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CLINTON/GORE '92 PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Fax Transmittal Cover Sheet

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Draft of Sportsman's
release - awaiting Gov
Add

draft

SPORTSMEN FOR CLINTON/GORE

Governor Bill Clinton -- a hunter and long-time member of Ducks Unlimited -- is committed to the American outdoors and has worked hard to ensure that residents of and visitors to Arkansas will have access to some of the nation's best hunting and fishing. For example, Arkansas' wildlife agency manages 30 state-owned public fishing lakes covering over 22,000 acres.

During Bill Clinton's 12 years as Governor, Arkansas has constructed five new public lakes covering almost 5000 acres, renovated 13 existing lakes, acquired two new fish hatcheries, built three new nursery ponds, added three new net pen operations, constructed 61 new access areas, and built 162 miles of new roads to public fishing waters and 22 new fishing piers. In 1991, over 17.9 million fish were stocked in the state's waters.

As a result, Arkansas' waters provide some of the nation's best sportfishing opportunities. 1989 record books published by the International Game Fish Association and the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame list 26 world-record fish taken in Arkansas waters. In 1989, Arkansas yielded 15 state and world-line class records. Arkansas also offers the world's best brown trout fishing. A world record set for brown trout at 38 pounds, 9 ounces, in 1988 was broken in 1992 on the Little Red River by a world record catch of 40 pounds. Each year, about 700,000 people buy fishing licenses in Arkansas.

Arkansas also is a leader among states in providing public-land hunting opportunities. The state's wildlife management system has over 300,000 acres in more than 30 state-owned areas. Another 1.6 million acres are available in 30 additional areas for hunting through cooperative agreements with other governmental agencies and private landowners.

Arkansas provides the nation's best mallard hunting and record numbers of deer, turkey, and geese are harvested each year in the state. Over 300,000 hunting licenses are sold annually in Arkansas.

During Bill Clinton's administration, over 25,000 acres were added to the state's wildlife management area system. These are:

- 1600 acres of wetlands along the Cache River in 1983 as part of the Rex Hancock Wildlife Management Area.
- 7000 acres of wetland and bottomland hardwood forests in 1985 thus creating the Holland Bottoms Wildlife Management Area.
- 7000 acres of bottomland forests along the Ouachita River in 1987 thus creating the Beryl Anthony Wildlife Management Area.
- 900 acres of upland forest in the Scatter Creek Wildlife Management Area in 1987.
- 9000 acres of wetlands in the Ed Gordon/Point Remove Wildlife Management Area in 1989.

Other Conservation Initiatives During The Clinton Administration

- 31 natural areas were added to the state's System of Natural Areas, and four state parks were established for recreation and wildlife habitat.
- In 1979, Bill Clinton created a state Land Bank by providing an initial \$1 million for purchasing state land.
- In 1987, Clinton established a Natural and Cultural Resources Trust Fund which provides about \$3 million a year for land protection and improvement of state parks.
- In 1989, Clinton established a new statewide reforestation program, Plant the Future, of which major features include restoration of wetland and bottomland habitats for wildlife habitat.
- From 1978 to 1988, forested land in the state increased from 16.6 to 17.2 million acres, about 51 percent of the state's land base.
- In 1992, state water quality studies show that approximately 92 percent of the state's rivers and streams and 100 percent of the state's lakes meet federal standards for fishable and swimmable.
- In 1991, Clinton introduced resolutions in the Arkansas General Assembly calling for environmental education in grades K-12. Clinton signed legislation creating an environmental education trust fund at the Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology. In 1984, Project WILD began under Bill Clinton, and over 16,000 teachers and 180,000 children have been trained and educated through one of the nation's best environmental education programs.
- Clinton became a Life Sponsor of Ducks Unlimited.
- To protect Arkansas' environment, Clinton signed legislation in 1983 giving the state administrative authority for bringing fines and penalties against polluters. In 1991, Clinton signed new legislation increasing greatly state environmental penalties, and the new law was recognized as one of the nation's ten best environmental laws for 1991 by the Center For Policy Alternatives.

Conservation Positions

Protection of Wetlands. Bill Clinton supports "no net loss" of the nation's wetlands and believes a wetlands policy should be based on science, not politics. Clinton's administration would work with the National Academy of Sciences and other members of the scientific and conservation community to devise appropriate policies. Arkansas was recently ranked fourth in the nation in per capita spending on wetlands protection in a July 1992 survey by City & State magazine.

Reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act. Clinton supports reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act and believes all listing decisions should be based on science.

Protection of Fisheries. Clinton believes the nation must preserve and expand marine fisheries for sport and commercial fishing. He believes we need to expand the scientific and technical capabilities of the Regional Fishery Management Councils to make sure they have the resources and technical wherewithal to develop scientifically sound management plans for our fisheries. Clinton will work with Congress to make sure our marine and fresh water fishery programs and assistance to state programs are properly funded.

