerned with the river action than with other river users and the natural environment.

While the quality of recreation will improve with regulation of recreation use, some negative impacts will also result. Limitation on users inevitably means that some persons will not be able to experience the Youghiogheny's whitewater thrills. Also, this option would result in some recreationists shifting their visit to the river from the prime summer months to late spring or early fall, and shifting to other areas.

MARYLAND WILD RIVER: PLAN A

As the proposal for the Maryland segment, this alternative plan proposes that the 22-mile segment of the Youghiogheny River from Oakland to Friendsville, Maryland could be protected through state zoning. Under this option, over 10,000 acres would be placed in low density development zones, while the state's total corridor holdings would increase by 800 acres. The river could be designated a WILD component of the national system and would be administered by the state.

Environmental and Land Use Impacts

Given recent improvements in water quality and the impressive natural setting of the Youghiogheny's Maryland section, the land adjacent to the river has considerable second home development potential. State zoning under the administration of Maryland's Department of Natural Resources would guide that development to minimize its intrusiveness. This option would modify the state's current zoning of the river to include a 900 acre area between Oakland and Millers Run. Assuming that section was placed into the most restrictive category, 80% of the corridor would be subjected to a 10 acre minimum lot size, 8% would be in the five acre minimum zone, and 3% would be in the two acre minimum zone. The remaining 9% would be public lands. This pattern would permit a maximum of 900 dwellings within the river corridor, 300 less than under existing conditions.

State land holdings would increase by as much as 800 acres to provide access sites for recreation and a hiking trail. These purchases would guarantee public access to the river.

This option envisions continued program of acid mine drainage abatement and adequate sewage treatment. Such action would assure the long term maintenance of good water quality, thus encouraging the continuation of trout stocking by the state. Also, further water quality improvements could result in the establishment of natural reproduction of trout.

Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends

Approximately \$950,000 would be required to purchase recreation sites and trail land within the river corridor. An additional \$625,000 would be needed to properly develop the sites, while \$76,000 would be expended annually to manage recreation activity along the river.

Recreation use of the Maryland segment is expected to increase gradually over the next decade. Currently about 90% of total use occurs at Swallow Falls, where most persons engage in sightseeing, picnicking, and nature walks. Hiking will become a more popular activity as a trail is developed, although visits to Swallow Falls will continue as the most popular river activity. By 1980, total recreation days will exceed 155,000, and 8% increase over 1976 levels. Over 204,000 recreation days will occur annually by 1990. Unlike the Pennsylvania segment, whitewater use of the Maryland river stretch will remain a minor activity due to the high degree of skill needed to safely navigate it.

Economic and Regional Development Impacts

Use of the river corridor is slight, and thus, it is not a major factor in Garrett County's economic structure. Recreationists' expenditures by 1980 should reach \$740,000, and, by 1990, could exceed \$900,000 annually. Most of this amount is attributable to sightseers and fishermen. About 75% is money "new" to the local area, in the sense that it will be expended in Garrett County by non-residents.

The county would forego \$11,800 annually in real estate taxes due to the acquisition program.

Social Impacts

In the Millers Run to Friendsville section, this option's social impacts are similar to those under "Existing Trends". Thus, the projected second home development will adversely affect the corridor's substantial scenic values. The river's primitive character will disappear, to be replaced by a pleasant, sparsely settled environment. As a result, the sense of solitude which the river now provides to persons from nearby urban centers will be diminished, if not lost. A similar situation will occur in the Oakland to Millers Run section. However, the implementation of zoning regulations will substantially moderate development impacts, so that the scenic value will not be diminished nearly as much as might occur if no restrictions were imposed.

MARYLAND WILD RIVER: PLAN B

This alternative plan is provided to show the possibilities of using a variety of land acquisition techniques to assure protection of the Youghiogheny River in Maryland. The river from Oakland to Friendsville could be designated as a Wild River. Protection of the river's natural values could occur either through full title acquisition of the entire visual corridor or a combination of land protection techniques, including cash purchase of full title and development rights by the State, exchange of excess state land holdings in Garrett County for land adjacent to the river, and private donations of property interests. This would involve 11,400 acres within the visual corridor. Under this approach, the river would be state-administered and added to the national system upon application to the Secretary of the Interior by the Governor of Maryland.

Environmental and Land Use Impacts

To accomplish the protection objective of this plan, the state could buy 3,000 land acres outright and purchase development rights on 4,000 acres. In addition, excess state forest land in Garrett County could be exchanged for 3,000 acres adjacent to the Youghiogheny River. Parcels suitable for such an exchange have been identified by the Garrett County Planning Commission, and additional tracts could be selected following an inventory of state forest holdings in the county. Donations of scenic easements and other property interests by land owners would supplement the land transfer program. Such easements would be especially useful on the steep slopes, where the primary concern is protection of scenic values rather than direct public access.

