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HEARING
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES SENATE
NINETY-FIRST CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

S. 855

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

MAY 27, 1969



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BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER, ARKANSAS

HEARING

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION

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BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER, ARKANSAS

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 1969

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION OF THE
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Senator Alan Bible (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senators Bible, Moss, Church and Bellmon.

Also present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Stewart French, chief council; Porter Ward, professional staff member, and Charles Cook, minority counsel.

Senator BIBLE. Gentlemen, the committee will come to order.

This is the time duly noticed and set for an open public hearing on S. 855, the bill to provide for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

This bill, introduced by Senator Fulbright for himself and Senator McClellan, is similar to S. 704, which was introduced in the last session, but upon which final action was not taken prior to adjournment. It sets forth the need to conserve an area containing unique scenic and scientific features, along with the preservation as a free-flowing stream of an important segment of the Buffalo River in Arkansas for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Buffalo National River would be established and administered by the Secretary of the Interior. Its total size would be limited to 95,730 acres.

Studies by the National Park Service have referred to the Buffalo River as the last of the choice remaining major free-flowing streams in the Arkansas Ozarks. The bill, S. 855, would prohibit the licensing of any impoundments on the stream.

Without objection, I will direct that the text of the bill and departmental reports appear at this point in the hearing record.

(The material referred to follows:)

[S. 855, 91st Cong., first sess.]

A BILL To provide for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purposes of conserving and interpreting an area containing unique scenic and scientific features, and preserving as a free-flowing stream an important segment of the Buffalo River in Arkansas for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") may establish and administer the Buffalo National River. The boundaries of the national river

shall be as generally depicted on the drawing entitled, "Proposed Buffalo National River" numbered NR-BUF-7103 and dated December 1967, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The Secretary may revise the boundaries of the national river from time to time, but the total acreage within such boundaries shall not exceed ninety-five thousand seven hundred and thirty acres.

SEC. 2. (a) Within the boundaries of the Buffalo National River, the Secretary may acquire lands and waters or interests therein by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange, except that lands owned by the State of Arkansas or a political subdivision thereof may be acquired only by donation. When an individual tract of land is only partly within the boundaries of the national river, the Secretary may acquire all of the tract by any of the above methods in order to avoid the payment of severance costs. Land so acquired outside of the boundaries of the national river may be exchanged by the Secretary for non-Federal lands within the national river boundaries, and any portion of the land not utilized for such exchanges may be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 377; 40 U.S.C. 471 et seq.), as amended. With the concurrence of the agency having custody thereof, any Federal property within the boundaries of the national river may be transferred without consideration to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for administration as part of the national river.

(b) With the exception of property that the Secretary determines is necessary for purposes of administration, preservation, or public use, any owner or owners (hereinafter in this section referred to as "owner") of improved property on the date of its acquisition by the Secretary may retain the right of use and occupancy of the improved property for noncommercial residential purposes, for a term, as the owner may elect, ending either (1) upon the death of the owner or his spouse, whichever occurs later, or (2) not more than twenty-five years from the date of acquisition. The Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of such acquisition, less the fair market value on such date of the term retained by the owner. Such right (1) shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems appropriate to assure that the property is used in accordance with the purposes of this Act, (2) may be transferred or assigned, and (3) may be terminated with respect to the entire property by the Secretary upon his determination that the property or any portion thereof has ceased to be used for noncommercial residential purposes, and upon tender to the holder of the right an amount equal to the fair market value, as of the date of the tender, of that portion of the right which remains unexpired on the date of termination.

(c) As used in this section the term "improved property" means a detached year-round one-family dwelling which serves as the owner's permanent place of abode at the time of acquisition, and construction of which was begun before January 1, 1967, together with so much of the land on which the dwelling is situated, the said land being in the same ownership as the dwelling, as the Secretary shall designate to be reasonably necessary for the enjoyment of the dwelling for the sole purpose of noncommercial residential use: *Provided*, That the Secretary may exclude from any improved property any waters or land fronting thereon, together with so much of the land adjoining such waters or land as he deems necessary for public access thereto.

SEC. 3. The Secretary shall permit hunting and fishing on lands and waters under his jurisdiction within the boundaries of the Buffalo National River in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws, except that he may designate zones where and establish periods when, no hunting or fishing shall be permitted for reasons of public safety, administration, fish or wildlife management, or public use and enjoyment. Except in emergencies, any rules and regulations of the Secretary pursuant to this section shall be put into effect only after consultation with the Arkansas Fish and Game Commission.

SEC. 4. The Federal Power Commission shall not license the construction of any dam, water conduit, reservoir, powerhouse, transmission line, or other project works under the Federal Power Act (41 Stat. 1063), as amended (16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.), on or directly affecting the Buffalo National River and no department or agency of the United States shall assist by loan, grant, license, or otherwise in the construction of any water resources project that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river was established, as determined by the Secretary. Nothing contained in the foregoing sentence, how-

ever, shall preclude licensing of, or assistance to, developments below or above the Buffalo National River or on any stream tributary thereof which will not invade the area or unreasonably diminish the scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values present in the area on the date of approval of this Act. No department or agency of the United States shall recommend authorization of any water resources project that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river was established, as determined by the Secretary, or request appropriations to begin construction of any such project, whether heretofore or hereafter authorized, without advising the Secretary in writing of its intention so to do at least sixty days in advance, and without specifically reporting to the Congress in writing at the time it makes its recommendation or request in what respect construction of such project would be in conflict with the purposes of this Act and would affect the component and the values to be protected by it under this Act.

SEC. 5. The Secretary shall administer, protect, and develop the Buffalo National River in accordance with the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), as amended and supplemented; except that any other statutory authority available to the Secretary for the conservation and management of natural resources may be utilized to the extent he finds such authority will further the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 6. Any person authorized by the Secretary to enforce any Federal laws or regulations applicable to the Buffalo National River may, with or without a warrant, arrest any person who violates such laws and regulations in his presence or view, and may execute any warrant or other process issued by an officer or court of competent jurisdiction, and may with a search warrant or as an incident to a lawful arrest, search for and seize property taken, used or possessed in violation of said laws and regulations. Anything so seized shall be held by such person or by the United States marshal pending disposition of the case by the court, magistrate, or commissioner. Upon conviction, any fish, bird, mammal, or other wild vertebrate or invertebrate animal, or part or nest or egg thereof seized shall be forfeited to the United States or otherwise disposed of by the court, magistrate, or commissioner. Upon conviction, any other property, except property of the United States, used or possessed in violation of said laws or regulations, including but not limited to any gun, net, or trap, may be forfeited to the United States or otherwise disposed of by the court, magistrate, or commissioner, except that this discretionary authority to forfeit or otherwise dispose of such other property shall apply only in the case of a conviction for an offense involving the taking or possession of property of the United States, or the taking, possession, capturing, hunting, or killing, or attempt thereof, of any fish, bird, mammal, or other wild vertebrate or invertebrate animal, or part or nest or egg thereof.

SEC. 7. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., May 26, 1969.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Your Committee has requested a report from this Department on S. 855, a bill "To provide for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas, and for other purposes."

We recommend the enactment of the bill, with the amendments indicated below.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Buffalo National River on not more than 95,730 acres in the Ozark Mountains of northwest Arkansas. The national river will include a segment of the Buffalo River, which will be preserved as a free-flowing stream, and adjacent land areas on both sides of the river containing unique scenic and scientific features.

The significance of the Buffalo River is not due to any single attribute of the river which, taken alone, ranks above that for any other river in the United States. Rather, its significance is due to a splendid combination of favorable

qualities. Massive bluffs and deeply entrenched valleys give the Buffalo the most spectacular setting of any stream in the Ozark region, and enable it to be classed among the most outstandingly scenic of the free-flowing streams in the eastern United States. With little residential or commercial development on its banks, and with no municipal or industrial pollution, the Buffalo River is unspoiled. It provides a unique opportunity for preservation since its headwaters lie within the Ozark National Forest, and the remaining 132 miles of the river can be preserved and administered as a single unit under the provisions of S. 855.

The geological features of the river provide an outstanding display—including the action of water in massive beds of cavernous limestone; the folding and faulting of sedimentary rocks; and limestone, dolomite, sandstone, and shale formations and their fossil remains of ancient life from the Ordovician to the Pennsylvania period of geologic time.

The flora along the river is richly diverse and noteworthy for the Ozark Mountains are the meeting place of America's flora. Hill-sides and bluffs with their varying elevations and exposures provide a variety of conditions for some 1,500 species of plants. While not present in great numbers, a variety of animals exist in the area, and the Buffalo River and its tributaries are one of the richest waterways in the Nation in terms of the total number of fish species.

Within the proposed national river are two individual features which are especially noteworthy. One is a 200-foot waterfall in Hemmed-in-Hollow, the highest free-leaping waterfall between the southern Appalachians and the Rockies. The other is the collection of gypsum formations in Beauty Cave which are outstanding in size and variety, and which contain one or more types not known to exist elsewhere.

A large number of archeological sites also exist within the proposed national river. These sites can yield the story of Indian occupation from Archaic to late prehistoric times—a span of some 9,000 years. While no single event of national significance has taken place on the Buffalo River, the remaining artifacts of the pioneer era can be used in interrupting a much larger story—the settlement and eventual over-population of the Ozark hill country followed by the migration from the area which continues at the present time.

The proposed national river includes about 132 river miles and a total of some 95,730 acres in four counties as follows: Newton County (43,610 acres); Searcy County (24,530 acres); Marion County (26,000 acres); and Baxter County (1,590 acres). The Federal Government owns about 770 acres of land within the national river boundaries, and this acreage is administered by the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. The State of Arkansas owns about 2,960 acres of land comprising the Buffalo River and Lost Valley State Parks and scattered parcels of public hunting areas. The remaining land acreage within the national river boundaries is in private ownership.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange lands and waters or interests therein within the national river boundaries, and outside of such boundaries in order to avoid the payment of severance costs. Lands owned by the State of Arkansas or its political subdivisions may be acquired only by donation.

The owners of "improved residential property" acquired for the national river, which the Secretary determines can be continued in such use without undue interference with the administration of the national river, may retain a right of use and occupancy for a term ending either (1) upon the death of the owner or his spouse, whichever occurs later, or (2) not more than twenty-five years from the date of acquisition.

The Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments has judged the Buffalo River in Arkansas to be a nationally significant free-flowing stream, and has recommended its preservation as a national river.

The proposed recreational uses within the Buffalo National River include boating, fishing, swimming, camping, photography, nature observation, and hunting. The old trails and wagon roads, which wind along the river, parallel

the tributaries, and traverse the ridges, provide a good basis for developing a system of hiking and riding paths. Two rugged and virtually uninhabited expanses of country, one at each end of this area, will provide unusual primitive environments where a rider, canoeist, trail camper, and scientist may find enjoyment.

Under section 3 of the bill, hunting and fishing would generally be permitted within the boundaries of the national river in accordance with applicable Federal and state laws. Water resource projects having a direct and adverse effect on the proposed national river would be restricted under section 4 of the bill. This section is virtually identical to section 7(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (82 Stat. 906, 913).

It should be pointed out that the free-flowing character of the river may well qualify it for consideration for inclusion in the national wild and scenic rivers system, but our overriding concern is the prompt protection of such values.

We recommend enactment of S. 855 with the following amendments:

1. Under section 2(b) owners of improved property acquired by the Secretary could retain the right of use and occupancy for noncommercial residential purposes. In view of the significant agricultural acreage within the proposed boundaries of the national river and the Secretary's authority under section 2(b) to impose appropriate conditions to assure property use consistent with the purposes of the legislation, we believe it desirable to allow retained rights for agricultural purposes. We therefore recommend that on page 3, the first sentence of section 2(b) be amended to read as follows:

"(b) With the exception of property that the Secretary determines is necessary for purposes of administration, preservation, or public use, any owner or owners (hereinafter in this section referred to as "owner") of (1) improved property used solely for noncommercial residential purposes on the date of its acquisition by the Secretary or of (2) lands used solely for agricultural purposes on such acquisition date may retain the right of use and occupancy of such property for such respective purposes for a term, as the owner may elect, ending either (a) upon the death of the owner or his spouse, whichever occurs later, or (b) not more than twenty-five years from the date of acquisition."

Additionally, the words "or agricultural" should be inserted before the word "purposes" on line 24 of page 3.

Section 6 of the bill provides for arrest authority within the Buffalo National River. This Department has recently reviewed various statutory provisions of the Department relative to making arrests. This Department has decided that general legislation to clarify the authority of the National Park Service to make arrests in areas such as this proposed national river is desirable rather than accomplishing this objective on a case-by-case basis. We recommend, therefore, that section 6 of the bill be deleted in its entirety and that section 7 be renumbered as section 6.

Lastly, we note that the word "component" on line 5 of page 6 of the bill should be replaced with the words "national river". This is an editorial change.

The estimated cost of acquiring the private lands within the proposed national river is \$9,200,000. This estimate is based on a 1967 estimate. The total development cost for the national river is estimated at \$8,224,400, of which \$6,347,100 is programmed for the first 5 years after its establishment. The estimated annual cost of operation of the national river is \$685,800 after the first 5 years.

The man-years and cost-data statement (based on current assumptions and estimates) required by the Act of July 25, 1956 (5 U.S.C. 2953), when annual expenditures exceed \$1 million, is enclosed.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that while there is no objection to the presentation of this report, the Bureau will express its views in a separate report which it is submitting to the committee.

Sincerely yours,

RUSSELL E. TRAIN,
Under Secretary of the Interior.

SUBJECT MATTER—PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER, ARK.
ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL MAN-YEARS OF CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FIRST 5 YEARS OF
PROPOSED NEW OR EXPANDED PROGRAMS

	19CY	19CY+1	19CY+2	19CY+3	19CY+4
Estimated additional man-years of civilian employment:					
Executive direction:					
Superintendent.....	1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Administrative officer.....			1.0	1.0	1.0
Secretary.....	1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Total, executive direction.....	2	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Substantive:					
Chief, interpretation and resource management.....	1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Assistant chief, interpretation and resource management...	1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Chief of maintenance.....	1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Property management assistant.....				1.0	1.0
Park rangers.....	1	3.0	3.0	4.0	10.0
Naturalist and historians.....		1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0
Personnel clerk.....				1.0	1.0
Clerk stenographer.....	1	1.0	1.0	1.0	4.0
Foreman.....				1.0	3.0
Craftsman and laborers.....	1	3.0	5.0	9.0	11.0
Clerical (seasonal).....	1	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
Park ranger (seasonal).....		1.3	2.8	3.0	7.0
Park naturalist (seasonal).....		.3	1.0	1.0	2.0
Laborer (seasonal).....	2	4.0	8.0	12.0	16.0
Total, substantive.....	9	17.6	26.8	40.0	65.0
Total, estimated additional man-years of civilian employment.....	11	19.6	29.8	43.0	68.0
Estimated additional expenditures:					
Personal services.....	\$100,200	\$159,900	\$224,300	\$303,400	\$479,100
All other.....	568,900	4,257,600	4,452,700	3,843,200	2,244,100
Total, estimated additional expenditures.....	669,100	4,417,500	4,677,000	4,146,600	2,723,200
Estimated additional obligations:					
Land and property acquisition.....	4,500,000	4,700,000			
Developments.....	1,030,700	1,995,900	1,364,400	920,700	1,037,400
Operation (management, protection and maintenance).....	138,400	221,600	312,600	425,900	685,800
Total, estimated obligations.....	5,669,100	6,917,500	1,677,000	1,346,600	1,723,200

Senator BIBLE. We have a very long list of witnesses with interest expressed in this from all over the United States. Those of you who wish to do so, may summarize and then submit your full statements for the record.

I am delighted to see both of the very distinguished Senators from the State of Arkansas here this morning. I will first recognize Senator John McClellan.

**STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN L. McCLELLAN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM
THE STATE OF ARKANSAS**

Senator McCLELLAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I want to express first my appreciation to the committee for holding this hearing in an effort to cooperate with Senator Fulbright and me and others who are interested in the enactment of this legislation.

I appreciate the opportunity and it is a pleasure for me to appear before you in support of S. 855, which would make the Buffalo River a national river. As you know, there was at one time considerable con-

troversy in Arkansas concerning the Buffalo River and its future status, but as I interpret the situation there today, that controversy has been substantially resolved.

That does not mean that everybody, every citizen, is unanimously for this proposal, but I am convinced that a great majority of our people now favor this project. In fact, I am advised there are some 20 or 25 citizens here today who have come to Washington at their own expense to testify before your subcommittee, in favor of the proposed legislation which was introduced earlier this year by Senator Fulbright and me.

As I have indicated, there have been differences of opinion concerning the future of the Buffalo River. There are some fair and pertinent arguments against Senate bill 855. There are also many strong factors and arguments in favor of it. After a long and impartial weighing of all the factors and after due deliberation, it is my considered judgment that this legislation is in the best interests of the State of Arkansas and of the Nation.

To completely understand the importance of S. 855, we need briefly to review the history and characteristics of the Buffalo River. It is a free-flowing stream which is located in the northern section of the State. Scenery along the Buffalo is some of the most charming and most magnificent that can be found anywhere. At the present time this beautiful stream is free of pollution. It is the largest and most outstanding natural stream that traverses the Ozarks of Arkansas. Along the river are massive and spectacular bluffs. The river's geological features provide a spectacular display of natural beauty and attraction.

The action of the river and repetitive beds of cavernous limestone, folding and faulting of the sedimentary rocks, and a variety of other rock and shale formations date back to prehistoric times.

The river's flora is very diverse and magnificent. I am told that within its immediate reaches there is a variety of some 1,500 species of plants alone.

The wildlife which is concentrated in the area is also quite diverse. Just about any species of animal known to exist in oak-hickory type of forest is known to habitate the Buffalo River area.

In addition, fishing is excellent. Float fishing on the Buffalo is traditional, historic, and highly successful.

As you gentlemen are aware, Senator Fulbright and I introduced legislation in 1967 which would have made the Buffalo River a national river. The legislation was not really pushed by anyone, because we in Congress were aware that the Vietnam war and other national commitments would prevent the Congress from appropriating the necessary funds for implementation of the proposed authorization.

Early this year Senator Fulbright and I reintroduced the legislation designed to create a national river.

I want briefly to review what the legislation would do. The proposed national river would be a lengthy narrow strip of parkland which would encompass some 152 miles of the Buffalo from near the river's headwater to its mouth.

Including Federal and State land holdings within the boundaries, the area would include some 95,730 acres of land. The strip of land taken would vary from one-half mile to 4 miles in width, averaging about 1.8 miles.

The national river would have three major developed areas: at Pruitt on State Highway No. 7; near Silver Hill on U.S. Highway 65; and at Buffalo River State Park. Smaller developments would be appropriately and conveniently located elsewhere along the river. Six areas would have camping and picnic grounds. Smaller improvements would be located near Ponca, in lower Richland valley opposite Woolum, and near the mouth of the river. Each of these six areas would have camping and picnic grounds, plus improved access to the river for boating and swimming. There would be a major visitor information center at the headquarters area, with secondary ones at Pruitt and Buffalo River State Park. At these developments, private concessioners could provide float services and saddle horses. For the most part lodging, meals, and other tourist services would be provided by private businesses outside the national river boundaries.

The economic benefits that would result from making the Buffalo a national river should be tremendous. There are approximately 15 million people located within a day's drive of some portion of the river, from the large metropolitan areas in the Midwest and Southwest. During the first 5 years that it would take for the national river to be established and brought into full operation, specialists at the University of Arkansas estimate that:

About 1.7 million persons would visit the river yearly, most of them over a season of 7 to 8 months;

The park service would spend \$9 million for land acquisition and about \$9 million in construction, maintenance, and personnel costs;

Private businessmen are likely to spend at least another \$5 million to build and improve nearby tourist accommodations;

Tourist spending over this initial 5-year period would amount to over \$92 million and reach an eventual annual level of nearly \$34 million;

The spending and respending of this new money would add nearly \$17 million to personal income in this area;

Increased business activity brought about by existence of the national river would generate some 3,500 new job opportunities;

Local retail and service trade should rise in volume by some 23 percent;

Business activity in other nearby counties would expand because of the tourist traffic through the region.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, to the economic benefits that will be derived from making the Buffalo a national river, I think that I should emphasize again the esthetic qualities that the river possesses. The natural rugged beauty of the Ozarks is personified by the Buffalo River. Some of the most magnificent natural scenery that I am aware of is present along the Buffalo. It is important and prudent, I believe, that this free-flowing stream and its natural surroundings be preserved for future generations.

The legislation that Senator Fulbright and I have introduced will accomplish this. The Buffalo National River will be, I believe, the second national river in the United States. It will assure that our children and grandchildren will have the opportunity to observe nature at its best, and in a State which exists much the same as it did for our grandfathers.

I would urge immediate consideration of S. 855, and that it be reported favorably at the earliest possible date. In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I wish to thank you for the opportunity to appear personally and make these comments in support of this very worthwhile project.

And I appreciate, too, the courtesy that you are extending our people in Arkansas, a number of them, to be present and give their testimony in person, as they represent many others who, of course, couldn't be here, in urging the Congress to enact this legislation that will preserve this great natural asset of charm and beauty and of great esthetic value to our Nation.

Senator BIBLE. A very fine statement, Senator McClellan. I am interested in hearing from all of these fine people from your area and from the surrounding areas.