Federal Funding of Wildlife Programs. Clinton would secure funding for several land, fish and wildlife programs by preventing diversion of trust funds established by Congress such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Sport Fish Restoration Fund, and Wildlife Restoration Fund. Governor Clinton believes these dedicated trust funds should not be used for reducing the federal budget deficit or for any other unauthorized purpose.

Conservation Awards

In 1985, Bill Clinton received the President's Public Service Award from the Nature Conservancy for "being a creative leader over the last six years in Arkansas land preservation work."

In 1991, Clinton was selected as the 1991 Governor's Award winner from the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers for his contributions to outdoor recreation.

In 1992, Governor Clinton was presented a special award by the Arkansas Wildlife Federation in recognition of his environmental achievements in Arkansas.

In 1992, Governor Clinton's reforestation program, Plant the Future, was one of only 100 national award winners by Take Pride In America.

- During his 12 years as Governor of Arkansas, Clinton has addressed key conservation organizations including Ducks Unlimited, the Arkansas Wildlife Federation, The Nature Conservancy, and the Arkansas Wild Turkey Federation. He also has presented the Governor's Cup to annual Arkansas Bass Association Tournaments.

Conservation Tidbits on Bill Clinton

Bill Clinton collects duck stamps and duck calls.

talk to
Ann Fuchs.

October 14, 1992

TO: Chris Dorval, Katie McGinty

FR: Dan Weiss

RE: air quality info from EPA could make Bush look good next week

I wanted to give you a heads up on a possible opportunity for Bush to look good on clean air. Next week, EPA is expected to release its data on air quality in American cities in 1991. Reilly could announce it as early as Monday Oct. 19 at a speech in Chicago.

I understand that the data will show:

- * nearly half (41 of 97) of the cities previously violating health standards for ozone smog met the standard in '91.

- * nearly one third (13 of 40) cities previously violating health standards for carbon monoxide met the standard in '91.

Undoubtedly, the Bush Administration will attempt to take credit for this. In fact, the real reason for the decline was due to the cooler, clearer summer, (which was due to the eruption of Mt. Pinatovo in 1991 [sic]). Nonetheless, we should be ready with the following response:

- * Bush is taking credit for reductions that occurred due to the weather, not his policies. The summer of 1991 was abnormally cool. Ozone smog is more likely to form in hot weather.

- * The standard that these cities are now meeting is too weak to protect public health. EPA under Bush recently refused to adopt a stricter standard. The American Lung Association said:

"There is a significant body of scientific research that shows harmful lung health effects occurring at ozone levels below the current standard. It is unfortunate that the EPA did not propose to adopt a standard that is protective of public health. The American Lung Association is very dissatisfied with this finding."

-- Lee B. Reichman, M.D., President
American Lung Association
August 3, 1992

EPA was forced to review the standard as part of a law suit filed by ALA and other organizations.

NOTE: The health standard was weakened under Carter because of a lack of health data. Subsequently, several studies indicate the need for tighter standards, but Bush EPA refused to consider this data.

- * This progress is due to air pollution controls -- including tighter auto emission standards -- put into place in the 1970's that Reagan and Bush tried to dismantle in the 1980's. In 1989, Bush proposed to WEAKEN existing emission standards for cars.

To Katie

From pam

Re: hunters issues

WETLANDS:

- o Voted in favor of the 1990 Farm Bill which provided for improvements to the swampbuster program -- a program that protects wetlands. The bill specifically eliminates subsidies for farmers that till over wetlands.

- o Supported North American Wetlands Conservation Act in 1989, which has supported over 200 federal-state-private partnerships to conserve more than 600,000 acres of wetlands.

- o Voted in 1987 to reauthorize the Clean Water Act and to improve enforcement of wetlands protection under the Act. Voted to override the Reagan-Bush veto of the bill.

- o Voted to pass the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act, which extended through 1994 the program for protecting wetlands and transferred \$75 million annually to a Wetlands Conservation Fund in 1984.

GAME/DUCKS

- o Cosponsor of National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Act in 1987, that established and funded the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, a public-private partnership (funded by Congress under Interior) that gives grants for various areas:

- Wetland conservation (several grants to Ducks Unlimited)
- Fisheries habitat depletion issues (restocking, etc)
- Wildlife Assessments
- Big game management plans

FORESTS:

- o Cosponsored bill to set aside old growth forests from logging in the NW to protect salmon runs and hunting areas from excess logging. 60,000 jobs in the fishing industry in the NW depend on the salmon runs there. (Rural Development and Ancient Forests Ecosystem Conservation Act, 1992)

TENNESSEE ISSUES:

- o Opposed Cherokee National Forest management plan that would have increased clearcutting and below market timber sales in the forest. Have written to Agriculture and Interior in support of new plan to protect the forest.

- o Cosponsor of the Tennessee Wilderness Act of 1986 which added nearly 34,000 roadless acres of the Cherokee National Forest to the National Wilderness Preservation System.
- o Key cosponsor of Great Smoky Mountains Wilderness Act in 1988.