The land ownership pattern along the river would shift from private control to public control under this option. Presently, 98% of the visual corridor is held by private individuals. Over the long-term, this change in ownership will have a dramatic effect on land use. Currently, land along the river has high second home development potential, and under "Existing Trends" it is expected that 300 homes will be built there by 1990. The national wild river option, however, would result in the corridor's lands remaining largely in a primitive condition. Except for several recreation access sites and a hiking trail, development would be precluded within the designated boundary.

Water quality would be enhanced over the long-term. Acceleration of pollution abatement measures could occur and problems of siltation and waste disposal would be minimized by precluding residential or commercial development.

Assurance of good water quality would offer fishery benefits by guaranteeing the viability of the state's trout stocking of 20,000 to 30,000 or more fingerlings annually. Also, the prospects for development of some natural reproduction would be increased since spawning areas would not be subjected to "slugs" of acid mine drainage, siltation, or domestic sewage.

Wildlife resources would be maintained within the river corridor as a result of preserving the area's primitive character. The eastern fox, squirrel, bog turtle, and bobcat are threatened or uncommon species thought to inhabit the river area. Although exact habitat locations have not been identified for them, the likelihood of their continued presence along the river is increased by assuring that human intrusiveness will be minimized.

As with "Existing Trends" situation, this option will preclude mineral extraction within the designated boundary. Since no hydro-electric power development is contemplated anyway, WILD designation will not have adverse energy consequences.

Conservation/Recreation Costs and Trends

Under this option, protection of the Youghiogheny would occur either through a variety of land protection mechanisms or by purchase of the entire visual corridor. Direct cash outlays for acquisition of full title and development rights is estimated at \$6,000,000, while land acquisition costs for the entire visual corridor are estimated at \$12,200,000. Recreation development costs would total \$625,000, while annual operation and maintenance expenditures are projected to be \$76,000.

By precluding second home development, this option prevents the county from collecting revenues associated with higher assessments on developed parcels. Given Garrett County's general desirability as a second home area, however, it is likely that many potential second home owners will locate at other sites within the county. Since this alternative does not discourage such development county-wide, the tax loss due to building prohibitions along the river is probably negligible.

Recreation use of the Youghiogheny under this alternative is expected to be comparable to that of Wild Plan A option. Thus, over 155,000 recreation days will occur by 1990. The 1980 use figures represent an 8% increase over 1976 activity levels and a 5% higher level than is projected under "Existing Trends".

Economic and Regional Development Impacts

Economic impacts of this option will not be substantial. By 1980, persons using the river for recreation will be spending \$740,000 annually. This amount will increase to \$900,000 by 1990. Since recreation activity levels will be only slightly higher than under "Existing Trends", however, only \$28,000 by 1980 and \$156,000 by 1990 can be considered additions resulting from implementation of this plan. Approximately 75% of these amounts will be spent within Garrett County by non-residents.

Total real estate taxes foregone under this option are estimated to range from \$78,600 to \$163,200 annually, depending upon the amount of public acquisitions by means of cash purchase. On parcels obtained through the land transfer mechanism, no real estate taxes will be foregone. Where currently tax exempt state forest land is exchanged for taxed river corridor acreage, the forest land will enter onto the tax rolls at the same time as river corridor land becomes tax exempt. For example, if 1,000 acres of state forest land were given to a private individual in exchange for 1,000 acres adjacent to the river, the total tax exempt land throughout the county would remain constant and property tax revenue would be unaffected.

Social Impacts

The primary social benefit of this alternative results from its preservation of the Youghiogheny's outstanding scenic values. By maintaining the river corridor in a primitive condition, both local persons and non-resident visitors are guaranteed access to an extensive area unmodified by human activity. The sense of solitude experienced by river users is heightened by the contrast it provides to the nearby urban centers, which include the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area.

By assuring the good water quality necessary to continuation of a trout stock program, this plan provides considerable benefits to fishermen. The Youghiogheny is unique among Maryland rivers in that it provides considerable challenge to the expert fishermen. Since this option would make it possible to implement a long-term trout stock program, both local anglers and enthusiasts from outside the region would be assured a high quality fishing experience if this plan was adopted.

With full title purchase of the entire visual corridor, two factors should be considered. First, landowners along the river would not have the option of retaining title and aesthetic use of their land through scenic easement donations, since their holdings would be purchased outright. Second, this option substantially increases the total amount of Garrett County land in public ownership. Many county residents can be expected to oppose such an increase, since 17% of the county already is controlled by the state.

		PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT		MARYLAND SEGMENT		
MEASUREMENT		Existing Trends	*1/ Scenic River	Existing Trends	Wild Plan A *	Wild Plan B 1/
RIVER CORRIDOR PROTECTION	1. Total Waterway Protected (miles)	18	27	20	22	22
	2. National Designation	NONE	SCENIC	NONE	WILD	WILD
	3. Total Land Acreage Protected	6,800	10,300	10,500	11,400	11,400
	4. Fee Acquisition	0	0	0	800	**11,200
	5. Existing Public Lands	6,800	6,800	200	200	200
	6. Conservation Zoning	0	3,500	10,300	10,400	0
	7. Land Ownership Pattern: % Public	67	67	2	9	100 94 f
CONSERVATION/ RECREATION COSTS (1978 \$)	8. Capital Expenditures	950,000	950,000	0	1,575,000	6,625,000 12,825,000 f
	9. Land Acquisition	0	0	0	950,000	6,000,000 12,200,300 f
	10. Recreation Development	950,000	950,000	0	625,000	625,000
	11. Annual Operation & Maintenance	176,000	170,000	0	76,000	76,000
	12. Annual Real Estate Taxes Foregone	0	0	0	11,800	78,600 163,200 f
RECREATION ANALYSIS	13. 1980 Recreation Days	200,000	125,000 to 175,000	148,600	155,500	155,500
	14. 1990 Recreation Days	250,000	175,000 to 225,000	165,600	204,500	204,500
	15. 1976-1980 Recreation Day Increase (%)	83	12 to 37 50,000 to 100,000	3	8	8
	16. 1980 Whitewater Use (number of persons)	125,000		300	300	300
	17. 1980 Recreator Expenditures (\$)	5,300,000	3,300,000	722,060	740,000	740,000
	18. 1990 Recreator Expenditures (\$)	6,000,000	4,000,000	810,000	900,000	900,000
RIVER CORRIDOR USE IMPACTS	19. Scenic Values	HP	HP	MP	HP	MP
	20. Ease of Public Access	GOOD	GOOD	POOR	GOOD	GOOD
	21. Maximum Potential Second Home Development (#)	0	0	1,200	900	0
	22. Projected 1990 Second Homes	0	0	300	300	0
FISH & WILDLIFE IMPACTS	23. Productivity of Fishery	HP	HP	MP	HP	HP
	24. Productivity of Wildlife	HP	HP	MP	HP	HP
	25. Protection of Threatened Species	HP	HP	NE	MP	HP

Degree of Impact

HP = Highly Protective
MP = Moderately Protective
NE = No Significant Effect
MA = Moderately Adverse

* Proposal

** A mix of land protection techniques would be used with results as follows:

3,000 acres = fee simple (cash purchase)
3,000 acres = fee simple (land exchange)
4,000 acres = development rights (purchase)
1,200 acres = donation
or 11,200 acres = fee simple (cash purchase)

1/ Maximum Environmental Protection

f Fee simple only.

ACCOUNT	MEASUREMENT	PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT		MARYLAND SEGMENT		
		Existing Trends 1/	Scenic River* 2/	Existing Trends 1/	Wild River Plan A *	Wild River Plan B 2/
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	1. Waterway Protected (miles)	18	+9	20	+2	+2
	2. National Designation	NONE	SCENIC	NONE	WILD	WILD
	3. Total Land Acreage Protected	6,800	+3,500	10,500	+900	+900
	4. Acquisition	0	N	0	+800	+**11,200
	5. Existing Public Land	6,800	N	200	N	N
	6. Conservation Zoning	0	+3,500	10,300	+100	-10,300
	7. Land Ownership Pattern: % Public	67	N	2	+7	+52 +98 f
	8. Productivity of Fishery	HP	N	MP	FAVORABLE	FAVORABLE
	9. Productivity of Wildlife	HP	N	MP	FAVORABLE	FAVORABLE
	10. Protection of Threatened Species	MP	N	NE	FAVORABLE	FAVORABLE
NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	CONSERVATION/RECREATION COSTS					
	11. Capital Expenditures (1978 \$)	950,000	N	0	+1,575,000	+6,625,000 +12,825,000 f
	12. Land Acquisition	0	N	0	+950,000	+6,000,000 +12,200,000 f
	13. Recreation Development	330,000	N	0	+625,000	+625,000
	14. Annual Operation & Maintenance	170,000	N	0	+76,000	+76,000
	RESOURCE USE IMPACTS					
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	15. Year 1980 Recreation-Related Expenditures (1978 \$)	5,300,000	-2,000,000	722,000	+18,000	+18,000
	16. Year 1990 Recreation-Related Expenditures (1978 \$)	6,000,000	-2,000,000	810,000	+90,000	+90,000
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	CONSERVATION/RECREATION COSTS					
	17. Capital Expenditures (1978 \$)	485,000	N	0	-790,000	+3,315,000 +6,415,000 f
	18. Land Acquisition	0	N	0	+475,000	+3,000,000 +6,100,000 f
	19. Recreation Development	485,000	N	0	+315,000	+315,000
	20. Annual Operation & Maintenance	170,000	N	0	+76,000	+76,000
	21. Annual Real Estate Taxes Foregone	0	N	0	+11,800	+73,600 +163,200 f
	RESOURCE USE IMPACTS					
	22. Year 1980 Expenditures by Out-of-Region Visitors (1978 \$)	4,500,000	-2,160,000	550,000	+18,000	+18,000
	23. Year 1990 Expenditures by Out-of-Region Visitors (1978 \$)	5,100,000	-2,160,000	615,000	+90,000	+90,000
	24. Maximum Potential Second Home Development (#)	0	N	1,500	-400	-1,500
SOCIAL WELL-BEING	25. Projected 1990 Second Homes (#)	0	N	300	N	-300
	26. Impact on Scenic Values	HP	N	MP	N	FAVORABLE
	27. Public Access	GOOD	N	POOR	FAVORABLE	FAVORABLE
	28. 1980 Recreation Days	200,000	-25,000 to -75,000	148,600	+6,900	+6,900
	29. 1990 Recreation Days	250,000	-25,000 to -75,000	165,600	+38,900	+38,900
	30. 1980 Whitewater Use (# of persons)	125,000	-25,000 to -75,000	300	N	N