I was privileged to handle the first national river proposal, the Ozarks National River, and I think Senator Moss was with me on that trip. We floated down with the current. We became acquainted with the southern creature called the chigger or something—the first time I ever met him. But I am more interested in meeting some of those fish that you described. I am sold on the preservation of these great national river systems, because they get away from us too quickly.

We do hope, based upon my personal handling and my experience of over 10 years with the parks and recreational areas, lakeshores, and scenic rivers, that we can move on this rather quickly, because usually the bulldozers aren't far behind. If we don't move quickly the costs accelerate, and this would be lost for our present generation and generations to come. I am looking forward, at the proper time, to a visit in this area for an inspection. I might possibly take a fishing pole along. And so we will hear with a great deal of interest the witnesses that you and Senator Fulbright have here today.

Senator Church.

Senator CHURCH. I have no questions.

I think the Senator has made a very fine statement.

Senator McCLELLAN. Mr. Chairman, may I thank you very much for that sympathetic attitude that you have just evidenced. And I would like to have the privilege of accompanying you when you go down there, so that I may introduce you to the fish.

Senator BIBLE. Well, fine. You can skip the chiggers or chiggers, whatever they are. We don't have those out our way. But we will let you know at the proper time. I hope we get down there one of these days.

Senator McCLELLAN. I am sorry, Senator Church.

Senator BIBLE. Did you have any questions, Senator Church?

Senator CHURCH. No. I just simply wanted to join the chairman in expressing my appreciation for the fine introductory statement that has been made by Senator McClellan this morning.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you.

Senator Bellmon.

Senator BELLMON. Mr. Chairman, I have no questions of Senator McClellan. I would like to say that we have some Oklahomans in the group today who will be testifying. At least part of the tributaries of the Buffalo River rise in Oklahoma, so we are very proud of the

stream. And there are a large number of Oklahomans who use it regularly for floating and fishing and camping, and I share the sentiments that have already been expressed that we do need to preserve streams like this because they are quickly going to be lost to us unless we act soon. I believe that it is in the best interests of all concerned that we do take this action here in the Congress as quickly as possible.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you, Senator Bellmon.

Senator Moss.

Senator Moss. I have no questions, but the Senator, of course, should be forewarned that there better be some fish in that river when the chairman goes floating down it, so maybe you would want to plant some between now and the time he makes the visit, if they are not plentiful—and I know they are plentiful down there.

Senator McCLELLAN. We have them on ice for you or available in the stream, either way you want them.

Senator BIBLE. I can catch them either way, Senator.

Senator McCLELLAN. We have fish farms down there. We can plant them overnight—no problem.

Senator Moss. I am his loyal adjutant; I go along whenever he goes floating down the rivers, so I will be along, too.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you.

Senator McCLELLAN. We invite all of you.

And I know you understand I have to go to another committee.

Senator BIBLE. We know you have other commitments. We understand.

Senator McCLELLAN. I know our delegation will be in good hands.

Senator BIBLE. We are delighted you could be here this morning.

I next want to call on our very distinguished colleague, Senator Fulbright, who has already bent my ear about the wonders of this great area. I am looking forward to going down there.

STATEMENT OF HON. J. W. FULBRIGHT, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

Senator FULBRIGHT. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate very much your allowing us to appear this morning on behalf of S. 855.

Senator McClellan has really given you much of the basic information. With the leave of the Chair, I would like to insert all of my prepared statement, and just take a few excerpts from it which I don't think he covered.

Senator BIBLE. Certainly. I understand that. Without objection, your statement will be incorporated in full in the record as given, and you highlight it in any manner you wish.

Senator FULBRIGHT. I would like to highlight a few items in it because Senator McClellan has covered some of the basic material. And as the chairman has said, I happened to have breakfast with him this morning, so I have already given him part of my story. And we have many very interesting witnesses.

I believe, Mr. Chairman, that the Buffalo is about the only major stream that is undeveloped and undammed in the Arkansas Ozarks. And as the Senator knows, the public sentiment, I think, is overwhelming in favor of making it a national river, although there are

a few people who live in the vicinity who have other views. And I have great sympathy for their position.

As far as my own attitude is concerned, long before anyone ever thought of making a park of this river, and in the early days when we were just thinking of the utilization of the river system before dams had been built on the White River into which this river flows, I had said I would support a dam. But since that time there have been a number of dams built on the White River, both the main stream and the tributaries at Norfolk. And on balance it seems to me that the Park Service's proposition takes priority over the former plan.

While I have changed my position, I would say the circumstances also have changed very substantially and, furthermore, the cost, the projected costs of the dam, which was at best marginal in the estimate of the Engineers, was so great that I would think it is very unlikely that in the foreseeable future a dam could be financed.

And there is one further observation I would make—that in the unlikely event that a dam should be justified, it can always be built later on, because this bill does not foreclose that. Nevertheless, I don't recommend it.

So I just say that by way of background, because at one time some 20-odd years ago, before we ever thought of this, I had been in the position of supporting a dam.

Mr. Chairman, you are familiar with the National Park Service report which was released in April, which goes into this very well.

I would like to quote, Mr. Chairman, from an article in the Pine Bluff Commercial, which is represented here today by Mr. Harry Pearson. It is, I think, a very appropriate excerpt from that article.

For at least a million years, the Buffalo River has been a wild, free river. It has had time during its existence, the time to shape and form.

As the results of its handiwork, its random architecture, are high bluffs, green bottomlands, swirling rapids, caves, and strange formations in the rock.

The Buffalo River Valley has also been a haven—a sort of preserve for other things which are wild, like the yellow celadine poppy, the brown small mouth bass, and the elusive and imposing red wolf.

And in the darker places, there are remnants of past generations: An Indian burial, a squid fossil dating back 200,000,000 years, fragments of iron kettles used by the Confederate soldiers mining saltpeter near Boxley.

The river, the oldtimers say, took its name from the herds of buffalo that once roamed its banks. The buffalo are gone now, no longer masters of the land. They are herded away with the others of their kind in sanctuary—safe from exploiters.

The river is no longer among the many wild rivers, but among the few. It is not protected; it is still defenseless against the exploiters.

I think that puts in very proper light what I feel about the river.

The Baxter Bulletin, which is a leading newspaper in a nearby county, had this to say recently:

The Buffalo . . . is a natural prize of national significance. It should be preserved as a national park-type area for the same reasons that the giant redwoods should not be mowed down to make boards and the Grand Canyon should not be dammed to carry out local economic designs. The national river would, in fact, aid the economy of the area by providing a new kind of outdoor preserve and recreational area.

The boundaries of the proposed Buffalo National River would include the river and associated scenic features, although land acquisition would be kept to a minimum. The establishment of the Buffalo as a national river will be done with the minimum possible disruption to

the residents of the area. Wherever possible only scenic easements will be taken.

I understand that there are an estimated 120 occupied dwellings within the national river area. The number of dwellings in each of the three kinds of zones outlined in the national river proposal are:

Twenty-five in the private use zones. Properties in this zone would only be subject to scenic easements.

Sixty-eight in the preservation zone. Life tenancy could be arranged for practically all of these occupants, if they so desire.

Twenty-seven in the public development zones. Three of the dwellings are within the now-existing Lost Valley and Buffalo River State Parks. Probably no more than 12 to 15 of the dwellings in development zones would need to be removed in the early years of the development of the national river. These would probably be the ones at the principal highway crossings, where development would need to take place first to serve the public at the most used access points to the river. People living at sites which would not be developed immediately could remain, if they choose, until the Park Service has its plans and money to proceed with development. In some cases this would probably amount to life tenancy.

Mr. Chairman, I think there is a very compelling case for this park, and I hope it will be enacted by the committee.

May I say one other thing. I feel very sympathetic to those who live in this area and who have seen other developments nearby at Norfolk and Bull Shoals and Table Rock, where there has been enhancement of the local land values. And if I were in their position, I am quite sure I might share their feelings. I do feel that while the immediate impact of this park might not be as great as the construction of a large dam and lake as was done in these nearby areas, I do believe that the long-term economic benefits to the area, while much more gradual in development, perhaps will be equally as great.

And I believe the estimates that have been made, included in both Senator McClellan's and my statement, reflect what would happen economically, although perhaps it would take somewhat longer than if the original proposal of a dam had been carried out.

Well, Mr. Chairman, there are many other witnesses, and I will not delay the committee, unless you have questions.

Senator BIBLE. Well, I am delighted to have you here, Senator Fulbright. As I have indicated earlier, you have spoken with the greatest enthusiasm, as you do on many subjects, about this great national river, and I am looking forward to visiting the area at some convenient time in the future.

There have been several amendments recommended by the Department in approving this. You are ahead of most people on the park proposals that we have been getting recently because you have the approval of the Department. That is always a good start along the way. And we have found out in building in various types of protections for the homeowner—and we pioneered this when President Kennedy was the President of the United States—that the Cape Cod formula has served us remarkably well in many of these areas throughout the United States where people have lived there and are permitted to continue living there. And I notice one area where they enlarged that,

too, because of some of the agricultural acreage, which is probably a good suggestion. Mr. Hartzog will testify on that in depth just a little later on.

But I think they have worked out an accord, if that is the correct word, where many of these uses are compatible, where they are not adverse to each other, they can live together. We found that has worked out remarkably well in places like Padre Island, for example, or the Ozark National River, Cape Cod, or Fire Island, and many, many others that are in the great national parks system today.

So I feel very encouraged that whatever adverse comments there are on this—I assume naturally there will be some—that maybe they can be reconciled. And this does have great national significance.

Senator FULBRIGHT. I thank the chairman. It does have national significance. You would be surprised at how many people from outside Arkansas have written to me who are interested in this area. They have been through this area. It is a principal vacation and recreation area within 1 day's drive of about 15 million people. And you will find many people in the St. Louis and Kansas City and Tulsa areas are familiar with it, and are really as interested as we are.

Of course, my home is just west of this river a very short distance, and I have been familiar with the area all my life. But there are people from the big cities who are also very interested and it will be of national interest.

Senator Church.

Senator CHURCH. Senator Fullbright, you have a great personal interest in wild rivers, do you not? You have not only interest in the Buffalo but in others elsewhere in the country. I think you have floated down the Middle Fork of the Salmon River through the Idaho primitive area, which is one of the great wild rivers of the country.

Senator FULBRIGHT. Yes. It is a very beautiful river, indeed. And it is, of course, a considerably larger flow than this. This is a quieter river but equally beautiful, with some differences.

You are quite right. That is a great asset to your State.

Senator CHURCH. I think there is no question that as time goes on and problems of just living grow even more vexatious, that these wild river systems will increase in value to the American people, and the general appreciation for them will grow. I think that your record in the Senate as a conservationist in backing proposals of this kind is much to be admired.

You mentioned the possibility of future dams being built on the Buffalo. I take it that this bill, if approved, would prohibit any dam from being built within the national river system established, but that it would also be open to Congress should a greater need develop to amend the law and authorize a dam.

Senator FULBRIGHT. That is correct.

Senator CHURCH. That was the meaning of your remark concerning the dam.

Senator FULBRIGHT. All I meant is that, if you build a dam there is no way to unbuild it.

That is the only reason I make the point. We have been working on this quite a number of years.

The proposal for a national river has been surveyed by the University of Arkansas as well as by the National Park Service. So it isn't a new project.

A former Congressman, who is a very good friend of mine—and I used to be the Congressman from this district before I came to the Senate—felt committed to the dam because he had said he was for it and didn't feel that he could change his position. I said I was, too, at one time, but I felt the changing conditions justified a change in the proposal. And, also, the Engineers' support, I would say, is marginal. At one time they decided it wasn't economically feasible but by changing the formulas they later said it was.

You are familiar with these changing formulas. But it was, economically speaking, a marginal process at best.

So I think this is the proper solution. I hope that comment didn't mislead you. I really said it to explain the change in attitude from the time when a dam was considered, as I said, before it ever occurred to me to have a park. It was fashionable at that time for everything to be dammed, as you know. And there are, I think, five dams, or six, within a very reasonable distance of their general area. Many local rivers have been dammed. And as I said, the Buffalo is undeveloped and undammed. The White River itself is a very beautiful stream. I remember it when it was free flowing, and it was a beautiful stream, but it is a much bigger stream, and the dams on that river have great significance in flood control and power generation, whereas the Buffalo is a relatively small river compared to the White. The Buffalo runs into the White. It is a tributary of the White.

Senator CHURCH. I just wanted to be clear on the fact that this bill contemplates that no dam shall be built.

Senator FULBRIGHT. Correct.

Senator CHURCH. It is all within the province of the Congress of the United States.

Senator FULBRIGHT. That is right.

Senator CHURCH. I think that clears the matter up, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. And I think it was very wise that you gave that history.

Further questions, Senator Church?

Senator CHURCH. No further questions.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Bellmon?

Senator BELLMON. No questions.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Moss?

Senator MOSS. No questions.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Senator Fulbright.

Senator FULBRIGHT. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. I appreciate your being here this morning. And you are welcome to stay, but I know you have other commitments.

Senator FULBRIGHT. My own committee is meeting. Senator Sparkman is taking my place temporarily.

Senator BIBLE. Very well.

Senator FULBRIGHT. Thank you very much.

Senator BIBLE. Delighted to have you here, Senator Fulbright.

(The complete statement follows:)

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. J. W. FULBRIGHT, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE
STATE OF ARKANSAS

Mr. Chairman, in the state of Arkansas we have one of the country's last significant natural rivers, a river that has been called one of the most remarkable in the world.

The bill which I have introduced, together with my senior colleague, Senator McClellan, would make this river—the Buffalo—a National River. Our bill (S. 855) would preserve the river in its free-flowing natural state, and conserve its important scenic and scientific features for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

The Buffalo is the only major stream left undammed in the Arkansas Ozarks, and public sentiment in the State has favored preserving it as a National River, along the lines first recommended by the National Park Service in a 1963 report. That report said "the Buffalo River offers an outstanding opportunity for preservation of a unique segment of outdoor America."

A more recent National Park Service report, released in April, says, "The Buffalo deserves national attention not for any single quality but for an outstanding combination of qualities. The very base of the river's appeal lies in its clean, flowing waters . . . Its scenery is interesting and often spectacular. It is unspoiled by development, and free of pollution. It has a remarkable collection of features illustrating its geology, botany, wildlife, archeology, and history."

The Buffalo, deeply entrenched in a meandering course, flows eastward across Newton and Searcy Counties in northwest Arkansas and enters Marion and Baxter Counties before joining the White River. In places, it lies almost 650 feet below its canyon rim.

Mr. Harry Pearson of the *Pine Bluff* (Arkansas) *Commercial* has written of the Buffalo's history:

"For at least a million years, the Buffalo River has been a wild, free river. It has had time during its existence, the time to shape and form.

"As the results of its handiwork, its random architecture, are high bluffs, green bottomlands, swirling rapids, caves, and strange formations in the rock.

"The Buffalo River Valley has also been a haven—a sort of preserve for other things which are wild, like the yellow celadine poppy, the brown small mouth bass, and the elusive and imposing red wolf.

"And in the darker places, there are remnants of past generations: An Indian burial, a squid fossil dating back 200,000,000 years, fragments of iron kettles used by Confederate soldiers mining saltpeter near Boxley.

"The river, the oldtimers say, took its name from the herds of buffalo that once roamed its banks. The buffalo are gone now, no longer masters of the land. They are herded away with the others of their kind in sanctuary—safe from the exploiters.

"The river is no longer among the many wild rivers, but among the few. It is not protected; it is still defenseless against the exploiters."

For some years the river's future was a center of debate. In the 1930's, Buffalo River State Park was established to protect a section of the lower river. But no move was made to preserve the entire river until the late 1950's, when both the State of Arkansas and the National Park Service identified the Buffalo as possessing important scenic and recreational values. Thereafter the Corps of Engineers renewed an earlier proposal for damming the stream, but in recent years it has become clear that public sentiment favors preserving the Buffalo as a National River, along the lines recommended by the Park Service in the 1963 report.

The Buffalo River area is centrally located with respect to large population centers, and attracts many visitors from cities such as Memphis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Dallas, and Tulsa, among others. It is within an easy day's drive of nearly 15 million people. An estimated 1.7 million persons would visit the river annually in its first years in the National Park System.

It offers great recreational potential of the sort that is becoming all too rare in our highly urbanized country. The river is ideal for sport fishing, boating, and swimming; and, of course, the area is highly attractive and suitable for camping, picnicking, and hiking. The scientific, geological, and archeological features, along with the flora and wild life, add considerably to the region's attractiveness.

I would like to quote an editorial from the *Baxter Bulletin*, Mountain Home, Arkansas:

"The Buffalo . . . is a natural prize of national significance. It should be preserved as a national park-type area for the same reasons that the giant redwoods should not be mowed down to make boards and the Grand Canyon should not be dammed to carry out local economic designs. The national river would, in fact, aid the economy of the area by providing a new kind of outdoor preserve and recreational area."

The boundaries of the proposed Buffalo National River would include the river and associated scenic features, although land acquisition would be kept to a minimum. The establishment of the Buffalo as a national river will be done with the minimum possible disruption to the residents of the area. Wherever possible only scenic easements will be taken.

I understand that there are an estimated 120 occupied dwellings within the National River area. The number of dwellings in each of the three kinds of zones outlined in the National River proposals are:

25 in the Private Use Zones. Properties in this zone would only be subject to scenic easements.

68 in the Preservation Zone. Life tenancy could be arranged for practically all of these occupants, if they so desire.

27 in the Public Development Zones. Three of the dwellings are within the now-existing Lost Valley and Buffalo River State Parks. Probably no more than 12 to 15 of the dwellings in Development Zones would need to be removed in the early years of the development of the National River. These would probably be the ones at the principal highway crossings, where development would need to take place first to serve the public at the most-used access points to the river. People living at sites which would not be developed immediately could remain, if they choose, until the Park Service has its plans and money to proceed with development. In some cases this would probably amount to life tenancy.

The potential economic impact on the area is considerable. A 1968 University of Arkansas study makes these estimates for the five years deemed necessary to establish and bring a Buffalo National River Park into full operation.

1. Tourist spending of over \$92 million during the development period, eventually reaching an annual level approaching \$34 million.

2. Park Service expenditure of \$9 million for land acquisition, plus an additional \$9 million for construction, maintenance and personnel costs, if the proposed Buffalo National River is developed according to present plans.

3. Private investments of another \$5 million to build and improve nearby tourist accommodations for lodging, fishing, boating, bathing and food services.

4. The generation of 3,500 new jobs and an addition of some \$17 million to personal income in the area, an area in which income has been considerably below the state and national average.

Therefore, it is evident that the Buffalo River would not only be a significant addition to the National Park System, but that the development of the Park would considerably enhance the area's economy.

Mr. Chairman, it has now been six years since the first National Park Service report recommending the establishment of the Buffalo National River. I think the case for making a National River of the Buffalo is clear and strong.

A recent editorial in the *Arkansas Gazette*, Little Rock, (Feb. 6, 1969), expressed it well:

" . . . The case for including a 128-mile stretch of the Buffalo in the National Parks System should have been wholly persuasive in the Congress two years ago. As time passes, the case has not diminished but instead has become compelling.

"A principal idea behind creating a Buffalo National River is to preserve what is left of the wilderness value of the stream. The Buffalo's pristine qualities are very great indeed, but each day they go unprotected brings new opportunity for the careless and uncaring to spoil the handiwork of nature."

It is a compelling case, Mr. Chairman, and I hope, therefore, that this bill will receive prompt and favorable attention and that in the near future the Buffalo will be, as it should, a National River, preserved and protected for the benefit of the public.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Symington, of Missouri, has stated his intention to send a letter to the committee. When it is received it will be included at this point in the hearing record.

(The letter referred to follows:)

U.S. SENATE,
Washington, D.C., July 10, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Interior Committee, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: It is my understanding that your subcommittee will soon be meeting in executive session on S. 855 introduced by Senators Fulbright and McClellan to designate the Buffalo River in Arkansas as a national river under the National Park Service.

A great many people in Missouri have written me of their interest and support for this bill—people from the metropolitan areas as well as throughout the state, hundreds of whom have over the years visited the Buffalo River area, one of the most beautiful in our part of the Nation.

Representative of the support this proposal has from the newspapers all over Missouri is the enclosed editorial from The Kansas City Star of May 22, which we thought you might like to have for consideration of the committee.

Sincerely,

STUART SYMINGTON.

[Enclosure]

[From the Kansas City Star, May 22, 1969]

FRESH HOPES FOR THE BUFFALO RIVER

By general consensus, the Buffalo river which meanders for 132 miles through Northern Arkansas is one of the finest free-flowing streams remaining in North America. Not only does that basin possess exceptional beauty, but it lies within easy driving distance of 15 million Americans, which enhances its value as a recreation resource for the nation.

For more than 30 years conservationists have been fighting to preserve the Buffalo in its natural state. While the Buffalo's riverbanks still remain in private hands, several important victories have been scored. The Army engineers have abandoned plans for two dams that would have drowned the tranquil valley. Many local spokesmen, who at one time were convinced the dams would stimulate the area economy, have reversed their position. Now there is widespread sentiment in Arkansas, and elsewhere, to save the Buffalo as a national river which would become a part of the National Park system.

Early this year the two United States senators from Arkansas, J. William Fulbright and John McClellan, introduced a bill to create a national playground of almost 96,000 acres. The riverbanks would be protected by a narrow corridor of land, varying from one-half to four miles wide and including most of the scenic attractions in the valley. In the House, Rep. John P. Hammerschmidt, who represents most of the area through which the Buffalo flows, has proposed a similar measure. Both plans fit into the recent recommendation of the National Park Service.

