

Wilderness bill will probably be approved

United Press International
WASHINGTON — A Texas wilderness proposal protecting 34,000 acres of East Texas forests from clear-cutting is certain to receive House approval, Rep.

John Bryant, D-Texas, said Wednesday.
 The Dallas congressman announced he and Democratic Rep. Charles Wilson of Lufkin had negotiated a compromise agreement, paving the way for legislative action to begin on designating the wilderness areas in four national parks.
 Bryant originally proposed 65,000 acres for protection from development but Wilson only wanted 9,000 acres set

aside, saying more would hurt the economy in his east Texas district. About 25,000 of the compromise acres are in Wilson's district.
 "Resolution of the differences of opinion as to how much acreage should be set aside as wilderness virtually assures passage of the compromise Texas Wilderness Bill by the U.S. House of Representatives and, I hope before the end

of the year, its enactment into law," Bryant said.
 A House Interior Committee panel held hearings on the bills earlier this year but held off approval until a compromise was reached between the two congressmen. Introduction of a Senate bill also was held up during the disagreement.
 The compromise calls for protection of 9,250 acres in the Sabine National Forest, 3,145 acres in Davy Crockett National

Forest, 4,000 acres in Sam Houston National Forest and two sites in the Angelina National Forest — 12,090 acres southwest of Sam Rayburn Reservoir and 5,400 acres north of the reservoir.
 Bryant said he was disappointed the compromise included just a little more than half the area he proposed but said the agreement "secures for generations to come several of

the most unusual and spectacular woodland sites in Texas."
 Bryant feared that with wilderness designation, areas would be cut to ground for timber production.
 "Designation of these 92,000 acres of wilderness in Texas will have no impact on the timber industry, jobs, or local economy in surrounding areas and should lead to increased tourism," Bryant said.

FBI preparing for terrorists at Olympics

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles are only one of four special events in the United States this year that could attract terrorists, FBI Director William Webster said Wednesday.
 Webster told a House Judiciary subcommittee that the FBI, as "the lead federal agency

in combating terrorism," also is busy planning coverage of this summer's national political conventions in Dallas and San Francisco, and a world's fair in New Orleans.
 "They are major events that provide major opportunities for groups trying to be upon the world's stage," Webster said.
 Since 11 Israeli athletes were killed by Palestinian terrorists at the 1972 Olympics in Munich, "elaborate security measures for (Olympic) events have become obligatory," Webster said.
 The FBI has been planning security for the summer games for five years, he said, and at least 700 FBI agents will

be on hand, including a special 50-member hostage rescue team.
 The layout for the California Olympics poses special security problems, he said. Events will be strung over 135 miles up the coast from San Diego to Santa Barbara, and up to 15,000 athletes and officials will be staying at three separate villages.
 "Every reasonable precaution" is being taken, he said.
 Webster said the FBI is coordinating its prevention and enforcement with local and state law enforcement groups and the State Department.
 Tips and information gathered by U.S. intelligence agencies or by other countries

are being passed on to the FBI, he said.
 Webster did not elaborate on the FBI's plans for the world's fair or the Republican and Democratic presidential nominating conventions.
 Although there were no terrorist acts in the United States blamed on Middle East terrorist groups last year, Webster said, those groups now pose "probably the greatest levels of concern."
 An Iranian-linked group has been blamed for the bombing of the U.S. embassy and Marine barracks in Beirut. Perceived threats within the United States have led to increased se-

curity, including concrete cadets, around the White House and the Capitol.
 Webster attributed a rise in terrorist acts in the country last year — from 51 in 1982 to 31 in 1983 — to greater success in investigating terrorist groups. He used as examples Armenian and Puerto Rican independence terrorists.
 On a related issue, Webster confirmed the FBI investigating allegations, as those voiced this week by former U.S. ambassador to Salvador, that certain personnel within the United States are lending support and directing death squads in El Salvador.

Army engineers prevent floods in Missouri

United Press International
WASHINGTON — More than \$200 million worth of flood damages in the Missouri River basin were prevented by 45 reservoirs in the system, an Army Corps of Engineers official said Wednesday.
 Brigadier General Mark Siskinyak told a congressional panel that 1983 was an unusual year because of three major floods.

"In each of these floods, reservoirs on the main stem of the Missouri River and the Osage Basin in Missouri, plus the Bureau of Reclamation's Glendo Dam in Wyoming, were operated to significantly reduce flood levels," said Siskinyak.
 Siskinyak is head of the Corps Missouri River Division and testified before a House Appropriations subcommittee on his division's \$109.3 million budget request for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.
 "During 1983, our 45 reservoirs in the Missouri River Basin prevented over \$200 million in damages," he said. "Total flood damages prevented by all our reservoir projects has grown to \$2.8 billion."
 He said priorities for the

The Missouri River basin includes all of Nebraska and parts of Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, Wyoming and five other states.
 Siskinyak said the Missouri River main stem system produced 9.8 billion kilowatt hours of electrical energy last year and he estimates power revenues will total \$84 million.
 "With a population density ranging from 71 to only 5 persons per square mile, Corps projects rack up impressive records for visitors," he said. "Our reservoirs recorded more than 33 million visitor days of use last year from a basin that has less than 9 million residents and a short recreation season."
 He said priorities for the

next fiscal year include addressing the issues of flooding, droelectric power generation and beneficial use of storage in existing reservoirs.
 On the Harry S. Truman Dam and Reservoir in Missouri, Siskinyak said the University of Missouri is scheduled in December to complete its review of the Corps of issues raised by the state of Missouri and on about the impact of Truman hydropower operations.

He said the Corps still has concern with Missouri and interests about the effect of pump-back operations on fishery immediately downstream from the powerhouse.

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HOW: Sponsored by the Placement Center

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Molester charged in murder

United Press International
HOUSTON — An ex-convict charged a year ago with sexually molesting his 15-year-old stepdaughter was in court Wednesday accused of murder and relatives said he bragged he had prevented her from testifying.
 Police said Oscar McBride, 40, described by prosecutors as a three-time ex-convict, was charged in the death of Vanessa Ann Bowden of suburban Spring.
 Miss Bowden was last seen alive Jan. 2 when police said her boyfriend tried to take her home with him after she had been drinking with her father at a bar. Her mutilated body was found in an abandoned house Tuesday.
 Police said the girl came to the attention of child welfare authorities in October 1982 and said her father had been sexually molesting her since she was 8. An indecency charge was filed against McBride was jailed but released on bond.
 McBride was re-arrested in January 1983 and held without bond after Prosecutor David Smyth discovered he had served three prison sentences. But he was released from jail in December 1983 after his bond was reduced to \$10,000.
 On the night of Jan. 1, 1983, Detective Bill Ogg said McBride and the girl were seen drinking together at a north Houston lounge. Witnesses claim McBride was giving her liquor and she appeared intoxicated when they left.
 A short while later, the girl's father and daughter returned to the lounge, witnesses said, and McBride told people his was stuck in the mud.
 A boyfriend later tried to convince Miss Bowden to go with him, but she refused. She promised to call him in the morning but never made a call. Detectives said she was seen alive again.
 On Jan. 6, Ogg said a relative of the girl called him and said McBride had bragged about choking the girl to death and hiding her body.
 Relatives said McBride talked of cutting off the girl's hair, mutilating her face and burning her clothes to prevent identification.
 "He told a relative that he murdered her so he could be a free man," Ogg said.

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