Interpretation

A positive number indicates the amount by which the alternative exceeds Existing Trends. A negative number shows that the alternative has a value less than that of Existing Trends.

N = No Significant Difference from Existing Trends

Degree of Impact

HP = Highly Protective
MP = Moderately Protective
NE = No Significant Effect

* Preferred Plan

** 6,000 acres acquired in fee simple;
4,000 acres of development rights;
1,200 acres of various property interests through private donations;
or 11,200 acres of fee simple.

1/ This column displays the gross effects of Existing Trends.

2/ Maximum Environmental Protection.

f Fee Simple only.

ACCOUNT	MEASUREMENT	PENNSYLVANIA SEGMENT		MARYLAND SEGMENT		
		Preferred Plan* 1/	Existing Trends	Preferred Plan **	Existing Trends	Wild River 1/ Plan B
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	1. Waterway Protected (miles)	27	-9	22	-2	N
	2. National Designation	SCENIC	NONE	WILD	NONE	N
	3. Total Land Acreage Protected	10,300	-3,500	11,400	-900	N
	4. Acquisition	0	N	800	-800	*** +10,400
	5. Existing Public Land	6,800	N	200	N	N
	6. Conservation Zoning	3,500	-3,500	10,400	-100	-10,400
	7. Land Ownership Pattern: % Public	67	N	9	-7	+45 +91 f
	8. Productivity of Fishery	HP	N	HP	UNFAVORABLE	N
	9. Productivity of Wildlife	HP	N	HP	UNFAVORABLE	N
	10. Protection of Threatened Species	MP	N	HP	UNFAVORABLE	FAVORABLE
NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	CONSERVATION/RECREATION COSTS					
	11. Capital Expenditures (1978 \$)	950,000	N	1,575,000	1,575,000	+5,050,000 +11,250,000 f
	12. Land Acquisition	0	N	950,000	-95,000	+5,050,000 +11,250,000 f
	13. Recreation Development	950,000	N	625,000	-625,000	N
	14. Annual Operation & Maintenance	170,000	N	76,000	-76,000	N
	RESOURCE USE IMPACTS					
	15. Year 1980 Recreation-Related Expenditures (1978 \$)	3,300,000	+2,000,000	740,000	-18,000	N
	16. Year 1990 Recreation-Related Expenditures (1978 \$)	4,000,000	+2,000,000	900,000	-90,000	N
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	CONSERVATION/RECREATION COSTS					
	17. Capital Expenditures (1978 \$)	485,000	N	790,000	-790,000	+2,500,000 +6,400,000 f
	18. Land Acquisition	0	N	475,000	-475,000	+2,500,000 +6,400,000 f
	19. Recreation Development	485,000	N	315,000	-315,000	N
	20. Annual Operation & Maintenance	170,000	N	76,000	-76,000	N
	21. Annual Real Estate Taxes Foregone	0	N	11,800	-11,800	+66,800 +151,400 f
	RESOURCE USE IMPACTS					
	22. Year 1980 Expenditures by Out-of-Region Visitors (1978 \$)	2,900,000	+2,160,000	570,000	-18,000	N
	23. Year 1990 Expenditures by Out-of-Region Visitors (1978 \$)	3,500,000	+2,160,000	700,000	-90,000	N
	24. Maximum Potential Second Home Development (#)	0	N	1,100	+400	-1,100
SOCIAL WELL-BEING	25. Projected 1990 Second Homes (#)	0	N	300	N	-300
	26. Impact on Scenic Values	HP	N	MP	N	FAVORABLE
	27. Public Access	GOOD	N	GOOD	UNFAVORABLE	N
	28. 1980 Recreation Days	125,000 to 175,000	+75,000 to +25,000	155,500	-6,000	N
	29. 1990 Recreation Days	125,000 to 225,000	+75,000 to +25,000	204,500	-33,900	N
	30. 1980 Whitewater Use (# of persons)	50,000 to 100,000	+75,000 to +25,000	300	N	N