Today time is running out on the Buffalo, as population and industry slowly build up in Northern Arkansas. In the past, congressional action has been deferred to permit further study, which was reasonable. Now we believe the time for review and debate has come to an end and final action by Congress at this session is in order. The Buffalo river is one of Nature's masterpieces that has been relatively untouched by man. It is a part of the nation's outdoor heritage and should be preserved for the enjoyment of future generations.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness will be George B. Hartzog, Director of the National Park Service.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR., DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE; ACCOMPANIED BY BERNIE CAMPBELL, SUPERINTENDENT, HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK

Mr. HARTZOG. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Delighted to welcome you again, and delighted to find out that you are now official.

Mr. HARTZOG. Thank you so very much. I am delighted to have this opportunity to appear, Mr. Chairman and members of the subcom-

mittee, to submit the Department's report in support of the bill that is now pending before your subcommittee.

Mr. Chairman, in light of the very eloquent and thorough statements by the distinguished gentlemen from Arkansas, I have a rather lengthy statement, much of which is repetitive—

Senator BIBLE. It will be incorporated in full in the record at the end of your remarks.

Mr. HARTZOG. With your permission, I would appreciate that, and I will spend my time, if I may, Mr. Chairman, summarizing from this map, which is a general vicinity map as well as a general development map of this area.

Senator BIBLE. When you are speaking, speak with description so that the reporter can pick up where you are pointing the arrow.

Mr. HARTZOG. I shall, sir. This is a general vicinity map, Mr. Chairman, showing the location of the proposed Buffalo National River in its relationship to the Ozark National Scenic Riverway, which was the first National River approved by the Congress in 1964, with relationship to the George Washington Carver National Monument administered by the Park Service in southwest Missouri.

Senator BIBLE. How far is it from Joplin, approximately?

St. Louis, how far is it away from St. Louis?

Mr. HARTZOG. From St. Louis it is 300 miles, and from Tulsa, Okla., it is 200 miles.

Senator BIBLE. 200 miles. That is, roughly, in a northeasterly direction—almost a due easterly direction.

Mr. HARTZOG. Due west.

Senator BIBLE. Well, it is east of Tulsa and Tulsa is west of the Buffalo.

Mr. HARTZOG. Yes. It is 220 miles from Memphis, Tenn. It is 280 miles from Kansas City; and it is 400 miles from Dallas, Tex.

Senator BIBLE. It can't be too far from Little Rock, as I look at the map.

Mr. HARTZOG. And Little Rock, of course, is very close, 120 miles.

Senator BIBLE. 120 miles from Little Rock. Very fine. I think we have oriented ourselves geographically.

Mr. HARTZOG. I would call your attention, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, to the fact that this is the last large free-flowing stream in the Arkansas Ozarks. All the rest of these streams have already been impounded, as you can see from the great number of water impoundments on this vicinity map of the Ozarks.

The area is rich and diverse in its fauna and flora, having some 1500 different species of plants.

As was pointed out by the Senators from Arkansas, the Buffalo is indeed a fine fishing stream. I can attest to this from having spent 3 days there. When the chairman and the members of the subcommittee go there, I am sure that they will have great luck on the river. The smallmouth bass is one of the outstanding fish resources in this area.

The area is located in four counties, with 43,610 acres in Newton County; 24,530 acres in Searcy County; in Marion County, 26,000; and Baxter County, 1,590, for a total of 95,730 acres.

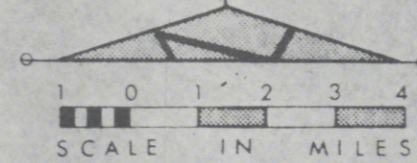
The mileage proposed to be preserved is the 132 miles from near its headwaters to its juncture with the White which, as Senator Fulbright explained, is already a part of this reservoir complex here.

Proposed

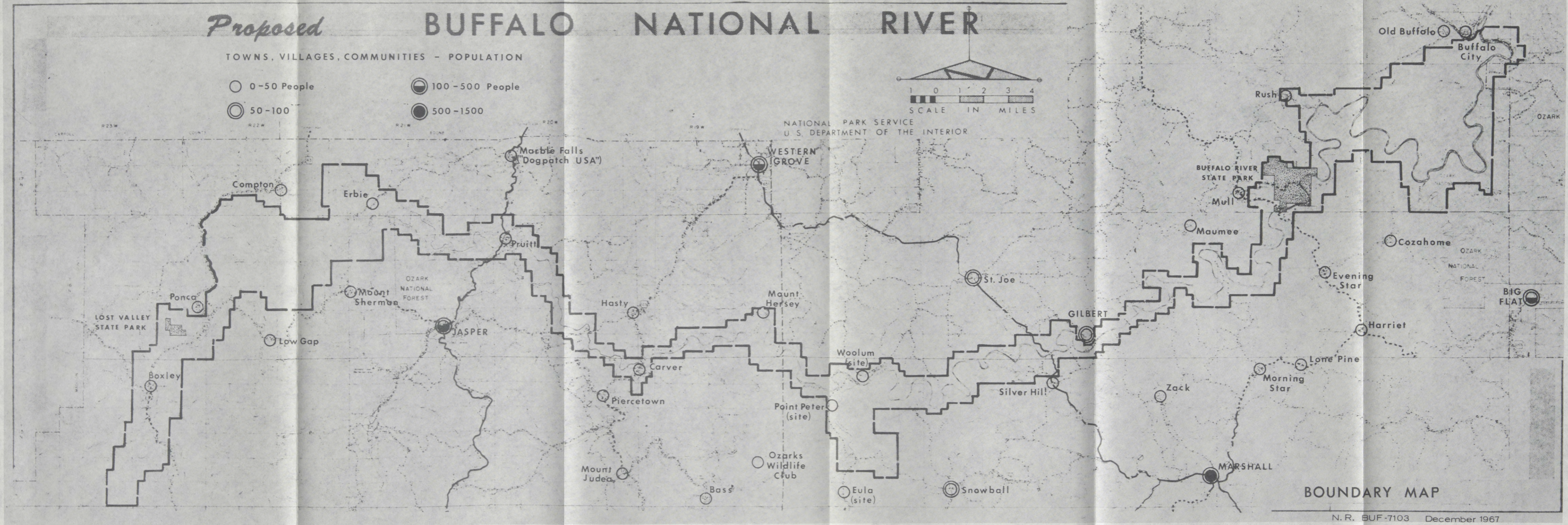
BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER

TOWNS, VILLAGES, COMMUNITIES - POPULATION

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| ○ 0-50 People | ◐ 100-500 People |
| ◑ 50-100 | ● 500-1500 |

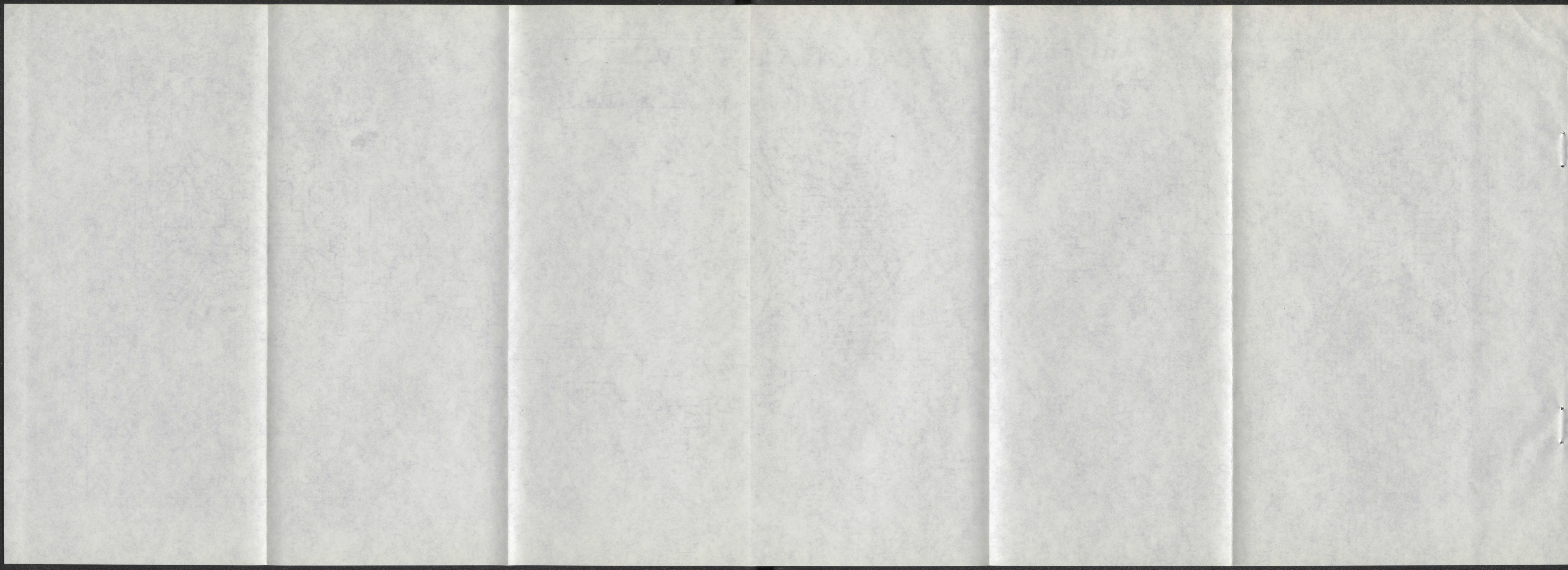


NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



BOUNDARY MAP

N. R. BUF-7103 December 1967



In this area, 770 acres is already owned by the Federal Government, 570 administered by the U.S. Forest Service and 200 acres administered by the Bureau of Land Management. There are 2,960 acres of State-owned lands, and there are also two State parks in this area. One is in the vicinity of Lost Valley and the other is the Buffalo River State Park, at this juncture here.

Senator BIBLE. Roughly, what is the acreage in State parks?

Mr. HARTZOG. One of them is 800-some acres.

Senator BIBLE. Does this take that entire 800 acres?

Mr. HARTZOG. The Buffalo River State Park is 2,170 acres, and the Lost Valley State Park is 280 acres. It would be our proposal to include those, subject, of course, to their donation by the State of Arkansas.

Senator BIBLE. Well, as you very well know, that has been my philosophy for many years, because I think the benefits, with the creation of national rivers or national recreation areas or national forestry areas, come primarily to the benefit of the state in which they are located or the States in which they are located. So I think that the State parks should be donated as a part of an overall national rivers system to avoid duplication. I would think, from the State's viewpoint, they would welcome it because it takes away a cost item from them. I can't believe this is a cash register item for the State of Arkansas. I don't know. I don't know what the visitation is. Do they charge to go in there? Is it free? Do you know?

Mr. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman, there is a representative of Governor Rockefeller's office here and I understand he is prepared to answer those questions—

Senator BIBLE. All right. We will have him answer these questions.

Mr. HARTZOG (continuing). In respect to the State's position.

I might say to you that you took this position in connection with the Ozark National Scenic Riverway in Missouri, and the State is now moving to turn those State parks over to us. Legislation is pending in this session of the State legislature.

Senator BIBLE. I really think that is an advantage to the State of Missouri. I thought so at that time.

Mr. HARTZOG. I do, too.

Senator BIBLE. And I discussed it with Senator Symington, and I and happy they are moving along in that direction. I think it is of benefit to them.

Mr. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman, we estimate that the land acquisition cost for this project will be \$9,200,000. And it is pointed out in the Department's statement that while the figures, I think, are based on an appraisal of 1967, and they were updated in May of this year, so that this is a current estimate. We propose total development costing \$8,224,400, of which we propose \$6,349,100 in the first 5 years. At the current rate of assessment within the four counties, the estimated tax loss in revenues to the counties from Federal acquisition would be \$17,353. This would be more than offset, of course, by the increased income from capital as well as public expenditures in the area as reflected in this economic study report.

I understand, also, Mr. Chairman, that the staff has provided the committee with a brochure of photographs which reflect some of the outstanding beauty and geography—

Senator BIBLE. They have.

Mr. HARTZOG (continuing). Of this scenic river.

Senator BIBLE. It seems to be very carefully prepared.

Mr. HARTZOG. We count 120 family units, Mr. Chairman, within this proposed National River, and 25 of them are in the private use zone. There are 68 of them in the preservation zone, and 27 of them in the public development zone. The legislation, if approved by the Congress in its present form, would authorize life estates and tenancy for specified periods of time up to 25 years at the option of the land owner, similar to the legislation in other areas that this committee has considered.

Senator CHURCH. Does that apply regardless of the zone in which the private holdings may be located?

Mr. HARTZOG. No, sir, Senator. In the public development zone it would be at the option of the Federal Government. If the land is needed for public development, then we would have to take it. But we estimate that of the 27 dwellings in the development zone, probably no more than 12 or 15 would need to be removed in the early years of the project.

Senator CHURCH. Is it on that basis that you estimate that the tax loss would be only \$17,353?

Mr. HARTZOG. No, sir. Our proposal, Senator, would contemplate—and the figures you have before you contemplate—the fee acquisition of all of the area, with lease-back, sell-back, so that the tax loss is on the basis of total acquisition. This gives the committee the total impact that this could possibly have.

Now, the tax loss would be reduced if, for example, the State of Arkansas tax system permitted taxing a leasehold or taxing a sell-back of less than the fee interest, you see.

Senator CHURCH. Yes.

Mr. HARTZOG. And, likewise, we would be able to reduce the land acquisition costs as well. But the \$9,200,000 is the estimated fee acquisition costs for all of the land, 95,730 acres.

Senator CHURCH. And you do contemplate acquiring fee title then to all of the private—

Mr. HARTZOG. No, we propose, sir, that where we could negotiate at a reasonable cost for a lesser property interest, we would do it. But after the Congress gave us the authority in the Land and Water Conservation Fund Amendments of 1968, where we can't negotiate for the lesser interest at a reasonable cost, they then authorize us to buy the fee and sell back or lease back a compatible development or use right.

Senator CHURCH. So that in the long run you see no need to eliminate private uses within the area that are compatible with the maintenance of the scenic values?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is correct, sir, we do not, unless they happen to be at a place where we propose a different kind of public use development such as a camping ground.

One of the rich opportunities for interpreting the history of the people who settled the Ozarks exists in this Buffalo River area. We would propose to develop here two pioneer villages and communities based on relocating some of these old structures that already exist in

this area, and reconstructing others where we don't have the needed facility.

Senator CHURCH. So you will have a historical interpretation as well.

Mr. HARTZOG. That is right, a historical interpretation. And we would likewise propose a pioneer farm much like we have down at Blue Ridge Parkway, because we have found that this has been one of the most well received facets of our interpretation in recent years, trying to make history three dimensional for people so that they can become involved and be able to be a participant in it.

Senator CHURCH. How much of this land is presently in public ownership?

Mr. HARTZOG. 770 acres, sir, in Federal ownership, and 2,960 in State ownership—3,370 acres.

Senator CHURCH. Out of a total of 9—

Mr. HARTZOG. 95,730, or, in other words, 92,000 acres are in private ownership.

Senator BIBLE. You may proceed.

Mr. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, that completes my summary of the statement. I would be pleased to try to answer any questions which you or members of the subcommittee would have.

Senator BIBLE. Well, I wish you would spell out these agricultural uses just a little more by telling us, and particularly for the record because I am sure questions might arise, how many acres within any of these zones are of an agricultural nature and what kind of agriculture it is. Are they grazing cattle, or do they harvest crops, and what kind of crops? Will you develop that a little?

Mr. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I would like to ask Mr. Bernie Campbell, Superintendent of Hot Springs National Park, to join me at the witness table at this point.

Senator BIBLE. Mr. Campbell, we are very happy to have you come forward.

Mr. HARTZOG. Mr. Campbell is familiar with the local conditions. Let me say that farm units, of which there are 84—

Senator BIBLE. There are 84 farm units, and what are their sizes? I don't want to know each and every one, but what do they average in size? What is a farm unit, according to your definition, on these 84 units, Mr. Campbell?

Mr. CAMPBELL. I would say approximately 100 to 150 acres.

Senator BIBLE. They will run 100 to 150 acres. Will you describe what farmland means? What farmland means to those of us in the West undoubtedly has a different connotation for Senator Bellmon in Oklahoma and probably a different type of description for the Buffalo National River.

Mr. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman, our land appraiser just handed me a sheet of paper which says that in Newton County there are 3,443 acres classified as croplands, 1,578 acres classified as pasture, and 37,341 acres classified as wooded timberland.

In Searcy County there are 2,703 acres classified as cropland, 1,288 acres classified as pasture, 20,164 classified as wooded timberland.

In Marion County, there are 655 acres of cropland, 296 acres of pasture land, and 22,350 acres of wooded timberland.

In Baxter County, there are 32 acres of cropland, 10 acres of pasture land, 1,258 acres of wooded timberland.

Senator BIBLE. What do you consider cropland in this area? What is cropland? What do you raise, alfalfa or hay or—

Mr. CAMPBELL. Corn, beans.

Senator BIBLE. Oh, I see. What are the major crops? Those are the major ones?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Those would be the major crops.

Senator BIBLE. Rotated?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. Rotational crop system?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Yes, sir. There are also grazing lands.

Senator BIBLE. Are these units large enough to sustain a farmer and his family?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Well, they are, yes, sir; but not too well.

Senator BIBLE. I should think it would be pretty marginal with that small an acreage, I mean just for the record.

Mr. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman, I think we might be able to give you this kind of insight into what the situation is there. Of 62 farm units that are classified as such, for example, in Newton County, only 28 of them have year-round residence, so the family doesn't live on the farmland.

Senator BIBLE. That is kind of a bedroom farm. No, it isn't. It is just a summer place.

Mr. CAMPBELL. No, some of the people live there the year round.

Senator BIBLE. 62 of them live there the year round.

Mr. CAMPBELL. 28 live year round, in Newton County.

Senator BELLMON. Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Bellmon.

Senator BELLMON. It is common for many people to live in the small towns and drive out and operate the farm. This may be what happens in these cases.

Senator BIBLE. Well, in that respect they use it then as a moonlighting farm. In order to support the farm, they have to get a job in the city; is that right?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Well, there has been a gradual movement of the people from these counties to the city communities.

Senator BIBLE. I suppose America would be better off if they stayed in the country because then we wouldn't have so doggone many problems, but that's another subject.

But I wish, gentlemen, that you would furnish for the record a breakdown of the character of the homes that are there, and it doesn't need to be done now. It can be supplied for the record.

You have how many actual year-round homes? Do I understand that you only have a total of 62, or is that just on the farm units?

Mr. HARTZOG. Year-round residences in the entire area are 45.

Senator BIBLE. Year-round residences in the entire area are 45?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is right. Now, seasonal cottages—

Senator BIBLE. Hold on a moment. You are going too fast. If you had a year-round residence within this area, then under the bill as

it is drawn now, the owner can stay there for his lifetime and the lifetime of his immediate heir, subject to a 25-year cutoff period?

Mr. HARTZOG. No, sir. It is in the alternative, Senator. He can stay there, just as is the case of Ozarks, for his life and that of his spouse, or else he can choose a 25-year tenancy, which either he wants.

Senator BIBLE. Well, now, what if my wife and I lived there and we would like to have our son come in after we have passed on into the Great Beyond and have him inherit our home? We only have the one boy. Can he do that under this?

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, you have to make up your mind at the time you sell the property. If you are going to take a life estate, then he would have nothing to inherit. If you are going to take a 25-year tenancy, then he could succeed to the remaining term of the 25-year tenancy if you deceased in the meantime. But he couldn't have it both ways, sir.

Senator BIBLE. What if I choose not to sell to the Park Service?

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, in that case we would institute eminent domain proceedings to acquire the property.

Senator BIBLE. I would like to spell this out, because I have found—and I have worked on these, as you know, for some 10 years—this is the area where we have the greatest number of problems, because people don't know—

Mr. HARTZOG. That is right.

Senator BIBLE (continuing). Exactly what you men in the Park Service are going to do with their homes that are within the taking area. So that is why I want to spell it out with great care.

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, I appreciate that, Mr. Chairman. And I would also like the record to show that in our acquisitions we negotiate out more than 90 percent of all of our acquisitions, so that the eminent domain proceedings for acquisition amounts to less than 10 percent of our entire acquisition program. I believe, as you and I have discussed and as we have discussed with other members of this committee, that when you are establishing these areas, carving them mostly out of privately owned land, that you have to deal with great sensitivity and patience and understanding in this program. And this is what we have tried to do.

Senator BIBLE. What if I have 150 acres of cropland? Is the term the same? It doesn't have any dwelling. It doesn't have any home. It just has some cropland, corn, wheat, whatever is on there, but no home at all. It is just bare acreage. What are my rights on that 150 acres of cropland?

Mr. HARTZOG. If you are in a private-use zone—

Senator BIBLE. In a private-use zone.

Mr. HARTZOG (continuing). Then you can stay there in perpetuity so long as you continue to use it for that purpose, you see. In other words, this is very much like the—

Senator BIBLE. What if I have a home in the private-use zone? Can I keep my home there as long as I want to?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is right.

Senator BIBLE. The 25-year limitation applies only in the public-use zone?

