

May 7, 2013

To the Honorable Senator John Boozman  
SRC-1 Senate Russel Bldg..  
Washington, DC 20510

And to the Honorable Congressman Steve Womack  
1508 Longworth Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

And to the Honorable Rick Crawford  
1711 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Gentlemen, THE WHITE RIVER BASIN IS IN YOUR DISTRICT.

There exists a compilation of documentary evidence in the Reference Section of the Boone County Library in Harrison, Arkansas entitled "Ozark Highlands Man and Biosphere". (MAB) (A partial copy of that document is provided for you as **Attachment 1** of this correspondence.) The Library staff was helpful in locating and loaning this 3-ring binder of compiled documents which detail the efforts of the Buffalo National River office and numerous other federal and state agencies who had *without public notification* in 1996 attempted to impose the United Nations Man and Biosphere program upon the Ozark Highlands. **Their MAB nomination effort failed when local people alerted and provoked state and federal constitutional officers— such as yourselves—to take action to halt the onerous bureaucratic schemes in August 1996,** just before their final step of MAB nomination that was scheduled for September 1996. Please review that enclosed MAB document to enhance your understanding of a current similar effort now underway 17 years after your predecessors in Congress, the Governor's office, and the Arkansas legislature were successful in averting the MAB debacle in 1996. On the federal level, legislation was sponsored and introduced by Rep. Don Young from Alaska entitled "The American Land Sovereignty Protection Act" for the purpose of dismantling the MAB program. Then Rep. Tim Hutchinson of Arkansas and others gallantly and successfully defended our cause. Eventually, a Bush Administration presidential executive order also placed a moratorium on the entire MAB program in the U.S. The ill-conceived program then languished for several years—until now—when it has reappeared in a similar form with a new name and an even broader and more ominous mission and scope to control and take from us our lands and our livelihoods.

**NOW**, many of the *same players* of the failed effort of the 1996 Ozark Highlands MAB program are moving steadily forward with a mission similar to 1996. **Their new mission is called the National Blueway designation of the White River (and its watershed).** According to a January 9, 2013 News Release from the Department of the Interior, this "National Blueway" program will also seek to "coordinate ongoing federal, state and local activities", and "protect...habitat through conservation "easements" and land "acquisitions". In a 6-page Memorandum of Understanding (enclosed as **Attachment 2**- with the News Release) signed in late January 2013, (by Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior, and by A. J. Walsh, Secretary of Agriculture, and by Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary for the Army for Civil Works), it is the blatantly stated *intent* of the MOU to provide "opportunities" for our cherished rights of "cultural preservation", and "economic opportunity" to survive only "to the extent compatible with agency missions, goals, objectives, and priorities". continued next page

In plain language, that means our culture and economy will be trashed when they are not perceived as being compatible with bureaucratic missions, goals, objectives, and priorities". Among numerous alarming "goals" of this January 2013 "Blueway" Memorandum of Understanding, is the goal to **employ measures** to promote land and water management, including "working" lands (both public and private property) according to applicable laws **to the extent possible...with agency priorities"**(!). Again, in plain language, the "law of the land" will be followed only to the "extent possible" that it does not conflict with "agency priorities"(!). When that occurs, it becomes no longer the "rule of law" that governs our nation, but rather, the "opinion rule of unelected bureaucrats" who wield their environmental clubs against law-abiding, hard-working Americans, robbing them of their heritage and economic stability.

It is my understanding that the "Blueway" process is now in a 180-day holding pattern since the January 9, 2013 designation/news release for the White River/watershed, while a specific MOU/similar agreement is being hammered out for a **White River Basin National Blueway** whose boundaries include multitudes of your constituents.(Jan 9, 2013 +180 days = appx. July 9, 2013)

**What will YOU do, and how soon will YOU act to protect your constituents from this most recent attack, and also seriously perform YOUR oaths to uphold and support our Constitution(s)!!?** The schemes of these agencies, who want to unconstitutionally micro-manage our lives and incrementally deprive us of the use and ownership of our lands, must be derailed.

In the decade following the failed MAB effort, numerous local county courts followed expert legal advice by adopting local Land Use and Management Plans as allowed by federal law, in order to be afforded level participation and notification of ALL plans of federal and state agencies. This was done for the purpose of being able to protect themselves from future "surprise" programs and projects of state and federal agencies affecting and harming their local counties, being advanced by those agencies without the knowledge until it was too late to be stopped at the local level. A sample letter announcing to those agencies their adoption of such Land Use Plans as a "step of protection" is enclosed (as **Attachment 3**) which plainly obligates the Department of the Interior to have properly notified and included affected counties of the White River Basin of their National Blueway designation *at the inception of their program. That did not happen.* We therefore contend that this "Blueway" program must be aborted for that and other obvious reasons, and we are calling on you, our Congressional delegates, to again come to our aid, and see to it that the White River Basin (river and watershed) does NOT become a "National Blueway", not now, nor ever.

**Again, what will YOU do before July 9, 2013 to stop the unconstitutional out-working of "land management" schemes via a White River Basin National Blueway designation?**

On behalf of many people across the counties of your constituency who are being informed of this situation, I urgently request a speedy and affirmative reply.

Respectfully,

*Secure Arkansas*

Enclosures: Attachments 1 - 3, plus maps for comparison of the boundaries of the MAB and the Blueway.  
Copies to: other constitutional officials and to the public

*Jeanne Burtworth*