Interpretation

A positive number indicates the amount by which the alternative exceeds the Preferred Plan. A negative number shows that the alternative has a value less than that of the Preferred Plan.

N = No Significant Difference from Preferred Plan

Degree of Impact

HP = Highly Protective
MP = Moderately Protective

* Scenic River. The gross effects of the proposal are displayed in this column.

** Wild River: Plan A

*** 6,000 acres acquired in fee simple; 4,000 acres of development rights; 1,200 acres of various property interest through public donations; or 11,200 acres of fee simple.

1/ Maximum Environmental Protection

f Fee simple only

APPENDIX

SELECTED REFERENCES

Beckman, Swenson and Associates, Connellsville Area Region: Land Forms and Limitations--Existing Land Use, Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs, December 1970.

Burmeister, Walter F., Appalachian Water, The Canoe Cruisers Association, Washington, D.C., 1962.

Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Soil Survey of Garrett County, Maryland, August 1974.

Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service Resource Bulletin No. 7, The Timber Resource of Maryland, 1967.

Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania State University Agriculture Experiment Station and Agriculture Extension Service, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, State Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Soil Survey of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, March 1973.

Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior, Guidelines for Evaluating Wild, Scenic and Recreational River Areas Proposed for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, Under Section 2, Public Law 90-542, February 1970.

Department of the Interior, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Northeast Region, Monongahela-Youghiogheny River Basin Outdoor Recreation Survey Planning Guide, July 16, 1973.

Environmental Protection Agency, A Progress Report, Air-Noise-Pesticides-Water, (December 1974 to December 1975), Environmental Protection Agency, 1976.

Garrett County Planning Commission, A Development Plan for Garrett County, Oakland, Maryland, May 18, 1974.

Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Mine Drainage Pollution Watershed Survey, the Youghiogheny River Complex, May 1973.

Maryland Department of Economic and Community Development, Community Economic Inventory for Garrett County, by Maryland Division of Business and Industrial Development, June 1975.

Maryland Department of Economics and Community Development, Sites and Program for Development in Western Maryland, September 1975.

Maryland Department of Planning, Natural Soil Groups of Maryland, December 1973.

Maryland State Planning Commission, Maryland Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan, Phase II, November 1972.

Ohio River Basin Commission, Cincinnati, Ohio, Monongahela River Basin Principles and Standards Analysis, Garrett Fleming, Corddry and Carpenter, Inc., 1974.

Pennsylvania Department of Commerce, Pennsylvania Industrial Census Series Release Number M-5-69, Fayette County, 1969.

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, An Operations Analysis of the Ohiopyle State Park Float Trip System, Pennsylvania State University, July 1976.

Pennsylvania Department of Planning, Pennsylvania Protection Series Households, by type and age of head for the State and the 67 counties for 1975, 1980, 1985, and 1990, November 1973.

Pennsylvania Governor's Office of Planning and Development, Pennsylvania's Recreation Plan, March 1976.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE BUDGET
HARRISBURG, PA. 17120
P.O. Box 1323

September 8, 1978

Mr. Richard L. Stanton
Regional Director
Mid Atlantic Region
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

Dear Mr. Stanton:

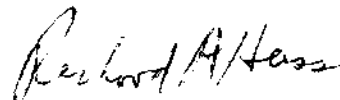
We have received, for review and comment purposes, copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Study Report on the Youghiogheny Wild and Scenic River Study.

Copies of the materials were sent to various State agencies for their comments.

Attached please find the comments of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources.

Please consider these comments the Official response of the Commonwealth concerning the two draft reports.

Sincerely,


Richard A. Heiss, Supervisor
Pennsylvania State Clearinghouse

RAH:njc

Attachment

COMMONWEALTH of PENNSYLVANIA



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

P. O. BOX 1283

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

The Secretary

August 21, 1978

Review and Evaluation of PSCH No.: 255-78 July 010
Youghiogheny Wild and
Scenic River Study
Fayette & Somerset Counties

Richard Heiss, Supervisor
Pennsylvania State Clearinghouse

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Maurice K. Goddard".