Mr. HARTZOG. And in the preservation zone. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. You men in the Department of the Interior keep dreaming up new titles, but I suppose this is what you kind of call a scenic easement. Is this in the nature of a scenic easement?

Mr. HARTZOG. In a way, the private-development zone is in the nature of a scenic easement. But we have found that where you are limited to the acquisition of a scenic easement, that you cannot protect the taxpayers' interest in the acquisition of that property, because you generally have to pay almost as much for the scenic easement as you have to pay for the fee, yet you have not acquired the fee. And this is what we asked the Congress for last year, and you gave us the authority to acquire the fee in those instances and then sell back a compatible use right.

Senator BIBLE. Well, now, what is the preservation zone?

Mr. HARTZOG. The preservation zone is really the environmental zone. This is the zone that we want to keep very much like it is, and this is largely woodland now.

Senator BIBLE. Any homes on it?

Mr. HARTZOG. Yes, sir; there are some homes in it.

Senator BIBLE. How many?

Mr. HARTZOG. In the preservation zone—

Senator BIBLE. Well, without the number, if I had a home in the preservation zone, what are my rights?

Mr. HARTZOG (continuing). There are 68.

Senator BIBLE. Sixty-eight homes. What kind of homes?

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, now, these are not—

Senator BIBLE. Summer cottages?

Mr. HARTZOG. These are dwellings, both permanent and seasonal; you know, cottage type.

Senator BIBLE. You can break that down for the record. If I have a home within the preservation zone, what are my rights?

Mr. HARTZOG. Life tenancy or 25 years.

Senator BIBLE. I see. That applies to the preservation zone as well as the public zone?

Mr. HARTZOG. In the public-use zone the option would have to be at the option of the Federal Government, because that is the zone in which we propose to develop the public-use facilities.

Senator BIBLE. I see.

Mr. HARTZOG. But we estimate that not more than 12 to 15 of these dwellings that are in the public-use zone would be needed for development in the early years of the project; the first 5 years of the project. So that the rest of them, which is roughly 12 to 15, could stay there under the life tenancy or the 25-year option.

Senator BIBLE. Have you delineated these various zones on the map?

Mr. HARTZOG. We have, Mr. Chairman, and I have the maps right back here. I will be delighted to show you where they are.

With your patience, there are four maps, and we can show you the entire riverway and where every facility is located and what the classification is that we have given to each zone.

Bring the maps up to the front, please.

Senator BIBLE. It would be helpful if you could bring them up closer to the committee and share them, at least as far as you can, with

the audience because they are the people concerned with this. They probably have holdings there.

Yes, George, tell us about the zones.

Mr. HARTZOG. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

This is the legend for these maps. The square red is a farm unit.

The triangle or pyramid is a year-round residence.

The half triangle is a seasonal cottage.

The blue is a commercial establishment.

Senator BIBLE. And how many commercial establishments do you have there? It doesn't look as if you have too many. I mean in total. You don't need to count them. Give me the total number of commercial establishments and then tell me what kind.

Mr. HARTZOG. The commercial establishments are 13.

Senator BIBLE. Thirteen commercial establishments.

Mr. HARTZOG. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. What is the nature of the commercial establishments? Gas stations, grocery stores?

Mr. HARTZOG. Gas stations, grocery stores.

Senator BIBLE. Motels?

Mr. HARTZOG. There are some motels, yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Well, sir, you can supply that.

Mr. HARTZOG. Rental cottages.

Senator BIBLE. What was that last one?

Mr. HARTZOG. Rental cottages.

Senator BIBLE. I understand. And there is only a total of 13?

Mr. HARTZOG. Thirteen.

Senator BIBLE. I own a commercial establishment there. What are my rights?

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, service stations comprise most of them.

Senator BIBLE. I have a service station. What are my rights?

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, if you are in the private-use zone, you can stay here. And if you are in the public-development zone, you can stay there until your land is needed for public development.

Senator BIBLE. By the Federal Government?

Mr. HARTZOG. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. All right.

Mr. HARTZOG. And if you are in the preservation zone, you can have 25 years or a life estate.

Senator BIBLE. The same as applies to the residential?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is right.

Senator BIBLE. There is no distinction, then, between the commercial-property owners and the residential-property owners?

Mr. HARTZOG. The distinction, Mr. Chairman, as drawn in this legislation is that the only people who are entitled to this at their option are people in residences or noncommercial establishments. But on the basis of our planned acquisition—this stippled is a private-use zone, and in this zone you can see the permanent and the seasonals and the commercial establishments. All we want on those is scenic easements. But if we can't acquire them at a reasonable cost, then we want to exercise the right to acquire the fee and sell back or lease back. In other words, we think that these commercial services are needed in

order to supplement the public development that will take place in the area.

Senator BIBLE. Very well.

Mr. HARTZOG. But, likewise, we believe that you have to have some control over this; otherwise you destroy the environment of the area and you turn it into something less than what you are contemplating under this legislation.

Senator BIBLE. I thought you said in that private-use zone if I had a home—and those are homes—that I could stay there as long as I wanted to.

Mr. HARTZOG. That is right. In other words, we don't think the homes that are there have to be taken out in order to preserve what is there. But we don't want one of these homes all of a sudden to blossom into an expensive motel or some other commercial operation. We want it to stay the kind of rural, natural environment it now is.

Senator BIBLE. Is that made very clear in the legislation?

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, I think it is.

Senator BIBLE. All right. We know what your intent is. We will have the staff experts take a look at it. You may proceed.

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, these maps fit together at this point. And again you see the location of the developments.

Senator BIBLE. Now, the green is what? Is that the agricultural? No, that is Federal land.

Mr. HARTZOG. The green is land now publicly owned.

That is Federal Bureau of Land Management land.

Then the map picks up again, and this is the little crossroads of Pruitt, and, of course, this is the south boundary of the experimental forest, U.S. Forest Service. They own much of the Federal land within the proposed area.

And this is Highway 7. And you can see the division. There are three major accesses to this area: Highways 7, 14, and 65, which is the principal road between Springfield and Little Rock. Pruitt is at State Route 7 there, and you can see the cluster of cottages around that intersection. And here is some of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission land.

I might say that the proposed public development zones are these orange areas here. And here again is a private development, or private-use zone. And you see we have left some of the homes that can remain there.

This is the Highway 65 crossing, which is the heavily traveled highway in that area.

Senator BIBLE. From the time I leave the head of the river until I get to the mouth, it is 132 miles?

Mr. HARTZOG. Yes, 132 miles.

And this is the Buffalo River State Park. And again you see the private developments along the river. This map breaks off and picks up over here.

(Discussion off the record.)

Senator BIBLE. Go right ahead.

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, we are down at the White, now, Mr. Chairman. That is the end of the proposed taking area.

Senator BIBLE. This is the end of the park right there, or I mean the national river.

Senator CHURCH. How long would a float trip take from one end to the other?

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, Senator, I would hesitate to answer that. It really depends on how long you wanted to take, you know. I spent 3 days on the river and we only floated about half of it because we found the fishing pretty good. You kind of stop along the way.

How long would it take if you just kept floating, Mr. Campbell?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Well, you can do 25 to 30 miles a day, so it would be 4 days. But as Mr. Hartzog says, in May I floated with two different parties. We covered the same distance with one in 1 day as with the other in 2 and a half days.

Senator BIBLE. Very fine. You may proceed, if you have anything further to add.

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, only if there is some point of your questioning that was still not answered.

Senator BIBLE. Oh, no. There may be other questions from other members of the subcommittee. But I think you have covered it very well.

The estimated cost of acquisition is \$9 million. The estimated cost of development is nine. What is the annual cost of operation and maintenance?

Mr. HARTZOG. \$138,000 in the first year, \$221,000 in the second year, \$312,000 in the third year, \$425,900 in the fourth year, and an estimated \$685,800 in the fifth year.

Senator CHURCH. What is—

Senator BIBLE. You say fishing—pardon me. Go ahead.

Senator CHURCH. Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. Go ahead.

Senator BIBLE. I was just going to develop two other questions. Fishing is permitted, of course?

Mr. HARTZOG. Likewise, hunting would be permitted under this legislation.

Senator BIBLE. And do you have any restricted hunting seasons within the confines of the national rivers?

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, the way we have worked it out in Missouri, we do have the public use areas closed to hunting.

Senator BIBLE. I can understand that. What type of game or birds do you hunt there?

Mr. HARTZOG. Quail and turkey mostly.

Senator BIBLE. Quail and turkey. Deer?

Mr. CAMPBELL. And occasionally the running of the fox at night.

Senator BIBLE. Any bear?

Mr. CAMPBELL. There are a limited number of bear. I have seen—

Senator BIBLE. Cougars?

Mr. CAMPBELL. No, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Rattlesnakes?

Mr. CAMPBELL. I would say there are snakes there.

Senator BIBLE. Rattlesnakes?

Mr. CAMPBELL. I have never seen any rattlesnakes but I have seen copperheads.

Senator BIBLE. We come from an area which has them, so it won't scare us.

Mr. CAMPBELL. It is likely they are in the rocks. It would be a natural environment. But they are not dangerous unless you step on them.

Senator BIBLE. They are not dangerous if you don't tangle with them.

Mr. HARTZOG. They have wonderful gravel bars where you don't have to get involved with the snakes.

Senator BIBLE. Those Arkansas rattlers must be different than the Utah rattlers.

What is the general climatic condition during your peak season which is, I suppose, as is true all over the United States, from Memorial Day to Labor Day. What is your weather like?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Weather is favorable during this time. It is in the mountains. It is cooler weather than we would have at Hot Springs.

Senator BIBLE. Well, would it be cooler than we have in Washington, D.C.?

Mr. CAMPBELL. I would say considerably.

Senator BIBLE. What is your range? Is it 95 degrees or—

Mr. CAMPBELL. I would say the range would be from 70 in the early morning, at times, up to 95 occasionally.

Senator BIBLE. What are the winters like?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Sir?

Senator BIBLE. The winters.

Mr. CAMPBELL. The winters tend to be rather severe at times. Gilbert, which is the cold spot on the river, gets down to zero occasionally, often freezing at night.

Senator BIBLE. Does it have any winter usage at all?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Yes, sir. The winter, as far as I am concerned, is a rather ideal time to float the river, because then the foliage is off. You can see the countryside better. The water often may be a little higher.

Senator BIBLE. What is the general elevation of the area?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Around 2,000 feet.

Senator BIBLE. About 2,000 feet.

I think you have made a very fine statement, each of you.

Senator Church.

Senator CHURCH. I wondered about the jurisdiction over hunting and fishing. Would it become a Federal jurisdiction under this proposal rather than a State jurisdiction?

Mr. HARTZOG. Senator, the legislation provides hunting and fishing will be permitted by the Secretary within the boundaries of the National River in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws except that he may designate seasons where and establish periods when no hunting or fishing shall be permitted for reason of public safety, administration, fish or wildlife management for public use and enjoyment.

We enter into a cooperative agreement with the State. And I am very pleased to tell the committee that we have just signed such an agreement with the State of Wyoming, which, as the Senator well knows, was one of the very difficult problems we had. So far as I know now, we don't have any more problems on this issue with the States.

Senator CHURCH. The purpose of such an agreement would be to permit the State the normal administration of fish and wildlife—

Mr. HARTZOG. That is right.

Senator CHURCH (continuing). Subject to an overriding option on the part of the Federal Government to impose certain restrictions?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is right, to close certain areas during certain periods.

Senator CHURCH. Now, how do you intend to raise the money for the land acquisition and development? Will that come from the Land and Water Conservation Fund?

Mr. HARTZOG. Yes, sir; it will. And the estimated cost of this is within the amount of \$375 million that was forecast as being for allocation to the National Park Service in the 1968 amendments.

Senator CHURCH. I think those are all the questions I have, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you, Senator Church.

Senator MOSS.

Senator MOSS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I think the chairman would like to know if chiggers are going to be on the list of game that can be hunted down there.

Mr. HARTZOG. There are going to be some. But, as you know, the reason he is so sensitive on this subject is that these Ozark chiggers are trained for fresh western meat.

Senator MOSS. I am glad to have your reply to Senator Church about the way the fish and game management would go in relationship with the State. As you know, we have a difficult problem on that. And I take it from your answer that the agreements you have entered into with Wyoming and propose to enter into with other States would constitute the Federal Government being like a private owner, closing his land if he feels he has to close it, or providing for areas where safety is necessary, but otherwise, if game is available, it has to be hunted in accordance with the State law. The State will set the dates and times and bag limits, and all that sort of thing; is that right?

Mr. HARTZOG. Yes, sir. And, Senator, I am pleased to share with you the fact that at the last executive committee meeting of the International Fish and Game, Mr. Harry Woodward, the director of the Fish, Game, and Conservation Commission in Colorado, introduced a resolution commending the National Park Service for its revised program of wildlife and fisheries management. It was approved unanimously by the committee and transmitted to the Secretary. Mr. Woodward was in town last week, and he made me an honorary game management officer of the Colorado Wildlife Management program. So I feel that we made a lot of progress.

Senator MOSS. My how times have changed. This is wonderful. Because I have been holding hearings all around the United States on fish and game management, as you know, and it looks as though we have finally worked out an agreement. If that is the case, I am very happy. I think it is a very sensible thing to do. It was so sensitive with the State fish and game commissions that we had to find an appropriate solution.

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, I am certainly delighted with it and I appreciate the part that you and the chairman and other members

of this committee and of the House have played in trying to resolve this matter.

I think primarily what happened was due to a lack of communication. I spent 4 days with three of my regional directors at the International Game and Fish meeting in Tucson last year, and we sat there and talked this issue out for some 3 of those 4 days.

It was a great experience, and I think we are on a road to solving these problems because, after all, it is the people's business; and I just don't see the necessity for people at the State and Federal level charged with this responsibility having all these problems. I think we now have the problem in hand. Mr. Campbell just shared with me the fact that the Arkansas Fish and Game Commission has, in fact, endorsed this proposal.

Senator Moss. When you were reciting the costs of operation and maintenance there was a considerable jump between the 4th and 5th year, as I heard it. Can you explain that jump to me?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is the point at which, of course, Senator, we would expect to have the area pretty well developed and all the land acquired. So we would be pretty much at full operation.

Senator Moss. That is the year you think you would then shift into high gear, as it were, in the operation of the river system?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is correct, sir.

Senator Moss. One rather general question: Since this is to be somewhat similar to the Ozark National River, and since I have seen that, could you tell me briefly how that is operating? What is the annual visitation? What problems in general do you have, if any, up there?

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, we had some problems, there is no question about that. You generally encounter problems in any of these new areas. But I think, from what I have seen and heard—and I just visited with the superintendent out there a few months ago—we have things there on a pretty even keel.

Incidentally, there will be a witness before this committee, Ed Stegner, testifying in behalf of this legislation, who is a native of Missouri and I think he might give you a citizen's viewpoint of what he thinks we are doing there.

The visitation in the Ozarks—Mr. Chairman, I will have to supply that for the record. Senator Moss, I will have to supply that for the record, because it is not in this brochure that I have been handed here.

Senator Moss. Well, that may be supplied for the record. As a general observation, have the visitations there come up to expectations, or have they exceeded expectations?

Mr. HARTZOG. I wouldn't want to hazard a guess, because frankly I don't know. I would have to supply it for the record. I am sorry.

Senator Moss. I see. Well, it is a matter of estimating how much demand there is for this sort of preservation and how it is utilized.

Mr. HARTZOG. I got a complaint in my office several months ago that we had too many floaters on the river, which would indicate to me that we are getting some pretty heavy usage there. But I simply don't know the number. Too many floaters to some people doesn't necessarily mean too many floaters to everybody.

Senator Moss. That is true.

(The information requested is as follows:)

In 1968, the 3 state parks bordering the Riverway had a total visitation of 764,111. The Riverway superintendent estimates that actual visitation to the riverways area itself (river & NPS facilities) was in the neighborhood of 1½ million for that year.

Senator Moss. Thank you very much. I think you have worked out a very good plan here. Zoning it by these different use zones and planning to use them accordingly seems to me to be a very simple way to deal with this whole problem.

Mr. HARTZOG. Thank you, sir.

Senator CHURCH. May I just say too, Mr. Chairman—

Senator BIBLE. Certainly. Senator Church.

Senator CHURCH (continuing). That I want to commend the Park Service and George Hartzog for the leadership he has given the Service in developing plans that have the greater flexibility to deal with a land area that has different qualities, different characteristics. I know that originally the Park concept was a very rigid one, and it simply was not adaptable to many recreational areas that had much potential.

I think that this bill reflects the degree of flexibility that you now have worked into proposals of this kind. And I believe you are moving in the right direction. This flexibility is absolutely necessary if you are going to do the job that has to be done to provide recreational facilities for the American people.

Mr. HARTZOG. Thank you very, very much, Senator Church. I appreciate that. I feel that I cannot accept the credit for it. I think that the major share of the credit goes to the distinguished chairman of this subcommittee and the members of this subcommittee who have given the leadership and the support for this kind of approach to Park management in the last 5 years.

Senator CHURCH. I was hoping that you would say that, Mr. Hartzog.

Mr. HARTZOG. You and the members of this subcommittee know how much I appreciate that, because none of these innovations can be brought about, as you well know, without the active support and assistance of the legislative committees, and I am grateful for the leadership that you have given us.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, gentlemen. We appreciate your appearance here this morning.

(The prepared statement referred to follows:)

PREPARED STATEMENT OF GEORGE B. HARTZOG, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Subcommittee, we appreciate this opportunity to testify on S. 855, a bill "To provide for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas, and for other purposes."

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Buffalo National River for the purpose of conserving and interpreting an area containing unique scenic and scientific features and of preserving as a free-flowing stream, an important segment of the Buffalo River for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

The proposed National River is located in the Ozark Mountains of northwest Arkansas, approximately 120 miles north of Little Rock; 200 miles east of Tulsa; 280 miles southeast of Kansas City; 300 miles southwest of St. Louis; and 220 miles west of Memphis.

The Buffalo River, considered for size, for completeness and for wild qualities, is one of this country's few remaining significant natural rivers. However, the significance of the Buffalo is not due to any single attribute of the river, but is

due to a splendid combination of favorable attributes. The very base of the river's appeal lies in its clean flowing waters, which support a notable sports fishery and provide an opportunity for pleasure boating and swimming. Massive bluffs and deeply entrenched valleys give the Buffalo the most spectacular setting of any stream in the Ozark region and enable it to be classed among the most outstandingly scenic of the free-flowing streams in the eastern United States. It is the only major stream left undammed in the Arkansas Ozarks. With little residential or commercial development on its banks and without municipal or industrial development, the Buffalo River is unspoiled and free of pollution. It offers a unique opportunity for preservation as its headwaters lie within the Ozark National Forest, and the remaining 132 miles of the river can be preserved and administered as a single unit under the provisions of S. 855.

The Buffalo River, within an easy day's drive of nearly 15 million people, is a great outdoor museum bearing the record of both natural changes and the activities of man over thousands of years. It has a remarkable collection of features illustrating its geology, botany, wildlife, archeology, and history.

The geological features of the river illustrate the complicated story of the building and erosion of the Ozark Dome. This outstanding geological display includes the action of water in massive beds of cavernous limestone; the folding and faulting of sedimentary rocks; formations of limestone, dolomite, sandstone and shale; and the fossil remains of ancient lifeforms from the Ordovician to the Pennsylvania period.

The vegetation along the river is rich and diverse for the Ozarks are a meeting ground of varied and normally widely separated forms of life. For the last hundred thousands years, the entire Mississippi valley has been a parade ground for plants and animals on the gradual move. The broken topography, the hills and bluffs have provided a variety of habitats for some 1,500 species of plants. While not present in great numbers, a variety of animals live in the area, and the Buffalo River and its tributaries are one of the richest waterways in the Nation in terms of the total number of fish species. The river is a "classic" stream for smallmouth bass, whose original habitat within the Mississippi basin has largely been altered or destroyed.

Within the proposed National River, there are two features which are especially noteworthy. The 200-foot waterfall in Hemmed-in-Hollow is the highest free fall between the southern Appalachians and the Rockies. The collection of gypsum formations in Beauty Cave are outstanding in their variety and the size of single specimens.

Man has lived along the Buffalo for at least 9,000 years. When properly studied, the large number of archeological sites within the proposed National River should disclose the story of Indian occupation from archaic to late prehistoric times. Though changes have come more rapidly to the Buffalo since the 1820's, no single nationally significant event in American history has ever taken place there. The sequence of many smaller events do fit into a significant America theme: the settlement and eventual over-population of a rural area, with the subsequent emigration of many farm families to urban environments which continues today.

The proposed National River includes about 132 linear miles of the river and a total of some 95,730 acres in four counties as follows: Newton County—43,610 acres; Searcy County—24,530 acres; Marion County—26,000 acres; and Baxter County—1,590 acres. Within the boundaries of the proposed National River, the Federal government owns 770 acres administered by the Forest Service. The State of Arkansas owns about 2,960 acres of land comprising the Buffalo River and Lost Valley State Parks and scattered parcels of public hunting areas. The remaining land acreage within the proposed boundaries is in private ownership.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange lands and water or interest therein within the National River boundaries, and outside of such boundaries in order to avoid the payment of severance costs. Lands owned by the State of Arkansas or its political subdivisions may be acquired only by donation.

