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## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE REELFOOT LAKE BIOLOGICAL STATION

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The Reelfoot Lake Biological Station was inactive during 1973 as a result of continued deterioration of the building which was constructed in 1912. The current building site, once considered so desirable, is now known to be far from ideal. In view of this, and the fact that there is widespread interest in Reelfoot Lake and its environs, the time has come to pursue all possibilities which might lead to the establishment of a new biological station at a different lake site. The Tennessee Department of Conservation has land available for this purpose which borders Champey Pocket on Lower Blue Basin.

A Reelfoot Lake Advisory Committee should be appointed to prepare plans, objectives, and specifica-

tions for a new field station so that a cost analysis can be prepared. This committee should then be charged with the responsibility of determining sources from which funds might be obtained for use in construction. Since the present building and surrounding land leased to the Tennessee Academy of Science cannot be adequately utilized, serious consideration should be given to releasing this property to the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission which issued the lease in 1931.

This proposed course of action will require that we work closely with various state agencies and institutions so that optimum utilization of the proposed station will be realized.

