

# Appendix D

## WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY

In the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Congress called for the preparation and maintenance of a continuing inventory and evaluation of the outdoor recreation needs and resources of the United States and the identification of potential wild, scenic and recreational river areas within the Nation.

The Nationwide Rivers Inventory, compiled by the National Park Service, January 1982, is in response to this direction. It contains a compilation of comprehensive, consistent data on the Nation's significant free-flowing streams. This inventory has been accepted by the Forest Service as an inventory of rivers, which should be addressed in the Land Management Planning process.

The Rivers identified in this inventory were arrived at through the following process. First, all rivers and river segments within the United States, 25 miles or longer, were inventoried and evaluated.

Three general criteria were used in the process:

- The degree to which the river is free flowing
- The degree to which the river and corridor are undeveloped
- The outstanding natural and cultural characteristics of the river and its immediate environment.

After these criteria were applied a preliminary list of selected rivers was circulated for review to Federal and State resource agencies, citizen groups and individuals and meetings were held to revise the list. Further evaluation was done to again refine the list, which was again circulated for further review and final listing.

The river segments on the Daniel Boone National Forest that resulted from the final listing were then chosen for detailed analysis in the 1985 Plan.

In 1996 the Daniel Boone National Forest completed work on a "Final Wild and Scenic River Suitability Study and Environmental Impact Statement for Six Rivers on the Daniel Boone National Forest." The document was then forwarded to the Regional Forester for the Southern Region and, in turn, to the Chief of the Forest Service for review. To date, that review has not been completed and the agency has not forwarded the document to the Deciding Official, the Secretary of Agriculture, consequently, the FEIS has not been released to the public and a Record of Decision has not been issued.

The study and EIS completed by the Daniel Boone found that one of the rivers, the South Fork of Station Camp Creek was not eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River system and that five rivers are suitable for designation. The suitable segments of those five rivers, Cumberland River, Marsh Creek, Rock Creek, Rockcastle River, and War Fork of Station Camp Creek, have been allocated management direction in the Proposed Revised Forest Plan intended to protect their outstandingly remarkable values and to preserve their suitability for eventual designation.

In 1997 all of the rivers in the Daniel Boone National Forest were re-evaluated and no additional rivers were selected for a suitability analysis.



View near Nada Tunnel in the Red River Gorge on Stanton Ranger District