The owners of "improved year-round residential property" owned and constructed prior to January 1, 1967 and acquired for the National River, which the Secretary determines can be continued in such use without undue interference with the administration of the National River, may retain a right of use and occupancy for a term ending either (1) upon the death of the owner or his spouse, whichever occurs later, or (2) not more than 25 years from the date of Federal

acquisition. The improvements on the land within the national river consist of 84 farm units, 45 year-round residences, 41 recreational residences, 13 commercial buildings, 6 organizational buildings, and two special-purpose structures. We believe that many of these properties can remain in private ownership if the Department obtains appropriate assurance that the scenic, scientific or other natural values will not be impaired.

To help in fitting both public and private uses to the land and to better define the areas where natural values take precedence over development, the Park Service has divided the Buffalo National River into three broad zones:

A *Development Zone* of 8,190 acres containing nearly all the visitor and administrative facilities. The Federal government would acquire this land in fee simple though owners might retain rights of residence for periods of up to 5 years, depending on the pace of development.

A *Conservation Zone* of 78,133 acres containing nearly all of the resources which make the Buffalo nationally significant—the river and the natural and historic features along its course. The government would purchase the land in fee, possibly leasing back the better agricultural land to individuals who would maintain the pastoral scene by farming. In practically all cases, residents could retain life tenancy on their land.

A *Private Use Zone* of 9,407 acres which now includes almost all of the better farm land—in Richland Valley, along the Buffalo downstreams from Richland, and around Boxley. The government would only acquire rights-of-way for necessary roads and trails and such controls as are needed to prevent inappropriate development in this zone. This could be done by exercising the buy and sell-back or lease-back authority.

The estimated cost of acquiring the private lands within the proposed national river is \$9,200,000. Of this, \$4,500,000 is proposed for expenditure in the first year and the remaining \$4,700,000 in the second year.

The Department's report to your Committee states that the land cost estimate is based on a 1967 estimate. The basic data were indeed collected in 1967. However, based on a new field inspection and further review in May of this year, we can assure you that we can acquire the property within the \$9,200,000 figure. It is, therefore, a current estimate of land cost.

The developments needed for public use of the National River would be phased in as the lands are acquired, visits increase, and funds are appropriated for construction. The total development cost for the Buffalo National River is estimated at \$8,224,000, of which \$6,349,100 is programmed for the first five years after establishment. The estimated annual cost of operation of the national river is \$685,800 after the first 5 years.

The Service asked specialists at the University of Arkansas to study the probable economic impact that the establishment of a major national recreation area would have on the five-county area of the Buffalo National River. During the 5 years that it would take for the national river to be established and developed into full operations, they estimate that in addition to the Federal expenditures:

Private businesses are likely to spend at least \$5 million to build and improve tourist accommodations.

Tourist spending over this period could amount to over \$92 million and would reach an eventual annual level of nearly \$34 million.

Increased business activity would generate some 3,000 new job opportunities.

Local retail and service trades should rise in volume by some 23 percent.

The spending and respending of this new money would add nearly \$17 million to personal incomes in the area in the fifth year following establishment.

The Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments has judged the Buffalo River in Arkansas to be a nationally significant free-flowing stream, and has recommended its preservation as a national river.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Harold Alexander, Conway, Ark., Arkansas Planning Commission, representing Governor Winthrop Rockefeller. Mr. Alexander.

**STATEMENT OF WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER, GOVERNOR OF THE
STATE OF ARKANSAS, AS PRESENTED BY HAROLD ALEXANDER,
ARKANSAS PLANNING COMMISSION, CONWAY, ARK.**

Mr. ALEXANDER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This statement is presented for Winthrop Rockefeller, Governor of the State of Arkansas. It is not a lengthy statement, and with your permission I would like to present it that way.

Senator BIBLE. Certainly, proceed.

Mr. ALEXANDER. The Ozark country of North Arkansas is a land of rugged mountains, plateaus and deep canyons. It has long been famous for its swift, clear streams which have provided unique opportunities for fishing, canoeing, swimming, camping, and viewing the magnificent scenery, or simply getting away from the crowd.

Many of the region's streams have been impounded or otherwise altered. But among those which remain relatively unchanged is the Buffalo River, which has its origin high on the slopes of the Boston Mountains and flows north and east to its confluence with the White River. It is a river of exceptional beauty, of clear, quiet pools, rushing rapids, multicolored cliffs, white gravel bars, waterfalls, and caves, bordered by the steep terrain of forested slopes and silhouetted mountain peaks. Through the centuries it has cut deeply into the rock strata, revealing the geological history of the Ozark country. Some 1,500 species of plants grow in its watershed, and many forms of animal life live along the stream and in its clear waters. Archeological sites and deposits along the river record the early history of man on this continent, and deserted log cabins stand as symbols of the pioneer way of life.

Thousands of people have enjoyed the beauty and outdoor recreation opportunities along the Buffalo, and the numbers of people seeking recreation and enjoyment along this river are increasing at a rapid rate. The river provides diversity and unique types of recreation in a region where lake facilities are provided by large existing reservoirs. The Buffalo River has been called "one of the Nation's last significant natural rivers."

Your committee has under consideration Senate bill 855, providing for the establishment of Buffalo National River in Arkansas. The economic benefits which would accrue to the State through establishment of this national river have been thoroughly studied and reported by the University of Arkansas. This recent report notes that an estimated 1.7 million visitors would come to this national river annually if it is protected and developed in accordance with plans proposed by the National Park Service. This report also states that 3,500 new jobs would be created and \$17 million added to personal income in the area. These increases in opportunities and income would contribute much to the economy of the Ozark region where opportunities are limited by low population and resource potentials.

Enhancement of economic potentials is of the utmost importance, and the Buffalo as a national river will be a boon to the economy of the region. This status would enhance the importance of the river. But in addition to this potential, there is a concern in this country for the protection and preservation of the beauty, history, and intangible

values of natural areas and landscapes. This concern is one of protecting and perpetuating an environment which appeals to our sense of esthetic values and provides these elements of quality and diversity.

The Buffalo River is one of the finest remaining examples of our natural landscape and it furnishes many opportunities for enjoyment. Along with other national treasures, this stream should have the highest priority for preservation in its natural and unaltered condition.

Therefore, as Governor of the great State of Arkansas, I want to give the full support of my office, and my personal support, to Senate bill 855, which provides for establishment of Buffalo National River. We have other fine streams and areas meriting protection, but the Buffalo is the finest of them all. As attested by the interest demonstrated by thousands of people, it is a resource of national importance.

It is my belief that immediate action must be taken through Federal legislation to protect and preserve the Buffalo. If such protective legislation is not passed, there is a great danger that the beauty and delicate ecological relationships characterizing this stream will be destroyed by careless and indiscriminate developments, eliminating those values which give this river its superior quality.

Senate bill 855 provides the opportunity to protect the Buffalo from despoliation and to preserve its original character. I request for myself and the people of Arkansas that this bill be approved by this committee, and that its enactment by the Congress be encouraged to the fullest possible degree. Both the State of Arkansas and the Nation will benefit and will commend you for your concern for this national treasure.

Passage of this legislation will be a most important contribution to the welfare of the State and the Nation and a credit to this Congress and to the administration.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very, very fine statement, Mr. Alexander. As I understand it, there are two State parks within the taking area. What is the sentiment or feeling of the State of Arkansas as far as their making their State parks a part of the national river?

Mr. ALEXANDER. Well, just the other day the State Parks Commission passed a resolution supporting this bill. Insofar as this administration is concerned, I am certain there will be no problem here, or at least I do not think there will be.

Senator BIBLE. They support the bill, but that is not my question. My question is, if this becomes finally enacted into legislation, would the State of Arkansas donate their State parks into the national river?

Mr. ALEXANDER. Well, in supporting this bill, the Parks Commission, I think, understands that this is the provision. That is my understanding of it. I did not sit in on the commission meeting.

Senator BIBLE. Well, it might be helpful if you would supply for the record—and I am going to keep this record open for several weeks for those of you who may want to correct or elaborate, or redefine statements—I would appreciate it if you would furnish to our staff a copy of the resolution to which you referred.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I certainly will.

Senator BIBLE. It does seem to me, as I indicated earlier, it is to the advantage of any State involved, when you create national rivers or national parks or national seashores, to donate its properties into the overall national concept.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I will provide you with copies of the resolutions that were passed both by the parks board and the game and fish commission.

Senator BIBLE. And in addition, I would very much appreciate your advising how many people the State of Arkansas employs in each of these two States parks within the taking area.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I will see that you receive that information.

Senator BIBLE. Senator MOSS.

Senator MOSS. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman. That was a very fine statement.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Thank you, sir.

Senator MOSS. Glad to have you.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Dr. Neil Compton of Bentonville, Ark., representing the Ozark Society.

STATEMENT OF DR. NEIL COMPTON, PRESIDENT OF THE OZARK SOCIETY

Dr. COMPTON. Senator Bible and members of the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, I am going to speak from my notes only. I am not going to deliver the entire statement, and I would like to turn in my entire statement for the record.

Senator BIBLE. Without objection, your statement will be incorporated and made a part of the record in full.

Dr. COMPTON. We are going to be short of time today. We have some of our people who need to get away before too late.

I cannot describe my pleasure in being here today because I have been one of the persons who has been involved in the battle to save the Buffalo River from the beginning. I first floated the Buffalo River in 1932, and my impression then was it might have been one of the most beautiful streams in America, and nothing that I have ever seen of it since has altered my position or my feeling about it. And the fact that the Buffalo River was being proposed for damming and impounding by the Corps of Engineers in the late 1950's and in the early 1960's was the cause of the formulation of the Ozark Society.

Today I would like to talk to you about the Ozark Society, what it is and about the dangers that now impinge upon the Buffalo River against its integrity because there certainly are dangers that are as great as the dangers of being impounded. The Ozark Society attended hearings, a hearing, rather, conducted by the Corps of Army Engineers in 1962, and at that time it was obvious that, unless we had an organization of some kind to oppose this sort of thing, there would be no rivers left whatsoever in the State of Arkansas in their natural condition. We went home and organized the Ozark Society, which is a general conservation organization. We are not interested just in rivers, but we are interested in the scenic values of the entire area—the mountains and the valleys and everything else that we have down in the Ozarks. But the Buffalo River was the most eminent problem that we have on our list. It was in dire need of support. So practically all of our attention has been devoted to that since that time.

Since I was one of the originators of the Ozark Society—and in those days I was elected president of it and still continue to be president of the Ozark Society—I would like to point out that I was born

in the State of Arkansas, educated in its schools, that I practiced medicine there, and my hometown is Bentonville.

The Ozark Society is an independent organization. It is independent of any governmental agency, any State agency, and we have no affiliations with any large corporations of any kind. You may hear some statements that we are being supported by the Arkansas Power & Light Co. and other such statements, but we want to emphasize that this is not true.

I would like to mention our dues. For the first 3 years, they were only \$1 per year. After that time they have been \$3 per year and that is what they are now. We have never received a donation of more than \$100, and this only on about four occasions. Most of our members will contribute \$5. And our membership now stands at around 800 members and in 40 some odd States in the Union.

Our present bank balance is \$2,000, and our total income during this time has been \$22,000. The people in the Ozark Society who are here today, practically all of them have come on their own expense to testify. They have been assisted in some cases by local conservation groups in their hometowns. And this is how we operate.

From the very beginning, the proposition that the Buffalo River be made a national river was popular. I would say that if it had not been a good idea, it would not have developed as well as it has. This idea actually originated with what was once upon a time the Arkansas Publicity and Parks Commission. Mr. Glen Greene was head of that in 1946. He suggested that it had national values, that it would be a national park, that is, there should be a national park in Newton County. His suggestion was permitted to lapse but some of us remembered it. So it is not the Ozark Society that thought of this first. We have, however, as I have said, espoused the cause all the way along. And we are absolutely sure that this is going to be one of the finest developments for the State of Arkansas that we have ever had.

I would like to talk a little bit about what is going on now. It is obvious that we now have an advantage. We have had a change in our Congressmen, and our present Congressman is in favor of the Buffalo River proposal. And incidentally, it has not been mentioned but he has a companion bill in the House, and he is very much in favor of this. Since his election, things have been possible that were not possible before that. We now enjoy, as you already know, the endorsement of our Senators; their legislation is before you now in the form of Senate bill 855, and it has already been mentioned that the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission has endorsed it and that the Arkansas Park Commission has endorsed it, and nothing stands in the way of it at the present time except the technicalities of perhaps some of the legislation that may follow; in other words, some of the things that may prevent this bill from getting through. I want to emphasize why it is important that it should go ahead now.

The first thing and the most obvious damage is being done by the State agency at the present time; namely, the Arkansas State Highway Department.

The Arkansas State Highway Department came into the southern end of the Buffalo-Madison Rivers and excavated the valley floor for a distance of a mile and a half and a width of about a mile, and this is one of the worst sights that you can see in what had formerly

been a beautiful area. The reason they did this was to acquire fill for the building of what really are super highways through this rugged mountain country.

The Ozark Society was not opposed to the paving or blacktopping of the roads that were already there. These were beautiful, picturesque mountain roads, and they could have been straightened just a little. And they were on good grade. They were solid, and had they been paved on essentially the right-of-way they were on, they would have done no harm. But a 200-foot right-of-way was blasted down the mountains and up the mountains, and this material was used as fill for those modern-type roads. And unhappily the fill has slipped off into the valley below. They are faced with the problem of having to literally open up the mountains in order to get the roads on bedrock to make them stable. And we have met with the highway department. We have no quarrel with them. Had we approached them at first, I am sure they would have listened and they would have revised their plan.

It is urgent that we pass a bill like S. 855 because other such things that may happen from other sources, not to think of the damage that has already been done, can be corrected by the National Park Service. It can be ameliorated at least, and a lot of this strip-pit area can be obliterated and replanted. And we feel that the right-of-way, too, can be modified.

That is just one thing.

Senator BIBLE. Well, on that point it occurs to me that if the Governor of Arkansas is for this bill—and Winthrop Rockefeller says he is through his spokesman, Mr. Alexander—it certainly ought to be very easy to pass that message back to Mr. Alexander, who is here, and he can hear you, and he can carry the message to the Governor and at least you can avoid that in the future. I cannot correct the past.

Dr. COMPTON. We do not anticipate too much more of this because—

Senator BIBLE. Well, there is no need dwelling on it, because if the Governor is for it, and he controls the highway department—I am sure he does; if he does not, he is the only Governor in the United States who does not control his own highway department—then he certainly can remedy that at least in the future as well as the other agencies who might be doing the same thing.

So I would not worry about what might happen in the future, as long as you have the Governor with you. If he was on the other side—he stated he was for you.

Dr. COMPTON. To restore this damaged area I am talking about.

Senator BIBLE. That is a different problem. That is past. I cannot remedy the past.

Dr. COMPTON. The other things I would like to mention which damage the river come under the heading of other enterprise; in other words, private enterprise, and we are really in more danger now of losing the natural value of the Buffalo River from speculation of various kinds than we are from any other one thing. Our tax laws are constructed so that, if people have, let us say, oil wells in Texas, they can come to Arkansas and buy up large tracts of land, bulldoze it off, and establish cattle ranches and this is not always a paying proposi-

tion because of the variation in the rainfall. Some years we have failure and they have to haul their hay down from Nebraska. And it makes it, well, as I said, an uneconomic thing to do. However, at the present time we are having plenty of rainfall and things are moving along pretty well, and literally whole tracts of land are being diluted of their forest cover. This is a natural condition in the Ozarks. It will result in the loss of soil and the gravel that is on the hills. And all these hills down there, most of them are covered with a thin soil which washes down into the valley below and into the stream, fills up the river, and as time goes on the river will literally be obliterated. If this existed all over the entire watershed, I would say that it would be necessary to give some thought to what our Internal Revenue Department does to permit income tax deductions in reference to operations that are along this line. This would be one way to encourage a better ecological balance in the Ozarks.

Resettlement of the villages of various kinds is being contemplated for the Buffalo River area. Hunting and sporting clubs, some of them of the most atrocious type, have been established in the area. We have all sorts of ideas being brought forth. Efforts are being made to establish, for instance, a home for wayward boys, art colonies, town sites, and amusement parks. We have heard rumors that one of our prominent rock-and-roll players has bought the told town of Rushing and intends to make an amusement park of it. If this legislation, S. 855, is delayed too long, I think the Buffalo River might very well turn into a sort of a Coney Island River. It would have an amusement park of some kind or another out along the banks and various and sundry developments which would be chaotic.

An old practice that has expanded since the war is the practice of logging in some of these remote canyons. We had at one time some of the best remaining hardwood timber in some of these small canyons along the Buffalo. It had not been logged because it was not possible for the loggers to get in there, but with the bulldozers and the big log truck it has been possible for them to enter them, and the timber is being cut out. Of course, this grows back, but it is damage that affects the scenery and protection of the area.

Lastly I want to speak about the dams. It has been implied here today that dams may not be in the picture, but they are very much in the picture. The Corps of Engineers brought out a study in 1968 entitled "The White River Basin Comprehensive Study," and in this they recommended that the Buffalo River be made a national river. However, I want to read an item from the Gazette for Monday, February 3, and that is this year, 1969. It states in the first paragraph that, "Col. Charles L. Steel, District Engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will speak on the Buffalo River at the 10:00 a.m. Wednesday meeting of the Greater Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs at the Garden Center, 1201 Commerce Street in Little Rock."

And at that meeting Col. Steel proposed strongly that Gilbert Dam Project be revised. We want to point out that none of these dams have been de-authorized for the Buffalo River.

I do want to point out that the three major speakers here today opposing us are former officers of the Buffalo River Improvement Association, and that is the big dam association, the president, vice

president and secretary of that organization. They hope in their hearts that this legislation will fail, that Senate bill 855 will not be passed so that the plans for damming Buffalo can be brought out again. And they have implied this in the very same paper last year by stating they are biding their time until something like this comes about.

Then I want to quote another statement which is very pertinent, I think. It is in the current issue of the Arkansas Historical Quarterly, spring issue, and it is from an article by a former Congressman who was probably the number one dam builder in Congress when he was there, and he said this: "Failure to get this project completed was the greatest legislative disappointment of my congressional career. The Army Engineer Corps was strong for the plan and still is strong for it." May I emphasize those words. "I feel that the plan should be finished and my earnest prayer is that one day it will be completed."

Now, if Senate bill 855 fails, I think it is obvious in view of the fact that this is a political situation, that things can change in a year or two or three and we would be back where we were at the beginning. We earnestly plead that this legislation be given consideration and it be passed and become part of our law because of these reasons.

I have nothing more to say.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, Dr. Compton, and I appreciate the fact that you have come here. I would only ask you where is Bentonville in relationship to the Buffalo?

Dr. COMPTON. Bentonville, Ark., is in the northwest of the State. It is 60 miles south of Joplin and north of Fort Smith about 80 miles.

Senator BIBLE. Fine. Thank you very much, Doctor.

(The statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF DR. NEIL COMPTON, PRESIDENT OF THE OZARK SOCIETY

Senator Bible, Honorable members of the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs: It is with real pleasure that I am able to be here today after long years of effort devoted to the preservation of the Buffalo River in Northern Arkansas to plead for the final enactment of legislation to assure its integrity forever by placing it under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service as specified in Senate Bill 855.

First I would like to identify myself. I am a native born citizen of the State of Arkansas where I practice medicine in my home town of Bentonville.

I would like to tell you briefly about the Ozark Society of which I am president and about the current threats to the beauty of the Buffalo River.

My chief concern outside of my profession has been a lifetime interest in the natural history of the Ozarks. My first trip to the Buffalo River was in 1932 when I floated it in an oak plank john boat from Gilbert to Dillard's Ferry. This experience established a lasting conviction that it might very well be one of the loveliest streams in America.

The idea that the Buffalo River area might qualify for National Park development was first presented by Glen Green in 1946-47, who was the then director of what is now the Arkansas Publicity and Parks Commission. The effort to achieve such status for it then was not sustained but the idea was retained in the minds of many of us who were familiar with its scenery.

At about the same time the Corps of Army Engineers intensified its drive to build high dams upon all of the significant rivers in the Ozarks. By the late 1950's most of the major streams in the Ozarks had already been impounded and the Corps began to turn to the lesser tributaries. The Buffalo River was to be next. Realizing that no loose group of concerned citizens could hope to contest the well organized and implacable dam building agencies in our government and their supporters in the field. We determined to create a conservation organization, whose interest would center upon the Ozark uplands, to work for the preservation of and the comprehensive handling of our environmental problems. The most

serious immediate problem by far was the threatened impoundment of the Buffalo River. The name of this new organization was to be the Ozark Society.

The Ozark Society is completely independent of any governmental agency either federal or local. It is likewise dependent in no way on any large private corporation or industry or political group. Everything that we have done has been accomplished by personal effort and personal expense. All of our delegates here today have paid their own way except for a few who have been assisted by other local conservation groups who believe in the need for this legislation.

As for financing, the annual dues of Ozark Society for the first three years were only \$1.00 per year. Since then they have been \$3.00 per year with some members contributing \$5.00 to \$10.00. No donations larger than \$100.00 have been received. Our total income since the founding date 1962 has been \$22,000.00 with a present bank balance of \$2,000.00.

From the beginning the idea that the Buffalo River should be incorporated into the National Park System was a popular one. It has been well received by the National Park Service as an outstanding area for incorporation in its system as suggested by Senate Bill 855. This idea now enjoys a definite advantage over the big dam program. Our previous Congressman, who was an unrelenting proponent of total stream impoundment, has been replaced by one who understands the need for diversification of outdoor recreation and environmental stabilization. Our Senators from Arkansas have always regarded the National Park proposal as desirable and are to be congratulated for their authorization of the legislation under consideration today. Both the former and our present Governors of Arkansas have also endorsed this measure.