MAURICE K. GODDARD
Secretary of Environmental Resources

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources has reviewed the Youghiogheny Wild and Scenic River Study and Draft EIS prepared by the U.S. Department of Interior, with particular attention to the candidate scenic river reach in Pennsylvania.

The Department would concur that the segment of the Youghiogheny between Confluence and South Connellsville meets the legal criteria for inclusion in either the State or National Wild and Scenic System as a scenic or recreational river.

Of the management options identified in the Study and Draft EIS, the Department of Environmental Resources recommends (1) designation of the Youghiogheny as a state scenic river, with (2) primarily state management of the resource, utilizing the existing state park structure and cooperative land use regulation by the affected municipalities. For the reasons outlined in the Study (pg. 64), Federal acquisition of land in the corridor, and Interior Department management of fishing and recreation programs would be impractical in light of the Commonwealth's existing investment and relatively effective programs.

The Youghiogheny has been recommended by the State Scenic Rivers Task Force for early consideration for study for inclusion in the State Scenic Rivers System.

In addition, the Department would like to make the following comments on specific parts of the study and EIS:

- (1) The Study and EIS fail to note that the Borough of Ohiopyle (in the center of the proposed scenic reach) obtains municipal water supply directly from the Youghiogheny, pursuant to an allocation issued by the Department. In view of 16 U.S.C. Sec. 1278, which prohibits Federal licensing of any water resources project which would have a "direct and adverse effect" on the values of a designated stream, the EIS should clearly identify any potential conflict between the proposed scenic river designation and future modification of Ohiopyle's intake and treatment structures.
- (2) The report uses the references Ohiopyle to Stewarton as the main whitewater reach. Stewarton is no longer in use and will not be reopened. Indian Creek is being used on an interim basis until Bruner Run is open for use in "78-79".
- (3) The Western Maryland Railroad abandoned its trackage in 1973-74. The railway is now in ownership of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.
- (4) The report does not acknowledge Pennsylvania's efforts to control use levels on the whitewater reach in Ohiopyle State Park. The new system considering daily maximum capacity, maximum per hour, outfitter agreements and launching times, for all levels is now being implemented. Capacity level studies have been exhaustively conducted and their recommendations are being implemented.
- (5) Page 32, paragraph 4 -- Attendance is 1 million (1,000,000) not one hundred thousand (100,000).
- (6) Page 33, paragraph 4 -- The important point to make here is that under close management, the recreation use will grow through a more even distribution of river use over the week days and more evenly during the weekend morning and afternoon hours. Capacity levels will not be exceeded!
- (7) Page 51, Planning Considerations, Social Environment. Some mention should be made of the potential conflict developing between fishermen and boaters, and perhaps alternative strategies for dealing with this situation.
- (8) Page 51, paragraph 3 -- Mention should be made of capacity maximum, starting times, Bruner Run take out for emergency access and planned utilization of Western Maryland Railroad grade for emergency access along the entire seven mile whitewater reach.
- (9) Page 55, No. 1 -- The idea of protection should also be referenced to Section 4 in that this section defines the characteristics of a stream to be classified as wild, scenic, recreational, or modified recreation.
- (10) Page 73, map, recreation access, potential sites. Both Confluence and South Connellsville should be indicated on west bank of river.
- (11) Page 79, the phrase, "no whitewater use regulations exist" is erroneous. A new regulation system is now in operation!

(12) Page 83, paragraph 6 -- River use levels are completely out of line. Pennsylvania would never be able to accomplish a 90% decrease in current boating activity.

(13) Page 84, paragraph 2 -- "inundated with rafts". This statement exhibits a limited understanding of whitewater user attitudes. Very few whitewater visitors notice the natural environment, they are engrossed with the river action only!

(14) Page 56, No. 5 -- The inference in this paragraph is that Federal management standards are better than the State's -- of course the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania disagrees.

(15) The section of geology and minerals in the subject report is considerably out of date and also incomplete. For example, the coal productions which are cited are for 1974; both production and value of coal has greatly increased in that area. Similarly, the production and value of natural gas in that area has greatly increased.

It is unfortunate that after having referred to the variety of mineral commodities produced in the subject area (including coal, natural gas, clay, stone, sand, and gravel) that the summary statement on page 15 refers to only one commodity namely, coal, as being commercially significant. That summary statement should be corrected inasmuch as the other mineral resources are important to the economics of the area.

