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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Septemnber 3, 1985

Congressman Nick Rahall

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Rahall to Host Congressional Whitewater Trip on Gauley

Washington, D.C. -- Fourth District Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today announced that he will be hosting four of his colleagues on a whitewater rafting trip this weekend to officially open the fall season on the Gauley River.

"This is a perfect opportunity for my colleagues who serve on the Congressional committees with jurisdiction over the Gauley River and the Summersville Dam, and scenic rivers in general, to get a first-hand look at an industry which accounts for over \$10 million per year into the economy of southern West Virginia," Rep. Rahall said. "I would point out that this trip signifies the opening of the fall rafting season and the release of the Summersville Dam will not affect any other projects or recreation in the area. This release is scheduled at this time every year to bring the river to winter pool levels."

The trip will take place on Saturday, September 7, shortly after 9:00 a.m., and will launch from Hico, West Virginia, the location of Mountain River Tours. The put-in point of the trip will be the base of the Summersville Dam. The group will return later that afternoon.

Accompanying Rahall on the trip will be Rep. Jerry Huckaby of Louisiana, Rep. Ron Packard of California, Rep. Rick Boucher of Virginia, and Rep. Ron de Lugo of the Virgin Islands. They are members of the Public Works and Transportation and Interior Committees of the House.

"This trip will provide the members of Congress the opportunity to assess the wild and scenic nature of the Gauley River, as well as for my colleagues who serve on the committees with jurisdiction over the Corps of Engineers to observe the Corps' operation of the Summersville Dam," Rep. Rahall stated. "I am happy to host my colleagues as they visit our great state so that they can see for themselves the vast potential of the toursim industry in West Virginia as we seek to diversify our economy."

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August 2, 1985

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Congress participating in the Gauley River whitewater rafting trip, September 6-8, 1985.

From: Nick Rahall

Attached, you will find the agenda and full information on our Gauley River whitewater rafting trip in West Virginia. Transportation to and from West Virginia will be via mobile homes courtesy of the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association. In route to West Virginia on Friday, September 6, we will stop at the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, for a dinner hosted by Ashland Oil/Coal. The river trip down the Gauley is courtesy of the West Virginia Professional Outfitters Association.

Jerry - in lo on ley

As previously indicated, your basic cost for the weekend will be for accommodations at the Holiday Inn of Oak Hill. I have put together a package which includes a chicken and ribs BBQ dinner on Saturday evening after we run the river, and rooms for the two nights. The cost of this package is \$101.10 for single occupancy and \$65.50 per person, double occupancy.

Not For press .!

ITEMS TO BRING WITH YOU

If the weather is warm, a swim suit or shorts will be sufficient for the river trip. Do not wear blue jeans or other heavy cotton garments on the river as they retain water and will make you cold and miserable. Wool is preferable. If the weather is cool, the outfitter will provide wet suits underwhich you would wear a swim suit or shorts. In either case, you will need an old pair of tennis shoes and we suggest bringing along a windbreaker. In addition, if you wear eye glasses or sun glasses, an eye glass retainer is suggested.

Also, bring a change of clothing with you when we leave for the outfitter on Saturday for after the river trip.

AGENDA

Friday, September 6th: We will assemble at the Rayburn horseshoe at <u>11:00 a.m.</u> and depart for West Virginia via mobile homes. In route, we will stop at the Greenbrier Resort for dinner. After dinner, we will proceed to our overnight accommodations at the Holiday Inn of Oak Hill (phone: (304) 465-0571).

Saturday, September 7th: Breakfast is on your own. At 8:30 a.m. we will depart from the Holiday Inn for the short drive to Hico, West Virginia--the location of Mountain River Tours, our professional river outfitter for the rafting trip. After checking in, a Mountain River Tours bus will take us to the base of Summersville Dam, the put-in point for the trip. Besides providing all equipment, the outfitter will serve its famous "wilderness luncheon" along the riverside.

At the completion of our raft trip (during the late afternoon) we will return to the Oak Hill Holiday Inn. We have arranged for a ribs and chicken BBQ dinner for that evening.

Sunday, September 8th: homes at our leisure. Depart for Washington, D.C., via mobile

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PARTICIPATING

Mr. & Mrs. Huckaby Mr. & Mrs. McEwen Mr. & Mrs. Packard Mr. & Mrs. Johnson Mr. de Lugo Mr. Boucher Mr. Rahall

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