Because of these circumstances it was necessary for the Corps of Army Engineers to withdraw their plans to dam the Buffalo. In fact in their Comprehensive Study on the White River Basin for 1968 they recommended the establishment of the Buffalo National River.

But at the present moment this beautiful stream is in dire jeopardy from other sources and it would be well to enumerate them.

First heavy destruction has recently been wrought within the proposed Buffalo National River area by state agencies specifically the Arkansas State Highway Department which has constructed modern highways through the southern end of the area. We would not have opposed the blacktopping of the original highways on or near the original right-of-way but in this instance extensive relocation has taken place and tremendous scarring of the mountain scenery has resulted. Worse yet, fill material was necessary to maintain the modern grade specified and extensive stripping operations were carried out in the valley of the Buffalo to obtain it, leaving ugly strip-pits a mile and a half long and a quarter of a mile wide. This alluvial material used for fill has proven to be unstable and much of it has slipped into the deep ravines below and at the present time our Highway Department is faced with a dilemma which will necessitate still deeper excavations and further mutilation of this scenic area. It is hoped that with the passage of Senate Bill 855 that the National Park Service will be able to modify and restore these damaged areas as much as is possible.

In the field of private endeavor we see today a multitude of threats to the continued undisturbed beauty of the Buffalo River. This has come about chiefly through the provisions of deductions by our income tax system. Wealthy individuals engaged in various lucrative businesses, mostly from out of state, have found that the purchase of land in the Ozarks offers an opportunity to develop such property and to claim the expenses resulting therefrom as an income tax deduction. This has led to extensive bulldozing in the steep and rocky terrain in an effort to establish pasture in these once wooded hills. In the process the thin soil which has taken literally hundreds of thousands of years to accumulate is so loosened and disturbed that it is carried away in the first rains and is deposited along with heavy layers of gravel in the valleys below and in the river as well. In some instances the banks of the Buffalo River itself have been bulldozed completely clear of all vegetation leaving it resembling nothing more than a large drainage ditch. It is obvious that adjustments in the income tax deduction system must be made before such practices can be effectively dealt with but the passage of Senate Bill 855 would immediately stop such abuse of the river itself.

At the present time the quality of the water and the aesthetic value of the Buffalo is seriously threatened by land speculators of all varieties. Resettlement villages, hunting and sporting clubs, homes for wayward boys, art colonies and

town sites are being planned by many different individuals and concerns. As an example the ghost town of Rush has been purchased by a nationally famous rock and roll singer who intends to establish a Coney Island type amusement park on the banks of the Buffalo. It is needless to comment upon the pollution, the litter and the degradation that will result if such developments are ever realized. If such things are needed in the Ozarks there are literally millions of acres more accessible and better suited for them. If such developments do proceed and if we are unable to achieve legislation for the preservation of such unique areas as the Buffalo River then ultimately zoning laws will have to be applied to the entire land.

Other damaging practices are the small scale but widespread logging operations going on in the Buffalo River area. Before the invention of the bulldozer and the chain saw many of the ravines and canyons were inaccessible and maintained interesting stands of near virgin timber but during the last ten or fifteen years almost all of these have been invaded by the dozer and the log truck. All types of timber are now being removed including species which were once considered of no value such as black gum, sweet gum, magnolia, sycamore and beech. The good white oak, wild black cherry and walnut have of course long since been cut. No plan for replacement of timber stands is being made by these small concerns. A program for reforestation is needed if the integrity of the landscape is to be maintained or if the hardwood lumber industry itself is to continue in existence.

Another activity defacing the area in a small way is mining which is attempted sporadically for zinc, lead and marble on the bluffs and ridges along the Buffalo River. None of these materials have ever been found in paying quantities and the only result that has been achieved are ugly scars on the hills and bluffs along the river.

Finally in considering these threats to the Buffalo River we must not forget the ever present Corps of Army Engineers. They are not out of the picture. As evidence of this I would like to read for you a paragraph from a news item in the Arkansas Gazette Feb. 3, 1969. It states:

"Garden Council will hear talk by Colonel Steel.

"Colonel Charles L. Steel, District Engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Army Engineers will speak on the Buffalo River at the 10:00 a.m. Wednesday meeting of the Greater Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs at the Garden Center, 1201 Commerce Street in Little Rock."

At this meeting Colonel Steel in spite of the recommendations made by the Corps in its 1968 White River Basin Comprehensive Study made a strong plea to the Garden Club Council for the building of Gilbert Dam on the Buffalo River.

The behavior of the Buffalo River Improvement (big dam) Association reinforces the evidence that they are in their own words "biding their time". The fact that the Buffalo River Improvement Association hopes to see the dams ultimately erected is exemplified by the appearance here today of its president, vice-president and secretary to offer the chief testimony against Senate Bill 855, although they now call themselves the "Buffalo River Landowners Association." Actually the original landowners along the river, who are few in number, were in the beginning allied with the Ozark Society against the damming of the stream. We do not mind being honest in stating that these older landowners are at home today hoping that neither of these proposals for the river will ever come about but I can assure you if they had to choose between the Park Service and the Corps of Engineers they would take the former without question because they are all aware of the fact that their displacement by a reservoir would be immediate and total whereas the National Park plan would leave them in tenure of their property with scenic easements as described in Senate Bill 855.

As more evidence of the fact that plans for damming the Buffalo River are merely being held in abeyance I would like to call your attention to the current issue of the Arkansas Historical Quarterly which contains an article on our former Congressman from the Third Congressional District of Arkansas who was the nation's foremost proponent of big dams during his period in office. I would like to quote a statement by him on page 84. In commenting on the fate of the proposed Gilbert Dam, he says:

"Failure to get this project completed was the greatest legislative disappointment of my congressional career. The Army Engineer Corps was strong for the plan and still is strong for it. I feel the plan should be finished and my earnest prayer is that one day it will be completed."

In view of the whims of political fortune any sensible person will realize that this is no idle prayer. Adverse changes in the office of the Governor of Arkansas or the Congressman from the Third District of Arkansas or our present Senatorial delegation might well bring back the threat of inundation to the Buffalo River in full force.

Gentlemen of the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, there is but one agency possessing the qualifications, experience and knowledge to be entrusted with the preservation, administration and proper utilization of America's loveliest remaining unspoiled river. That agency is the National Park Service as is proposed in Senate Bill 855.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Orphea Duty of Boxley, Ark. Very happy to have you here.

STATEMENT OF ORPHEA DUTY, BOXLEY, ARK., THE BOXLEY COMMUNITY AND THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER INDUSTRY

Mrs. DUTY. Thank you.

Honorable Chairman and fellow members, as you already quoted my name, my name is Orphea Duty. I have been a resident of Newton County, Ark., all my life and have lived in the same house in Boxley community for 59 years. I moved to Boxley from Jasper, the county seat, with my parents when I was 11 years old and went to school in what is now our community building. I was appointed postmaster in 1917 and, as clerk, still maintain Boxley Rural Station. I also operate Boxley Mercantile Co., first established in 1914 by my father, the late Ben E. McFerrin, who served county, district, and State as representative, senator, and Lieutenant Governor.

Since that time much progress has come to the valley. Roads have come and trucks and cars have replaced horse and buggy transportation and most of the homes are modern. Many tourists find a warm welcome at Boxley. Improved grasses make the pastureland green and lush and there is little to remind us of former labors in the row crops, once so common in the Buffalo valley. The blacksmith shop is gone and a roadside park stands in its stead, maintained by the Extension Homemakers Club. There is no evidence of the Civil War battle waged here on the Buffalo except a few remains of the large iron kettles used to melt the lead. The trees that bore the cannon scars, a large walnut and beech on the banks of Moore Creek, were the last evidence to disappear.

We who are older have watched the changes come. We have seen the tomato canneries thrive and prosper and vanish. We have seen the old watermill fade and fall into disuse, with the advent of store-bought meal. Only the sawmill is unchanged. The Boxley sawmill, one of very few steam-operated mills in Arkansas, still whirrs away. The whistle blows at 8 a.m. each workday to mark the beginning of the labor. The "noonin," too, is defined by the mill whistle, and, again at 5 p.m., the end of sweat and toil is announced with the same shrill sound. Next to the mill stands a general store and lunchcounter where the laborers gather to exchange bits of news and often empty a bottle of pop before departing to their homes in the surrounding hills.

The nearby church, founded in 1838, stands serene against a beautiful green hill. Ancient oaks shelter it from the summer heat. This little church has been the scene of worship and weddings, revivals, and funerals for many years. But change has come here, too, for the old log church house is gone. In its stead now stand three structures:

the community buildings, built in 1900 to serve as church, school, and lodge; the modern church erected in 1956; and a modest parsonage, a symbol of the humble prosperity of the Boxley Baptist Church. Near the church is a cemetery where our babies, our spouses, our parents, and our grandparents rest in peace.

Truly, we have a wonderful way of life along the upper Buffalo. People are happy here, prosperous and blessed in so many ways by our Creator. And now comes the question: What about a national river on the Buffalo? Well, first of all, I am proud that you have found this part of Arkansas to be so beautiful, with scenery unsurpassed, and I am happy to know that you will maintain the river as nearly as possible as it is today. I am pleased with the area designated on the park proposal as a private use zone, for agriculture uses. Most of the people in the valley "heired" their land and their roots are deep. Like all proud farmers, they wish to retain their land to pass on to their children. If you can bring a park that will not disrupt the citizens, that will keep the river free of factories and taverns, a park that will allow reasonable use of the land, then I see eye-to-eye with you. I have seen changes come and I enjoy the conveniences that modern ways have brought, but I realize disruptive changes will come if we do not control our river. I want to keep my farm—the cattle, horses, and hogs, the pastures and meadows—the little stores, the rodeo arena, the sawmill, the Boxley rural station, and, of course, the church.

Yes, I favor Senate bill 855 that all America might enjoy; the mountains, the bluffs, the free flowing river, and beyond that the peaceful way of life. I feel sure that our representatives in Washington, the most wonderful Government officials, will do that which is best for all concerned and I do thank God for such men.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, Mrs. Duty. That is very wonderful. You have been in the post office for quite awhile, have you not?

Mrs. DUTY. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. You started in 1917?

Mrs. DUTY. 1917.

Senator BIBLE. Has that been pretty much continuous service?

Mrs. DUTY. Well, no, the post office was discontinued later, sir.

Senator BIBLE. I understand. Then you have a lot of years of service in the Post Office Department?

Mrs. DUTY. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. I am very proud to have you here today.

Mrs. DUTY. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much.

I have no questions of you, Mrs. Duty. You make a fine statement.

Our next witnesses are a series of witnesses, and I am going to ask them all to come to the witness table together.

Our next witness will be George Viorel, if I pronounce it correctly, of Hasty, Ark., chairman of the Buffalo River Landowners Association, accompanied by James Tudor, Marshall, Ark.; Hilary Jones, Pruitt, Ark.; Marvin Sherman, Pruitt, Ark.; Rev. Floyd Harris, Jasper, Ark.; L. R. Winners, Washington representative, Landowners Association; Charles P. Thompson, Washington representative, Landowners Association. That is one, two, three, four, five, six,

seven witnesses. And I do not know, let us see if we have not enough chairs there for all of you gentlemen. Let me see. I guess we have pretty close to it. I think we probably have. There are five. Two are missing. Do we have two more out in the audience?

Mr. VIOREL. Mr. Sherman was unable to make the trip.

Senator BIBLE. Oh. Well, you can file a statement for him, too. Are you Mr. Viorel?

Mr. VIOREL. Viorel.

Senator BIBLE. Viorel. I want to pronounce it correctly. Let us see, you seem to be missing one other. I count five.

Mr. VIOREL. Reverend Harris.

Senator BIBLE. Reverend Harris is not here?

Mr. VIOREL. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. Well, if he has a statement, you can file his as well as the statement of the other gentleman who is absent, and since you are the chairman, Mr. Viorel, why don't you take command and proceed in your own way.

Mr. VIOREL. I do not have their statements, sir.

Senator BIBLE. They can be furnished for the record. I am going to keep this record open for, I would think probably about a month, which gives you ample time, if they want to furnish a statement or simply to say that they agree with what you are saying, whichever is easier for you.

Mr. VIOREL. Yes, sir. Do you want me to proceed, sir, with my statement?

Senator BIBLE. Yes. Will you proceed with your statement?

Mr. VIOREL. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Do you want me to call them in the same order that you have them on the list? I have your name first and then James Tudor, and then Hilary Jones. Then you said Marvin Sherman and Reverend Harris were not here, and then Mr. Winners and then Mr. Thompson. Proceed in any order you want.

Mr. VIOREL. Mr. Yarborough is here.

Senator BIBLE. All right, I will be very happy to hear him in that same group. I have Mr. Yarborough listed here from Jasper, Ark.

Mr. VIOREL. All right, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Mr. Yarborough can come up if he wants to.

Do you want to join this group, Mr. Yarborough? Are you here? He doesn't seem to be here now, but if he comes we will hear him later. OK, Mr. Viorel.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE VIOREL, HASTY, ARK., CHAIRMAN, BUFFALO RIVER LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. VIOREL. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, it is indeed gratifying to be permitted to come before you and state the problems of an injured and harassed people. I am George Viorel of Hasty, Ark., Newton County.

That the proposed National River Park is of immense proportion—152 miles in length and engulfing 95,720 acres of land—and much of it good, prime bottom land, which would largely come from Newton and Searcy Counties. This is minimized in the Interior Department report. The river is now enjoyed at no cost to the birdwatchers and

canoe floaters. It was stated as fact in the congressional hearings in the spring of 1968, that before a river could be placed in the instant stage, a full and sufficient study must be made, and cost analysis presented to the House. Also open hearings would be held with the people of the affected areas. We on the Buffalo River have never been shown this courtesy, nor have any of the elected officials submitting these bills attended any of our meetings.

Our meetings have been taped, and are open for public inspection. We are led to believe by an agent of the Government that the affected landowner will be granted extended estate, or life estate on their properties. My understanding and that of the affected landowners is that the bill, S. 855, submitted by Senators Fulbright and McClellan of Arkansas, means to preempt all interest. The landowners would like the answers to many questions, such as: (1) Why has the Interior Department, under Stewart Udall, entered the field of tourism, where agents of this Department are permitted to sell an unsuspecting public a bill of goods? I refer to the study made by the Business Administration Department of the University of Arkansas. This document is not a study, but an attempt to sell the park idea for the Interior Department. The Interior Department is working hand-in-hand with the University of Arkansas. The university has been handsomely compensated for their attempt to sell the park idea. In turn, this makes for a very biased study. Those beautiful pictures are not enough for our Senators and Congressmen to see, as a highly colorful and overdone picture can be as misleading, just as it can be constructive. It makes an imprint on the human mind.

The battle of the Buffalo has become a battle of report and not fact. It is all too apparent to the more than casual observer. It is a sorry matter that words should be accepted as a substitute for facts, and the fancy Government sponsored reports should be the only glimpse our Senators and Congressmen ever get to see of the Buffalo.

Before this hearing, the Interior report leads one to believe the Buffalo River area is a wild country, full of many species of wild game animals, such as bear, deer, otter, beaver, and so forth. No one, to my knowledge, has ever seen an otter. Fifty bears were released to starve. It is doubtful if as many as three are left, and they are in an unhealthy, mangy condition. One can float the river and not see the equivalent of one rabbit. Birds are to be seen everywhere. Very few ducks may be evident in the spring or early fall. Fishing is almost nonexistent. In the summer and for several months, the Buffalo is dry in many places. Floating is done on a very limited scale. During the entire summer our fish are full of worms because of the warm and very low water.

The landowners' image has been distorted as such a miserable individual by at least 95 percent of the news media in Arkansas, and the outside news media has fallen in line with this type of thinking, for, evidently, they follow the old, stale pattern of copying some of the larger Arkansas newspapers.

For instance, Ray Heady, the outdoor editor of the Kansas City Star, printed in his column, Sunday, May 18, 1969—

To us up here, the Buffalo River stands as a symbol much larger than its 132-mile basin. It is a symbol that is not lost yet to the bulldozer, the dam builder, the subdivider, the foot-long hot dog operators, the highway builder, the oil well

driller, the strip miner and the hard twisted natives, who would sell out a birthright for a mess of pottage. It is a symbol, if not an actuality, that there is still time to tell the developers, and the improvers to keep their cotton-pickin' hands off the Buffalo—that it belongs to the people and their children.

First, let me state that mile after mile of our land is farmland in private ownership, and not the wild country as it is erroneously reported. It has been tame for more than 150 years. This article written by Mr. Ray Heady is propaganda to create a tarnished image by creating dislike and downgrading the people on the Buffalo. It becomes easier to move him off his land, and have no regrets of what it does to the individual.

The Kansas City Star can hang its head in shame for such brutal statements that find their way into print. People here are proud of their birthright, and their country has found them willing citizen soldiers. Believe it or not, we Buffalo River people are human beings, and not the spoilers of nature. We are not defacing our beautiful country as Mr. Heady would lead one to believe.

There is no oil drilling in this entire country; no strip mining, no foot-long hot dog dealers, no highway building on the entire river. The hard-twisted natives are good, law-abiding citizens, and quick to welcome strangers who enjoy their land.

If the river were polluted, it would be polluted by the outside canoe floaters. In fact, I spent half of the day this past Saturday, cleaning the polluted area and picking up broken glass left in my cow pasture by canoe floaters.

I agree with Edward Abbey in his article "How To Save Our National Parks" in the March issue of Field & Stream, wherein he tells of the problems the Government creates for itself in our national parks. As a ranger, he tells how the Government uses the bulldozer to mar the beauty—all that they are supposed to preserve. He, himself, verifies what we have discovered, namely, that extremely few individuals care to make the effort entailed by a float trip and its hazards. This area is not changing—it is being farmed. There are no gross alterations being planned. Let us not let the propagandizers of the Department of the Interior rush to take this land while it is serving an economic service and in no danger of being ruined.

Let us assume that they are telling the truth that they are genuinely worried about a dam in some happy future.

The Pastoral River proposal would take care of that matter and not injure the entire Buffalo River area.

In summary, may I quote some figures which I think would be beneficial to all concerned. These figures were released by the American Legion that 97 percent were against the proposed national park. The Farm Bureau was 94 percent against a national park/river. Polls referendum were 215 in Newton County for a national park/river, and 2,372 against a national park/river. Many tell us if they had known that they plan to take our homes that they would never have favored a national park. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, Mr. Viorel. And I want to tell you as chairman of this committee you do not look like hard-twisted natives to me. You just look like ordinary, hard-working human beings, the same as all of us. And I want to assure you that is why we have these hearings to get these viewpoints.

You heard the testimony of the Park Service people, and they are not quite the yokels that you present them.

But what zone is your property in? Are you in the private zone?

Mr. VIOREL. Sir, we would like to discuss that with the Interior Department. I would like to see where the boundary lines are.

Senator BIBLE. They could show you that.

Mr. VIOREL. We would love to have that, and have it this afternoon before we go home.

Senator BIBLE. I do not know whether you can have it this afternoon before you go home. Where do you have to go to go back? How do you go down there, Little Rock and then—

Mr. VIOREL. No, sir. I think we will go through St. Louis.

Senator BIBLE. St. Louis and then you go down?

Mr. VIOREL. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. They would be very happy to again reveal these maps and go over them as carefully as they can with you, and I would suggest that during our noon recess—do you fellows from Arkansas eat lunch?

Mr. VIOREL. Well, if we have enough money, sir. Everything is high here and we are just about to—

Senator BIBLE. I am going to take a little time to eat lunch myself. I am not going to eat much. I am going to eat a little ham sandwich. That will not cost me too much. We are going to recess as soon as we finish with your fine group of men here, and then I would suggest to the Park Service people that they be prepared to meet you back here in this room at 1 o'clock with the maps they had and go over these things with you. I have had many of these park hearings and one thing I insist on is clearing up misunderstandings, because you get misunderstandings on both sides of the fence. I have handled these for 10 years. I just insist that the Park Service put its cards out on the table, tell you exactly what they have in mind. And that is why I tried to elicit from Mr. Hartzog, in whom I have great confidence, what he plans to do in each of these particular areas. As soon as we finish with your group of people we will recess until 2 o'clock, and if you are back here at 1:15 or 1:30 or something in that range, that will give you half an hour or three-quarters of an hour to talk it over with them.

Mr. VIOREL. I see. Senator Bible, I appreciate your efforts in this thing.

Senator BIBLE. I think that this is the pattern of the Congress. We are called a lot of things at a lot of times, but on the whole, I think we are all just struggling along like all of you, just trying to do the best we can.

Mr. VIOREL. Thank you, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Mr. Tudor.

STATEMENT OF JAMES R. TUDOR, MARSHALL, ARK.

Mr. TUDOR. Mr. Chairman, my name is James R. Tudor, former editor of the Marshall Mountain Wave, a weekly newspaper published in Marshall, Ark., county seat of Searcy County.

I have resided in Searcy County for the past 51 years, and I know the people of the county. I know their needs and problems as well as any man. This thing I know: the people of Searcy County are practi-

cally 100-percent opposed to the park or national scenic river on the Buffalo River.

