

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Stone F. Te
Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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GAULEY DEDICATION TO ATTRACT NATIONAL ATTENTION
Rahall Says House Parks Subcommittee Chairman To Visit The State

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- In recognition of West Virginia's outstanding natural beauty and the significant contribution made by the West Virginia Rivers bill to the Nation's federal park system, the Chairman of the House Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands will join U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-WV) at a September 16th ceremony to dedicate the newly established Gauley River National Recreation Area.

Rahall, who wrote the West Virginia Rivers bill that was enacted late last year, disclosed that Chairman Bruce Vento (D-Minn.) as well as a number of Rahall's Congressional colleagues, representatives of the National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and high-ranking State officials will converge at the base of Summersville Dam on September 16th to officially dedicate one of the Nation's newest additions to the National Park System.

"With the enactment of my legislation, West Virginia became the home of the largest network of federally protected rivers in the eastern United States," Rahall said. "This expansion of recreational opportunities in West Virginia is not only working to increase our State's prominence as a tourism destination, but will broaden the economic base of an entire region."

Rahall, a ranking member of the Parks Subcommittee, said it was especially important for Chairman Vento to see first-hand the awesome nature of the Gauley River and the rugged terrain of southern West Virginia. "I am going to have to go to the Chairman to enlist his support for other projects in the future and it will assist my endeavors if he has seen some of the splendid resource values we have in southern West Virginia."

Rahall added: "In effect, while this dedication ceremony signifies the accomplishment of one of my goals, that being the establishment of the Gauley River National Recreation Area, it will also help pave the way for a whole new generation of recreational, historic and cultural initiatives for southern West Virginia."