Inquiries about these comments and further information regarding the proposed action should be addressed to: Keith R. Gentzler, Chief, Division of Policy Planning & Project Review, Bureau of Environmental Planning, Room 813, Executive House, Harrisburg, PA 17120. Telephone (717) 783-1334.



BLAIR LEE III
ACTING GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21404

July 13, 1978

The Honorable Cecil D. Andrus
United States Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Secretary Andrus:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of the draft report and draft environmental impact statement on the proposed Youghiogheny Wild and Scenic River Study.

I have forwarded it to the Capital Programs Administration of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources which will supply comments, I am sure, within the time period you specified.

Sincerely,

Blair Lee III
Acting Governor



JAMES B. COULTER
SECRETARY
LOUIS N. PHIPPS, JR.
DEPUTY SECRETARY

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CAPITAL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION
TAWES STATE OFFICE BUILDING
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
269-3656

FRED L. ESKEW
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR CAPITAL PROGRAMS

August 28, 1978

Mr. Robert Eastmen
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Washington D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Eastmen:

This constitutes the Department of National Resources review of the May 1978 Draft Report of the Youghiogheny River Wild and Scenic River Study and the Draft Environmental Statement Youghiogheny State and National Wild and Scenic River. Because of the close similarity between the two documents the following comments apply to both.

The first comments which we will make are comments that were made by Secretary Coulter in the correspondence of May 6, 1977 to Mr. Maurice D. Arnold and which were not considered in the 1978 draft. If this was an oversight, please make the necessary changes; however, if you have disagreement with those comments we would like the opportunity to discuss them with you.

May 6, 1977 Comments

Policy Issues - Item 2.

As you know, I am concerned about the inherent conflict between the recreational use of the river and maintenance of the river in a wild or scenic state. I recommend that the report at least address this issue, and make clear that there is a potential for conflict through over-use. At present, the report seems to recommend increased recreational use without acknowledging this problem.

Comments on the Text of the Report - Item 5

Page 29. Approximately 19% of Garrett County land is managed by this Department, not 17%.

Page 31. In reference to use of the path upstream from Friendsville, perhaps it should be mentioned that this is a privately owned right-of-way

Page 71. While our regulations have some of the features of zoning, we prefer that it not be referred to as "State zoning". Reference to "regulation of use and development" should be sufficient.

Current Comments

1) Recommend changing water rights section to read as follows:

Since 1933, the appropriation and use of water in Maryland is subject to control by State law (Appropriation or use Permit, Section 8-802, Natural Resources Article, Annotated Code of Maryland). Except for specific exemptions for farm use and uses prior to 1933, the statute covers all commercial, industrial, and municipal withdrawals of ground and surface waters in the Maryland portion of the Youghiogheny River watershed.

Additionally, another State of Maryland permit, the waterway construction permit, is required to change in whole or part the course, current, or cross section of any stream or body of water within the State."

In Pennsylvania, water rights are based on riparian doctrine. Thus, the owner of land bordering a river or stream is entitled to use the water to benefit his land. Use by the adjacent owner is tempered, however, by the concept of "reasonableness" -- a user cannot appropriate water in amounts which unduly infringe on other riparian owners' rights to also benefit from a stream's flow. "reasonableness" is not precisely defined, but is instead determined on a case-by-case basis whenever a dispute arises.

In Pennsylvania, river bottom lands within the low water marks are owned by the Commonwealth in accordance with legislation dating from 1782. Maryland's laws recognize riparian owners who hold title under patents issued prior to March 3, 1862, as also the owners of the river bed where non-tidal waters are involved. Thus, the Youghiogheny's river bed is owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and by adjacent landowners or by the State of Maryland in Maryland, dependent upon date of patent. In both states, the public retains rights of navigation and, it appears, clear, to fishing in Maryland.

Even though this is a complex and partially unresolved area of the law, it is clearly the case that there are public rights to the water itself and for such activities as navigation, fishing, and waterway construction even though the bottom may be privately owned.

2) Page 11. The Maryland Forest Service manages Garrett Forest. Swallow Falls State Park which is within Garrett State Forest is managed by the Maryland Park Service.

Page 39. The virgin hemlock stand is at Swallow Falls State Park.

Page 56. In Garrett County 15% of gross revenues has been increased to 25% by Legislative act.

3) In every instance where 'exchange of excess State land holding in Garrett County is mentioned, we recommend that it read: "exchange of excess State land holdings in Garrett County, if any, for land adjacent to the river."

4) In Fish and Wildlife section add the following:

In addition to game fish the Maryland section of the river has a diverse fish population of very rare or extirpated fish which could add scientific interest.

5) Page 67. Change "On river studies could be accomplished..." to read "Supervising recreational use of the river could be accomplished..."

