

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: MIKE SERPE

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202-225-3452

WASHINGTON D.C. --- FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, (D-4TH) HAS EXPRESSED RENEWED HOPE IN SEEING HIS LEGISLATION PASSED THIS YEAR TO DESIGNATE A SEGMENT OF THE NEW RIVER GORGE AREA, A NATIONAL RIVER.

RAHALL INTRODUCED, HR 12001, EARLY THIS YEAR. THE MEASURE IS CO-SPONSORED BY CONGRESSMAN HARLEY O. STAGGERS, (D-2ND).

"I HAVE DISCUSSED THIS MEASURE WITH REP. PHILIP BURTON, (D-CAL), WHO IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE NATIONAL PARKS AND INSULAR AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL POINTED OUT, "AND HE HAS OFFERED HIS SUPPORT FOR THE BILL."

RAHALL STATED THAT, "IN DISCUSSIONS WITH MY COLLEAGUES ON THE NEW RIVER BILL, I HAVE FOUND A GREAT AWARENESS OF THE SCENIC BEAUTY THIS REGION POSSESSES, AND THE NEED TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE IT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL POINTED OUT THAT HEARINGS COULD BE HELD SOMETIME BEFORE MID-SEPTEMBER, WITH HOUSE ACTION COMING SOON THEREAFTER. "I BELIEVE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR ALL THOSE AFFECTED ONE WAY OR ANOTHER BY THIS LEGISLATION, TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEIR SUPPORT OR CONCERN."

RAHALL OBSERVED THAT TWO MAJOR QUESTIONS STILL MUST BE DEALT WITH BEFORE HR 12001 CAN BE APPROVED. "FIRST IS THE QUESTION OF COST. WE NEED TO BE SURE THAT THE APPROPRIATED FUNDS WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO PROTECT THAT AREA," RAHALL SAID. "SECONDLY, THERE STILL REMAINS A QUESTION AS TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE GORGE AREA. I HOPE BOTH OF THESE MATTERS CAN BE RESOLVED IN THE HEARINGS."

***A PROPOSED MAP OF THE NEW RIVER GORGE NATIONAL RIVER AREA IS ATTACHED.

IN CONCLUSION, CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STATED, "I BELIEVE THAT AFTER MANY YEARS OF HARD WORK, WE MAY INDEED BE CLOSE TO PROTECTING ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AREAS ON EARTH."

NEW RIVER GORGE national river

Fayette, Raleigh, and Summers Counties
WEST VIRGINIA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

JULY 1978

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1 0 1
SCALE MILES

BOUNDARY ———

