MINERAL RESOURCE POTENTIAL MAP OF THE GEE CREEK WILDERNESS, POLK AND MONROE COUNTRIES, TENNESSEE

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MISSISSIPPI FIELD STUDIES

MAP MF-174-O

PAMPAS ACCOMPANYING MAP

SITES RELATIVE TO WILDERNESS

The Wilderness Act (PL 90-544, September 2, 1969) and amended by PL 94-58, October 18, 1975 introduces a new level of protection to certain federal lands by converting them to wilderness areas. These lands are designated by Congress as areas which are untamed, essentially unaffected by the hand of man, and are viewed as having the status of a part of a national recreation area. Regulations concerning the use of these areas are contained in 43 CFR 1:6-66.

RESOURCES

The major rock types in the Gee Creek Wilderness area are granite, gneiss, and schist. These rocks are the result of pre-Cambrian folding and metamorphism. The schist and gneiss are composed of quartz, feldspar, micas, and other minerals. The granite is composed of quartz, feldspar, and micas. The schist and gneiss are the result of metamorphism, while the granite is the result of igneous activity.

LANDS AND MINERAL OWNERSHIP

In 1984, the U.S. Government purchased a large tract of land from the private sector. This purchase was made possible by the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which is supported by the sale of federal lands. The land was purchased for the purpose of protecting the environment and preserving the resource base.

GEOLOGY

The Gee Creek Wilderness area is underlain by a Precambrian basement of granitic rocks. These rocks are intruded by granitic dikes and sills. The granitic rocks are surrounded by a sequence of sedimentary rocks, including sandstone, shale, and conglomerate. The sedimentary rocks are folded and faulted, indicating that the area was subjected to tectonic activity.

MINERAL RESOURCES

There are no known mineral resources of high economic potential in the Gee Creek Wilderness area. The area is underlain by a Precambrian basement of granitic rocks, but most of the granitic rocks are concealed by overlying sedimentary rocks. Abundant water and excellent drainage conditions make the area suitable for the development of a water supply system.

REFERENCES