6) Page 2, Recommended Action

The wording is not clear regarding the extent of the recommended trail system paralleling the river. We suggest the following wording: "... public access to the river and an appropriate trail system paralleling the river for recreational purposes.

The State of Maryland will consider utilizing abandoned railroads and tramways for a trail system.

Page 8. The entire Youghiogheny River in Maryland, not just the twenty-mile wild river segment is in the State Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

Page 11. The Youghiogheny River was designated a scenic river in 1971, not 1969.

Reference is made to a map on page 37; no map exists.

Page 51. Change 15% of gross revenues to 25%.

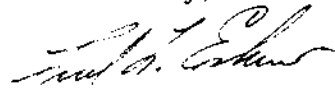
Page 68. Photographic caption should read: "Muddy Creek Falls"

General Comments

The maps are poor quality and are such a small scale that in most instances they add very little to the reports and are in some cases more confusing.

If, after you have checked these comments against the draft text, you desire additional clarification please feel free to contact us. We would be most happy to discuss these or any other comments with you.

Sincerely,



Fred L. Eskew
Assistant Secretary

FLE:RRB:pjc

CC Mr. James W. McConaughay
Mr. H. William Kramer, Jr.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

September 13 1978

Honorable Cecil D. Andrus
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

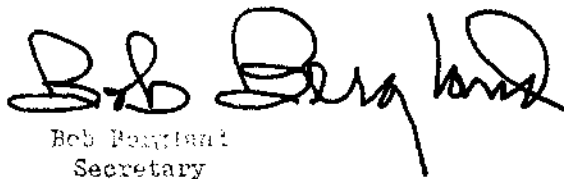
Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is in response to your June 26, 1978, letter requesting our views on your Department's proposed report and environmental statement on a proposal for the Youghiogheny River in Maryland and Pennsylvania.

We would have no objection to the report recommendation that the segments of the river studied should be added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as a State administered component. The information contained in the report about the natural values of the area and the apparently few conflicting uses, favorably supports a wild and scenic designation for the river. Protection of these values through appropriate programs implemented by the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania appears to be in the public interest.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bob Montgomery", is written over the typed name.

Bob Montgomery
Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

10 AUG 1973

Honorable Cecil D. Andrus
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is in response to your letter of 26 June 1978 requesting our review and comment on the Draft Report and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the Proposed Youghiogheny State and National Wild and Scenic River.

As cited in the DEIS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently studying the feasibility of the development of a hydropower installation in conjunction with the Youghiogheny River Lake project. The proposed river designations, if enacted, would impact on this study and constrain the scope of alternatives that might be considered. Completion of study is currently scheduled for about 1981. Other than this study, there are no proposed Corps of Engineers actions within either of the river segments described in the subject draft report and DEIS.

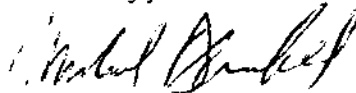
We agree that the environmental attributes of each segment of the Youghiogheny River described in the subject draft report and DEIS warrant their respective proposed designations: Maryland segment - National designation as a Wild River, and Pennsylvania segment - designation as a component of the Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers System with possible future designation as a National Scenic River. However, these designations must entail careful management of each segment to preserve their unique scenic and recreational character. The proposed Maryland segment action would allow for the continuation of light density development and commercial timber harvesting subject to review and approval of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. We feel that timber harvesting and residential development as proposed would not be compatible with the management of a National Wild River. In addition, the proposed hiking and biking trails should not be open to such uses as motorized trail biking or snowmobiling which we believe would not be compatible with the intent of a "Wild" designation.



Honorable Cecil D. Andrus

Continued monitoring and abatement of existing sources of acid mine drainage entering the Casselman River, Indian Creek and upper Youghiogheny tributaries in West Virginia and Maryland are essential to the maintenance, and in some instances enhancement, of improved water quality. As you are aware, this is a critical factor in the designation of each segment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael Blumenfeld", written in a cursive style.

Michael Blumenfeld
Deputy Under Secretary



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

AUG 4 1978

Regional Director
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
National Park Service
143 S. Third Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

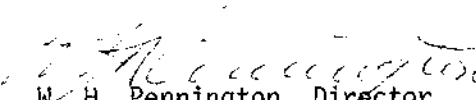
Dear Sir:

This is in response to Secretary Andrus' letter of June 26, 1978, transmitting the Department's draft report and draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) on the proposed Youghiogheny State and National Wild and Scenic River for review and comment.

We have reviewed the statement and have determined that the proposed action will not conflict with current or known future Department of Energy programs. We have no comments to offer on the statement.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the report and DEIS.

Sincerely,


W. H. Pennington, Director
Division of Program Review
and Coordination
Office of NEPA Affairs