Not by the wildest stretch of the imagination could a national park on the Buffalo be justified. There are at this time two State parks already on the Buffalo. The Buffalo River State Park is on the lower portion of the river, and the Hemmed-In Hollow State Park on the upper reaches of the river.

Buffalo River State Park is well developed with camping sites, cabins, et cetera. It has adequate facilities to take care of all visitation. It is certain that, should the visitation increase to the extent that additional facilities are needed to care for the visitors, such facilities will be provided by the State of Arkansas.

In addition to these facilities the Forest Service owns approximately one million acres of land in North Arkansas. Much of this million is adjacent to, or contains the Buffalo River within its boundaries. This million acres comprises the Ozark National Forest in north Arkansas. Numerous campsites and camp facilities are scattered throughout the area, and many of them are within easy distance of the Buffalo River.

Also there is already one national park at Hot Springs, Ark.; other national monuments; 28 well-developed State owned and operated parks. Neither Arkansas, Searcy, or Newton Counties, or States bordering Arkansas need another park on the Buffalo River.

I think you should be told that the Buffalo River in Newton and Searcy County has been grossly oversold. We admit that it is a beautiful stream. All streams, regardless, have some degree of beauty. We admit there are some scenic views at certain places along the river. Gentlemen, to an old hillbilly fresh from the Ozark hills there is a scenic view outside this building. But what gives it preference over another like view in Chicago or any city? Views along the Buffalo are no different from those throughout the Ozark area. Why not take all the Ozarks into the park plan?

Senator BIBLE. You better not suggest that, Mr. Tudor. The Park Service might take you up on it, because sometimes they like to. I have had a lot of park proposals, and sometimes these park areas attempt to go too far. So be a little circumspect in what you say. That is why you have a congressional committee to try to protect you.

Mr. TUDOR. During the vacation season each year the river cannot be floated unless you want to drag your boat or canoe over the shoals. Proponents of this bill refer to this area esthetically as "the Rapids." During June, July, and August residents of Searcy County call it the "Dry Shoals." During these months the river goes underground causing potholes. Instead of the water being fresh and cool all during vacation season, the temperature reaches as high as 70 to 80 degrees. This causes moss to fill the stream and the fish become infested with worms, making them unfit for consumption.

As for it being a wilderness area untouched by civilization since the Civil War, I would tell you that farmlands and farming activity extends along the full length of the river. Every place that is suitable for cultivation or cattle farming is used.

Most of these farms are owned and are being operated by late members of pioneer families who settled the area a hundred or more years ago. Because of the long family ownership of these lands the pride of ownership means much more to them than would the owner-

ship of lands which has often changed hands in real estate transactions. There is no primitive untouched land along the Buffalo River.

All the forest along the river is cutover forest. Only the timber within the Ozark National Forest is virgin timber. The Government controls the cutting of this timber.

I would also like to point out that approximately 75 percent of north Arkansas is forest land. Wilderness areas abound in any direction and one can become lost in wilderness by walking a mile from the city limits of any town or city in Searcy or Newton County.

Proponents of this bill tell you that the Buffalo is the last river in north Arkansas that has not been dammed. The truth is only two north Arkansas rivers are dammed: The White and the Norfork.

If members of the Ozark Society or the Department of the Interior desire to have a national park or national river in north Arkansas let them consider the Mulberry River. It is already owned by the National Forest Service. Outdoor writers and sports writers throughout the State claim that it is equal to the Buffalo for ruggedness, scenic beauty, float fishing, and other forms of recreation. If the Mulberry is unsuitable, there still remains the War Eagle and Kings River in Madison and Carrol Counties. The Big Piney River remains also as well as the Little Piney River, Illinois River, Black River, Strawberry River, and others.

The idea of a national park on the Buffalo was first conceived by members of the Ozark Society who are here today in numbers to ask for the passage of this bill. The idea was promoted, not so much because they wanted a national park, but because they did not want another dual-purpose dam in north Arkansas. That, and that alone, is their sole purpose in being here today.

At this time and not for the past 3 or 4 years has a dam been proposed for the Buffalo River. No group is seeking the construction of a dam on the Buffalo River at this time.

I would like to point out that those seeking the passage of this bill are people living outside the Buffalo River area. They are from Little Rock, Fort Smith, and Bentonville, Ark.; Tulsa, Okla.; Kansas City, Mo.; and other cities and States far removed from the river. I would also like to say that none of them have investment in the area with the possible exception of the lady who spoke this morning who lives in Newton County.

It is an evident fact that the people of Searcy and Newton Counties are united 95 percent in opposition to this bill. Not only are we opposed to this bill, but we have vowed to fight to the death and use every possible method to defeat the formation of a national park or river on the Buffalo.

Gentlemen, today I have a son fighting in Vietnam along with many other sons of people of Searcy and Newton Counties. They fight to give people of that land the right to determine their own destiny. If he survives, he will return to the Buffalo River area one day. How can this Government justify the action they are considering here today when they let thousands of our boys die in foreign lands trying to give a foreign country what it denies its own people in Searcy and Newton Counties.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your kind and thoughtful consideration.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, Mr. Tudor, and I certainly hope your son does return safely in a short period of time. I hope the war is terminated at a very early date. My own son just returned from Vietnam, so I know something about it.

Our next witness is Mr. Hilary Jones of Pruitt, Ark., Mr. Jones.

STATEMENT OF HILARY JONES, PRUITT, ARK.

Mr. JONES. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am a lifelong resident of Newton County, Ark., and have always lived directly on the banks of the Buffalo River. My great, great grandfather, Ezekial Shaddox, migrated to Pruitt in the early 1800's and I am now living on part of his original homestead located at the bridge that crosses the big Buffalo River, Pruitt, Ark. I feel so deeply that our story is not being told, or that our interests are not being properly represented by our Congressmen, that I have come here, working a hardship on my family and my business, to be sure that our information is heard, despite not being subsidized by any governmental agency, or wealthy private society. Having heard the history of the previous generations of my family before me, and personally experiencing the moods of the Buffalo River in every season, drought and plenty, I believe that I can tell the true picture of this river and our people.

Most of these people of Newton County are direct descendants of those first settlers that homesteaded here in the 1800's. By their own admission, outside interests have found the Buffalo River to be a clean and unpolluted river, therefore, the national river promoters are anxious to take it away from us. Had we injured the country as they would have, you can believe they would be the last ones to want the Government to purchase the Buffalo. The only pollution the river has suffered has been from the canoe clubs, birdwatchers, and Dr. Neil Compton's group along with national park superintendent, Bernard Campbell, of Hot Springs. Half of the beauty of this unique countryside is its people—rugged and independent as their ancestors. Tourists love to see mules being worked, goat herds with bells tinkling along mountain paths, people whittling on their front porches or sitting with their neighbors as they discuss mutual problems on the small country stores' porches in Ozark dialects. It would be a very sad place if their steadfastness and charm were to be removed.

The most recent national park survey, as distributed by the Department of the Interior, is continuing a misrepresentation by showing rundown buildings and nonproductive fields. We have proof and will gladly show you that this condition does not exist in the Pruitt-Erbie area, nor in any of the ranch lands along this river. Although you would be led to believe that most of the country is on welfare, and therefore, nothing could be lost by a national park/river, only 5 percent of the people living in the area are on relief. Over 30 veterans make their homes along its banks in the Pruitt-Erbie area alone.

Much of our proof of its productivity is lost by our not having a stock sales barn within the county, rather than using adjacent counties' facilities. Thus we have not been able to get the figures that would represent the wealth that is pouring from our area. Harrison

is known as a large hog and cattle market, but Boone County receives Newton County's credit for their value. None of this is ever brought up by the surveys and we do not have the investigative abilities or powers to check the books of the sales barns to show how much represents Newton County agriculture.

We have pictures of lands lying on both sides of the fertile Buffalo showing its thriving pasture lands and valuable pedigreed cattle.

Pardon me, sir. Would you like the pictures introduced now?

Senator BIBLE. Yes, I would be very happy to have them. Show them to me just as you are testifying to them.

Is this the first picture you referred to, Mr. Jones?

Mr. JONES. I do not refer to any of the pictures. They are just pictures made in the area.

Senator BIBLE. There are a series of pictures?

Mr. JONES. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Without objection, Mr. Reporter, they will be incorporated by reference for the use of the full committee when we continue deliberations on this bill. But you send them all up and I will take a look at them while you are talking.

Mr. JONES. All right, sir. And I will mention these two pictures later on and I will send them also.

Senator BIBLE. All right, very well.

You may proceed.

Mr. JONES. Thank you, sir.

These pictures show some homes of \$50,000 or more, which are a far cry from the stark hovel shown on page 15 of the national park survey. This area from the forks of the Buffalo River to Erbis is about 12 miles of continuing farmsteads with small rich river bottoms from which families for generations have made a contented livelihood. During the depression years of the 1930's, there were no soup lines in this area, and families for generations have had generous amounts of food raised from these self-same lands.

I submit a photograph which is documentary proof as of May 20, 1969, that the Buffalo River is not floatable with any degree of pleasure, as the water is less than six inches deep on the many shoals in the Ponca-Pruitt area, and this is at the very start of the tourist season here. Indeed, Congressman Hammerschmidt and I have seen the riverbed bone dry many, many times.

Senator Fulbright should be aware of this condition as he lives only 100 miles away. At Fayetteville, which is the headwaters of the White River, to where it flows through Boone County, the home of Representative Hammerschmidt, there was once a navigable river in its entire length and it was for float purposes during the vacation season. But neither Senator Fulbright nor Representative Hammerschmidt opposed any of this development of Beaver Reservoir, Table Rock, or Bull Shoals because it enriched their home territories. Floaters and birdwatchers could be ignored. While Newton and Searcy Counties favored construction of Gilbert Dam, these gentlemen did not. The U.S. Corps of Engineers approved a Gilbert Dam. Congressman Trimble likened it to building a house without a roof, when the Gilbert flood control dam was not added with the rest mentioned above. Now, we question their motivation as well as their judgment. We would

wonder if they were afraid that the economy of their home counties would be affected.

Boone County would particularly benefit by the enactment of this national river park which would completely kill a county of long and proud history. It would eliminate the most valuable lands in the county from the tax rolls. That part of the county lying north of the proposed park would probably be annexed to Boone County.

Let us examine what would mean in economic terms. Boone County would gain Dogpatch, USA, a minor item of several million dollars evaluation, not to mention Western Grove, the most heavily populated farming area in Newton County with considerable tax revenues. The Forest Service is already holding an excess of 40 percent of the southern half of our county and this area has an abundance of free flowing streams that equal the Buffalo, but I would be surprised if any of you had heard of this before. These rivers are being left undeveloped and untouched and they already belong to the Government to a very large extent. It might take less money than the expenditures that have been used to study the Buffalo River to develop the lands mainly owned by the Government already within the national forests of Newton County. Our lands are coveted by the Department of the Interior and it is easy to see why Congressmen from neighboring counties would favor legislation which would bring great additional wealth to their own area. We feel their unconcern with the smaller populations of Newton and Searcy Counties and can understand well their apparent agreement with Dr. Neil Compton, birdwatchers, and Kansas City Canoe Clubs. Senator Fulbright pays too much attention to these groups and would ignore the few but proud owners of this independent Buffalo River.

This area is just now beginning to expand and reveal its economic value. With the building of Al Capp's Dogpatch, USA, with the filmers of "High Chaparral" and "Bonanza" coming here for their TV series.

Senator BIBLE. You mean you are going to take Bonanza away from the valley? Holy Smokes, that is where I started practicing law. Lorne Greene and the group are a mighty fine outfit.

OK, I am just kidding. Go ahead.

Mr. JONES. With the development of the Music Mountain and Ganaway just south of Western Grove, this country would develop gracefully without any Federal aid. Newton and Searcy Counties could supply revenues rather than requiring them. At a time that the Nation's economy is straining under a full-blown war as well as increasing inflation, let us manage our own without burden to you.

To sum up, gentlemen, we ask for no dam; we ask for no other Federal expenditure of any kind. People have used our Buffalo River freely in the past at no cost to the U.S. Government, and they may continue to do so. Private ownership will create all of the additional recreation facilities needed. The generosity of our natives shall still come to the rescue of the floaters, tow their cars late at night, and guide the inexperienced as has happened very often in the past.

While the river has exceptional beauty with its rock bluffs, cliffs, and trees, none of these can be destroyed thoughtlessly by its present owners. The Department of Interior would expend vast sums upon it, displace its people, break it up entirely as a county; while in the

meantime, under another governmental department lies land already owned by the Federal Government which could be developed for the very self-same purposes so advocated by our Congressmen.

Thank you, sir.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, Mr. Jones. And, Mr. Reporter, let the record show that I have examined these pictures. I am not clear in which of these three different zones the lands are located, and that is why I think it would be very helpful if, during this noon recess, the people from the Park Service who know what they are talking about and who know the area be back at—I would say if they are back at 1:30, they can meet with you gentlemen and go over that, and we will now stand in recess until 2 o'clock. But the first witness this afternoon will be Mr. Thompson, and then Mr. Winners, and then Mr. Yarborough. I would tell each of you that if you plan on catching that jet airline to St. Louis or Little Rock, or wherever you are going, you better speed up that testimony. I am not going anywhere, and I am going to start the session at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. If you want to get done here this afternoon, you are just going to have to move along a little faster; I am not going to cut anybody off.

We will stand in recess until 2 o'clock.

(Whereupon at 12:30 p.m., the meeting was recessed to reconvene at 2 o'clock this afternoon.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Senator BIBLE. The hearing will resume. Our next witness, I believe, is Mr. Winners, L. R. Winners. I have taken a look at his statement. It looks very, very long. I hope he cuts it down a little.

STATEMENT OF L. R. WINNERS, WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE, LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. WINNERS. Thank you, Senator.

Can you hear me all right?

Senator BIBLE. Oh, yes, hear you very well.

Mr. WINNERS. I like your name.

Also, we want to thank you for staying with us.

Senator BIBLE. You kind of seem like nice fellows, glad to stay with you.

Mr. WINNERS. And if you do come down to the Buffalo River to float it, and if you will come during the tourist season, we of the opposition will see to it that you see the entire length of the Buffalo River without cost. As a matter of fact, we will entertain you as only the people in the Ozarks can entertain you.

Senator BIBLE. I am sure you are good entertainers. I am going to try to get there, but I cannot tell you what time. You may proceed.

Mr. WINNERS. Now, let me qualify my presence here, as I do not now live in the area of the Buffalo River. I live in West Virginia. But for 8 years I was a self-supporting missionary in the area. We have three older boys who have gone through high school in that area, and our hope is that soon we can return to this area and thus we use the personal pronoun, "our" when we speak of this because these are our

people. In all our years of the ministry, these people have taken us into their lives and to their hearts more than I suppose any other area. And so we call them our people.

As we proceed here, there are one or two points of error that I would point out. No. 1, Senator McClellan said the controversy has been resolved. That statement is truly debatable because we do not feel that it is resolved as long as there is a chance that our lands can become such a large percent in ownership by the U.S. Government. Also, someone made the statement, I forget now who it was, that in the first 5 years there would be 1,700,000 visitors. There has never been in the history of the national parks and wilderness areas such a record. Even the granddaddy of the national parks did not have such visitation. But let me proceed to my printed—

Senator BIBLE. Why don't you highlight it. There is no need of reading a 10-page statement. Just go down—when I say highlight, I do not want you to highlight it like the doctor who took longer to highlight it than if he had read it. So why do you not just read the highlights of it.

Mr. WINNERS. Well, I will try if I can. You know ministers usually are not people of few words. But let me point out this, that we feel that there is a direct parallel between the things that are going on internationally and the things that are going on in the area of the Buffalo River.

It is not necessary to point out how many boys lives have been lost in Vietnam or how many have been marked for life as a result of this conflict.

Senator BIBLE. I am aware of that. It has been commented on a number of times.

Mr. WINNERS. But we think there is a parallel in preserving a way of life. Our way of life in the Arkansas Ozarks, especially in the area of the Buffalo River, may be looked upon by some as expendable. Others think of us as provincial and unimportant enough to not be allowed the equal opportunities of self-determination.

Senator J. William Fulbright is an outspoken advocate of peace. You wonder how many sleepless nights will he have if someday, just one brave, perhaps foolish, but nonetheless brave Buffalo River boy gives his life to defend "a way of life" that is altogether lovely. "A way of life" not understood by those who would destroy it. And this includes the authors of this bill.

I do not hunt. I do not shoot any animals, but I love the river; I love its people and the wildlife. I have spent many hours on the river. I have floated its length, and I have had much experience with all of these things they talk about as worth saving. In our missionary effort there in the Arkansas hills we have literally taken tons of clothing to our needy people in three different counties. I have stayed awake nights thinking of ways to alleviate the poor conditions, and any investigation by proponents or otherwise would prove that I, like these, my neighbors, am a poor man. Further, your investigation will show that I have not one vested interest, and further I am not backed by any vested interest. This trip to Washington is extremely expensive for us personally. The one thing that you would find is that we had an anti-poverty program going long before the Federal Government ever coined the word.

Our antipoverty program included the creation of jobs for our people. It included studies on how to best use our lands and resources. One thing it never included was the removal of our people to strange new areas. You will find that the very people who are here today to oppose this Buffalo Wild River are the very same people who have spent their years, their money, and efforts to help their neighbors.

We are the ones who obtained a factory that will hire almost 700 persons. We are the ones who obtained a hospital. And we have done all this without the help of either of our Senators, Fulbright or McClellan. As a matter of fact, we did have opposition from outside vested interests in all of this.

We do not intend that anything we say is meant to intimidate any person here or our Senators. I am sure we are a disappointment to them if they are really insincere about this bill and are not guided by the vested interests that would destroy our counties.

We do want it known that we shall pursue every avenue open to us to preserve our rights of self-determination on the local level. We shall use all legal and social methods at our disposal. Therefore, we thank you for this opportunity of expressing ourselves. We feel that the one man and one vote proposition applies to our problem of keeping our lands intact.

We have all heard of the proverbial white elephant. Should Congress pass this bill it will surely become known as the white buffalo.

The history of man is written in water. And equal to man's search and need for water is his thirst for the truth. And we sincerely trust that this hearing and the facts we present here will bring out the truth about our plight and the false claims of those who would take our lands and destroy our way of life—a way of life that is more worthy of preserving than some of the snakes, we must, of necessity, kill.

In every Federal aid program the emphasis is on local initiative. Should this hearing really investigate, they would find that we are not lacking in this. We are only handicapped by those outside our area who want to push their way of life on us. More than that, push us out of the picture. This is our land and we intend to keep it. Please do not underestimate us. If we want a park we will build it. If we want a wild river, we have it. What we want are jobs for our men, schools, churches, and hospitals for our people. And most of all we want to do it our way, through private ownership, through local initiative. Happiness is three meals a day, today and tomorrow, not two generations from now. All this wild river business as concerns the Buffalo River is more than unrealistic. It is atavistic and unenlightened.

Those who have made studies to support a wild river in the Buffalo region have not presented irrefutable authority for their statements and the principles of economics have been projected out of context. Should you make such careful study as we have, you would agree with us.

We believe that any forward looking program should take into consideration all recognizable trends in order to allow for any general magnitude of change. We believe that to use these trends is of paramount importance.

This bill to make a national wild river of the Buffalo has not taken into consideration local trends. We feel that our studies provide a better frame of reference within which the future of our area can be realistically appraised. These trends do not include, in fact they would exclude, any thought of a national wilderness area or river. They do point to local ownership and local initiative.

We know that those who would make a national wild river of our river point to recreation and tourism as a means of helping us. You do not help a man when you kill him. However, we are aware of the value of tourism. We, too, have made such studies and would make the claim before this hearing that ours is a better study. We knew that such studies had been made for years. Therefore, we sent requests for information to 70 institutions of research and other agencies in the United States. The request was for studies to show the benefits of recreation, tourism, and conservation.

One hundred and ninety-one books, studies, and pamphlets were received or purchased in response to our request. At least one study was received from every section of the United States. In some cases several studies were forwarded.

We know that a precedent is applicable only when all conditions and situations are equal. Therefore, we wish to state that any studies made to date to show that a national wild river would help our area do not show equal situations. Projections are not made on proved results and parallels, and statistics are used in their maximums instead of the minimums.

Further, any concept of economic development must rest in the full consideration and utilization of the basic resources of a given area. The extent of the use of the resources can then be estimated. The present bill to make a national river of the Buffalo River has not done this. Should this bill pass the Senate and become law it would be of no advantage to the local people but in the end prove to be the end of the social life in that area. Is this the real purpose of government of the people, by the people, and for the people?

It is almost a comedy if it were not so important to us. A recent count of the private, State, and Federal agencies concerned with conservation and water showed that there are no less than 26 Federal agencies involved. Every time a drop of water falls, they examine it, name it, claim it, dam it, or fight over it.

Must we fight all 26 agencies before we can call this our land? The solution of any problem or controversy demands that a standard be accepted in order that all arguments are settled with a minimum of deviation from the problem. We, of the Buffalo River area, are not against conservation. However, we are here to oppose this bill because this bill does not fit what we believe to be conservation.

When used with reference to natural resources—and land is one of our best—the word “conservation” should not mean “nonuse” and “saving” but its meaning should include both “nonabuse” and “non-waste.” There is some question as to the propriety of the tendency to use “conservation” and “development” as though the two are related but exclusive. Insofar as the land of the area of the Buffalo River is concerned, the use of the single word “conservation” should suffice, since development is a most important part of conservation.

