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From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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RAHALL APPLAUDS ROCKEFELLER ON RIVER BILL

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) said today that Sen. Jay Rockefeller's introduction of the West Virginia rivers bill in the Senate will greatly assist the legislation's chances for enactment.

Rahall is the House sponsor of the bill, entitled the "West Virginia National Interest River Conservation Act of 1987," which passed the House of Representatives on May 27, 1987. The legislation seeks to further protect the New River Gorge National River, would establish the Gauley River National Recreation Area and the State's first national wild and scenic rivers.

"Jay is to be commended for his interest in this bill and he has put a lot of work into the matters it addresses since it passed the House last May," Rahall said.

Rahall noted that controversy over the inclusion of a segment of the Greenbrier River, added as an amendment to the House bill, had stopped further congressional action on the measure since it passed the House. The bill introduced in the Senate does not include a Greenbrier River provision.

"I fully endorse the Senator's decision to move forward without the Greenbrier River. As it stands, the measure reflects the public support for protecting segments of the New, Gauley, Meadow and Bluestone Rivers," Rahall stated.

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