It appears then, when speaking of natural resources, regardless of their nature, land, water, or minerals, and people, a reasonable definition of conservation might be "wise use and intelligent development." Such a definition is sufficiently flexible to not only permit but also to encourage uses and developments which, after studying all pertinent information, the affected citizens consider to be "wise" and/or "intelligent". Now, this definition is from the Department of Conservation and Economic Development, State of Virginia. And we wish to draw your attention to the fact that here, at this point, the National River bill before you is most lacking. Further, the studies made were also lacking.

If the affected areas of the Buffalo River are to grow in proportion to the national rate, take their place in the expanding industrial picture, and obtain much needed economic improvement, then full development of our lands and resources is most important at once. This bill will foreclose all such hope.

The Harvard University Press has published a book entitled "Design of Water-Resource Systems." This is a unique book and is the result of a large-scale research program. On page 184, the authors say: "One suspects that the timing of incremental development of many large water-resource undertakings in the United States would have been modified had the role of calendar time been clearly understood rather than seen 'through a glass darkly'."

We claim that this bill before you has never taken into consideration "incremental development" of the total area. In fact, it will prove to be a decrement. Should this bill pass it will prove to be a big faux pas of his life in the Senate and prove that after all his vast knowledge, experience, respect and national and international efforts as far as his very own people are concerned he had been improvident. What a great pity for such a famous man as J. William Fulbright, Senator from Arkansas.

I would like to read you from your own publication of the U.S. Senate. These findings we think you should use in not allowing this bill to pass.

There are six features of the technical and economic environment which may give clues as to likely future pressure for improved efficiency in water development. They are: (1) The people of the United States, their total number, their location and mode of life, and their level of wants; (2) the size, type, and location of manufacturing industries; (3) the nature and location of agricultural production; (4) other aspects of land use, as for example, national defense establishments; (5) the general rate of technical progress in the Nation; (6) continued spread of land use planning at lower governmental levels.

This is from the Select Committee on National Water Resources, U.S. Senate.

Just as history is best defined in terms of trends rather than dates and battles, so also can we discover ways of alleviating existing conditions that are not conducive to wholesome living or healthy pursuits by recognizing trends.

We recognize the trend in outdoor recreation and tourism. However, we wish to point out that all indications are that people do not go to the wilderness areas. The National Park Service will tell you, and has made public its findings, that people want to rough it with

outside paved roads, running water from fountains and rest rooms like they have at home, showers, and other comforts. The Park Service will tell you that there are now hundreds of thousands of acres of land in the system that people have never seen or desire to see.

The proponents will point to the State Park on the Buffalo River. Sure it is nice. However, it has every comfort of home, including a paved road to its doors.

The Government now owns about 28 miles of the Buffalo or more. Since this has been a park there are many living in the area who cannot tell you where it is. It is used very little.

The National Park Service will tell you that it takes 25 to 50 years for a National Park to catch on with the public. The granddaddy of all our national recreational park areas shows very little economic impact on the local area. To wit: Grand Canyon.

We submit that any projection of increased tourism and recreation to the area of the Buffalo River because of its status as a national wild river is not only erroneous but it comes near being dishonest with known facts concerning such established rivers.

Another trend that should be recognized here is that of the U.S. Government to acquire land. Congressman John P. Hammerschmidt, of Arkansas, sent a letter January 26, 1968, in which he stated:

In an average year—

Now this is an average year—

between now and 1975, the Federal Government will acquire real property from 183,000 separate owners, will displace about 111,000 households, 17,000 businesses, 2,300 farm operations. It will disrupt thousands more. The magnitude of Government land acquisition activities is so large that difficulties are bound to develop. It appears, however, that many problems could be avoided if land acquisition policy and law were modernized. Present procedures are often unfair to property owners. Not only do they vary from agency to agency, they are based upon laws which were written many years ago when land was virtually free for the taking—when resettlement and relocation were relatively simple matters. There are intangible values to be considered as well as relocation costs.

It would seem to this speaker that we have found a champion in Congressman Hammerschmidt, but, alas, I am sure he will not testify against this bill so we use his words. If he did not mean them perhaps the Post Office Department would look into his reasons for using the mails.

Mr. Hammerschmidt went on to say, "I believe the inequities involved could be the subject of congressional action." Perhaps Congress will have such opportunity in the course of pressing this bill. We hope for such action if it becomes necessary.

Another trend that we would like to call to your attention is that of our economic growth. In 1960 only 28 percent of the homes in Searcy County had flush-type toilets; only 18 percent of the homes in Searcy County had telephones; only 29 percent of the homes in Searcy County had hot and cold running water. The per capita annual income was only \$468 compared to the State average of Arkansas of \$1,341. Since the coming of our nice factory things are looking up. More people are drilling wells and putting in water systems.

More telephones and more new businesses. This start is good, but it could come to a halt should the Buffalo River become a White Buffalo.

All too many of the homes are single-wall structures of native lumber and totally inadequate for the severe winter weather which occurs several months of the year.

Such economic conditions should be of concern to both Houses of Congress. Congress does not have the right to bring added burdens upon these people.

The population trend in Arkansas is going up and our area of the Buffalo River could take its place in the economic growth if we were allowed to pursue courses of improvement and development open to us. Such bills as this national river bill for our area are not in good taste, totally lacking in research, and tantamount to the loss of the entire social structure.

No really scientifically conducted survey has ever been made of the affected area of the Buffalo River by those who would tell us what to do. No truly definitive study by the committees of Congress or outside interests have ever really been made.

For example: Over the 128 miles, or 132, whichever you want to use, of river, how many miles of roads that tourists will use have been planned? How much per mile? Are the projections real or strictly out of thin air? Anyone who has seen the area knows that an adequate road system for the river is almost prohibitive.

The local county assessors were not asked anything about the value of properties in the affected area of the proposed national river. They were only estimates from aggregate county data furnished by the State.

The trend in other Government spending areas is to consider full and detailed development. This has not been done in this case. A question I cannot answer is: Why not? However, it should be answered before this bill is even considered by the entire Senate.

Why does the proposal not show that boating on the Buffalo River is possible only during the late winter and early spring? Why does it not show that fishing is almost nonexistent because of high, swift, muddy water that now floods spawning beds during the spawning seasons. During the peak of the vacation season the Buffalo River becomes warm and such waters as flow are sluggish and warm, moss filled, and full of potholes. It is most improbable that a tourist business could be built around the summertime flow of a stream that is only partially navigable in the tourist season.

Through local initiative the people of the area of the Buffalo River are beginning another trend of economic growth. Like Cinderella, or some other poor relation, the people of the Buffalo River area have waited in the ashes of their need for an opportunity to assume their rightful place in the progress of the State, Nation, and the world.

Things are happening for our good. For many years timber was the one method of making a living in this area. Most of the large timber is gone and with it the industries. Today the second growth of hard and semihard woods is all that is available. This is in abundance

and local initiative such as has been shown in the past 10 years will induce new types of industry into the area. However, industry will not come where there are no people, adequate public schools, and the other public needs. We cannot have these without land taxes.

Over the Speaker's platform of the House of Representatives is this quotation from Daniel Webster:

Let us develop the resources of our land, call forth its powers, build up its institutions, promote all its great interests, and see whether we also in our day and generation may not perform something worthy to be remembered.

This is the attitude of the majority of the citizens in the area of the Buffalo River. We come to you with hat in hand asking—no, pleading—for you to turn down the proposed bill to make the Buffalo River a part of the national wild rivers system. We believe we have the right to do any of our own developing. This is one of our great resources—our land, our people. We want to do this in our generation.

With the courage of our convictions, faith in our Nation, and hope for a bright future for our area with all our land in private ownership and local development this testimony is respectfully submitted.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, Mr. Winners. Let me get it clear now, did I understand you to say that you were a minister of the Gospel? Is that what you said?

Mr. WINNERS. I am ordained in the Christian Church.

Senator BIBLE. Minister of the Christian Church?

Mr. WINNERS. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. And you are now located in West Virginia?

Mr. WINNERS. Bluefield, W. Va.

Senator BIBLE. But you were formerly in this area and you, your two sons—

Mr. WINNERS. Three sons went to school there.

Senator BIBLE. Three sons went to school in this area. How long have you been gone from this area?

Mr. WINNERS. It will be 4 years.

Senator BIBLE. Four years. Well, I just wanted to include that in the record.

Mr. WINNERS. But we are going back, if that makes any difference.

Senator BIBLE. What is that?

Mr. WINNERS. We will be going back, if it makes any difference to you.

Senator BIBLE. It does not make any difference to me. I just want to get for the record where you have been, where you are, and where you might be going. Were you born in Arkansas?

Mr. WINNERS. No, no. I was born and raised as a Buckeye—

Senator BIBLE. Oh, you are an Ohioan. Well you and I share one thing in common. My dad was a Buckeye—Lima, Ohio.

Mr. WINNERS. I was born in Lima, Ohio.

Senator BIBLE. Well, you were born the same place my father was then, got a lot of cousins all over there right now. You all have a good name, particularly since you follow the ministry.

Our next witness is Charles P. Thompson, Washington representative of the Landowners Association. Do we have his statement?

STATEMENT OF CHARLES P. THOMPSON, WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE, LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. THOMPSON. I am going to spare you most of this, in fact, all of it, and just highlight some of the first three or four pages.

Senator BIBLE. All right, sir. I hope the rest of you will follow that very fine lead because we are going to run out of time. We are going to adjourn at 4, and we are going to be back tomorrow at 9 a.m. So you can make it easy on yourselves.

Mr. THOMPSON. Thank you very much.

Senator Bible, the American Landowners Association does have an interest in the use of land resources in this country. We recognize the existence of public values, and we recognize the existence of property rights that go along with ownership of land. As to the situation of a landowner, a public project is one in many cases of acute anxiety. Many landowners tend to feel that the great White Father is foisting a proposal on them which will force them from their own lands and the feeling that only outside interests will benefit. Now, it can be expected that they will react in this manner because these projects move them out. They displace these landowners and they wish to be part of the benefits of the project. Because they have been blessed with ownership of desirable land they will be cursed with condemnation. They oppose the fact that they are being moved out for "ease of management"—that no real attempt is made to integrate them into the project. They, too, deserve to be partners and beneficiaries.

With the magnitude of the problems this Nation faces in the area of land and water resource use, with the increasing amount of land use change to meet public needs, landowner opposition can be expected to slow down the process by which we reach out for our goals.

Our job today is to create a climate where the landowners view these projects as a valuable tool to private landowners and residents of local communities, as well as State and regional interests of the Nation. Since we know that these projects will increase in scope and frequency, we must devise a way to win landowner support for the goals we seek to attain. Once the public interest in an area is defined, maximum effort should be made to allow local interests to devise a plan to protect public values or to offer public benefits. The plan ought to be molded to fit the particular local needs with an eye to the public values involved.

All too often in the controversy that surrounds these projects the proponents of these projects tend to picture the local landowners as selfish and destructive of the public interest. They picture themselves as the guardians of public values. This is quite often far from the reality of the situation. Landowners who, by their very nature, support the concept of such projects and the justification for public interest in an area, find themselves faced with eviction—eviction which is not necessarily imperative to protect the public values in the project. Their opposition is taken as opposition to the project as a whole. The situation on the Buffalo River in Arkansas is typical.

Public interest in the Buffalo River has been defined. A national river has been proposed to protect the inventory of public values included in the definition. Proponents of this plan argue that if the river is left to the landowners and businessmen, public values will be destroyed. They also argue that this is the only way to preserve public

values on the Buffalo River. The American Landowners Association makes no comment on the first argument, but we find that the second argument tends to be untrue. I do not think this is the only way to do it. This report is a proposal for another way to do it and we hope that the subcommittee would give some serious consideration to the ideas and concepts in the report.

We would like to conclude by saying that it would be necessary to recognize this fact. Local people most affected by these projects want to have some voice in decisions affecting their destiny, their homes, their lands, their way of life. It is one thing to say to them, "The land use in your area will have to change to meet public use or public needs." It is entirely another matter to say to them, "You must be moved out so this land can serve public purposes." There is a difference between a dam project which might make an area uninhabitable and these more benign projects which change land use in a more modest manner. But these landowners deserve to be shown why they cannot share the benefits. They deserve to be given a chance to come up with a proposal which will meet public needs and serve their own needs very carefully.

It would be wrong to determine the disposition of the resources of the Buffalo River Basin on fear of a dam. It would be far better to pass a bill prohibiting the licensing of such a project on this river than to rush into a status which falls short of meeting all necessary goals.

We have a proposal here which we are presenting which is supported by the landowners of the area which we feel is somewhat of a compromise perhaps to some of the conservationists. It is also a compromise to some of those who would want to see a dam built on the river. It is goal directed, and it is a proposal which is somewhat different from the national river proposal because it advocates Forest Service management to a certain extent and a maximum of private initiative in developing the values of the river.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, the Buffalo River landowners desire to protect public values on the Buffalo River. They also desire to stay in their homes on their lands. This proposal would allow them to do so. It deserves very serious consideration and we know that the committee will do so. We would like to extend to the committee an invitation to come down and hold a field hearing in the area.

And as my final word, I would like to ask for permission to introduce into the record some of the resolutions of the various groups in the area with regard to their stand on this.

Senator BIBLE. Without objection that will be the order. And this does appear to be a very fine prepared report.

(The information follows:)

RESOLUTION

Town Council of the Town of Jasper, Arkansas, in regular session Assembled this
14th day of Nov. 1968

We the undersigned, elected officers of the Town of Jasper, Newton County, Arkansas, are interested in the economic well-being of our County Seat Town. Our Town is enjoying a slow healthy growth. A new hospital, new bank building, new addition to the school, and several new homes are recent additions as well as considerable street improvement, We intend to work toward more improvements, and remain alert to surrounding factors which may effect our economic security in the future.

We have informed ourselves relative to the proposed Buffalo River National Park, and find that they propose to take the whole river and land on both sides, making a park 128 miles long, a mile wide to 6 miles wide, including 103,000 acres of land in 4 counties. Newton County is expected to contribute 43,700 acres, And,

WHEREAS: Taking 43,700 acres off the tax rolls will threaten the continuation of local Government, and will make a ghost town out of our County Seat, as Federal Government Agencies will then own and control in excess of 52% of the land in this County. And,

WHEREAS: The exodus of several hundred families having to relocate, and the fact that parks do not generate the economic dollar flow that other forms of conservation and recreation do, will most certainly retard commerce in the remainder of the County. And,

WHEREAS: We believe that parks, and the conservation of beauty and natural resources is an important part of a Society. However, we believe the size of the proposed park is far in excess of any sensible comprehension. The original cost and expense of maintenance must be borne by the whole society for the pleasure of a very few people. And,

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas owns and operates the Buffalo River State Park consisting of some 1900 acres, and the Lost Valley State Park contains 200 acres. Therefore, we believe that the State has sufficient conservation talent, That they in cooperation with local County Governments, should be allowed to propose a comprehensive multipurpose recreation and conservation program for the Buffalo River, before we allow the Federal Government to add more land to their vast holdings, which they are not able to maintain properly.

THEREFORE: BE IT RESOLVED, that we the undersigned, Mayor, Town Clerk, and Council members, of the Town of Jasper, Arkansas, go on record as opposing the Buffalo River National Park, as proposed by the National Park Service, and for which bills are pending in Congress, and Senate of the United States.

HARRY JOHNSON, *Mayor*.
 TED UPTON, *Recorder*.
 PAUL RANEY.
 ABBY A. PHILLIPS.
 ALTON L. CAMPBELL.
 CHARLES LANDRUM.
 WALTER TOWN.

I, Ted Upton, Town Clerk and Recorder, for the Town of Jasper, Newton County, and State of Arkansas, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a Resolution, which was unanimously approved by the Mayor and Council members, in regular session on the day and year aforesaid, and that they signed their names in my presence and in the presence of each other on the original resolution, as above indicated.

Respectfully certified to this 20th, day of May 1969.

TED UPTON,
Town Clerk and Recorder.

RESOLUTION

The Newton County Chamber of Commerce, in special session assembled this 29th day of October 1968, convened at 1:30 P.M.

For the purpose of examination and discussion of the proposed Buffalo River National Park, as proposed in a survey report made by the Park Service in the year 1963. To determine the advantages, and/or disadvantages said park will impose upon Newton County, and its citizens.

The proposal recommends the establishment of a National Park, which would encompass the entire Buffalo River and adjoining land on both sides of the river. This would result in a park 128 miles long, a mile wide at the narrow place and 6 miles wide at the widest place, including 103,000 acres of land in four Counties. Newton County is expected to contribute 43,700 acres. And

WHEREAS: We do believe that public parks for recreation, and the preservation of natural beauty, is an important segment in the fulfillment of a politically organized society. However, there are many other segments which are even more necessary in making up a unified well balanced livelihood, therefore, it behooves us to try to maintain a sensible balance between daily necessities, and recreational pleasures. Therefore, we are of the opinion that the size of this proposed park is far in excess of any sensible comprehension, especially in

view of the fact that already existing parks are not being used to available capacity. And,

WHEREAS: The taking of 43,700 acres of land out of production and off the tax rolls, will be the beginning of the end of Newton County, and local Government, as Federal Government Agencies will then own in excess of 52% of the land in this County. And,

WHEREAS: The economic well being of the remainder of the County and its residents will be seriously handicapped, because of the necessity of relocation of several hundred people. An the established fact that parks do not generate the economic dollar flow, that other forms of recreation and conservation do. Which will then retard the establishment of attractive retail businesses surrounding the park areas, as well as the discouragement of employment and other commerce. And,

WHEREAS: We believe that when land is taken for public domain, it should be for public good. That it should benefit a large majority of society in an overall well balanced conservation program. This park as it is proposed will benefit a very small segment of Society, and the benefits to the people who do use it will be very minor, and will not justify the monetary investment and expense which must be borne by the whole society for the pleasure of a very few. The State of Arkansas by virtue of its Parks Commission own and operate the Buffalo River State Park which encompasses some 1900 acres, as well as Lost Valley State Park which contains 200 acres and is situated in this County. We believe that local and State Government should be consulted, and that public hearings should be conducted in the effected area, before we allow the Federal Government to take this vast amount of land for public domain.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Newton County Chamber of Commerce, go on record as opposing the Buffalo River National Park, as it is now proposed.

H. C. KLEPPER, *President.*
A. M. HUTCHINS, *Secretary.*

I, A. M. Hutchins, Secretary of the Newton County Chamber of Commerce, hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a Resolution unanimously approved by the members of said Chamber as above stated.

A. M. HUTCHINS, *Secretary.*

RESOLUTION

We the duly elected officials of Searcy County, Arkansas wish to express our opposition to the Proposed National River and National Park on the Buffalo River in Searcy County.

We do not feel that the proposed Park will be of benefit to the area and the county can ill afford to lose the yearly tax off of the 24,410 acres of land the project would take off the County Tax books.

Signed :

WILLIS D. HORTON,
County Judge,
BILLY JOE HOLDER,
Sheriff and Collector,
W. N. GUTHRIE,
County Clerk and Recorder,
LEX TREECE,
County Assessor,
W. T. WEST,
County Treasurer,
HOWELL HORN,
Surveyor,
LEONARD O'NEAL,
Supervisor of County Schools.

RESOLUTION

We, the following named officials of the City Government of the incorporated City of Marshall, Searcy County, Arkansas, wish to make known our whole-hearted opposition to the proposed National Scenic River or National Park on the Buffalo River in Searcy County. Above mentioned plan is proposed in a Senate

bill written by J. W. Fullbright and introduced by himself and in behalf of John L. McClellan.

We are unalterably opposed to a National Park or Scenic River on the Buffalo and we therefore oppose having the Buffalo included in the National Rivers Bill.

We plead that the Senate Sub-Committee will give it an unfavorable report.

(Signed by the Mayor and other officials of the City of Marshall, Ark.)

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB,

Marshall, Ark., May 9, 1969.

That the Marshall Business and Professional Women's Club, in regular meeting did on this date consider and adopt the following resolution ;

Be it resolved that: we, members of the Marshall Business and Professional Women's Club, do hereby express our opposition to the proposed National Scenic River and National Park on the Buffalo River in Searcy County, Arkansas. We sincerely ask that the Buffalo River be left alone in its entirety, and that no National Park or National Scenic River status be conferred on the Buffalo River.

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of all club members present at the meeting in the dining room of the Sunset Restaurant in Marshall, Arkansas on the above date.

ELLA PARKS, *President.*

VERA STRICKER, *Secretary.*

Senator BIBLE. Who is the American Landowners Association?

Mr. THOMPSON. The American Landowners Association grew out of the Potomac Valley Park proposals of the Department of the Interior back in 1966. The association was centered in Washington County, Md., and has grown to about 30 States in the United States. We have State chapters and county affiliates in different areas of the country.

Senator Bible, all of our landowner members are in the throes of some sort of a project of some kind. They all have axes to grind in that sense. They are all in project areas.

Senator BIBLE. I see that you show that your headquarters are in Harpers Ferry, W. Va. Is that correct?

Mr. THOMPSON. We are headquartered in Washington County, Md., but our post office address is a Harpers Ferry, W. Va., address.

Senator BIBLE. How many members do you have in your association, Mr. Thompson?

Mr. THOMPSON. We have about 8,000 members at the present, mostly right here in the Potomac Basin. As I say, we started here.

Senator BIBLE. I see. This is an outgrowth, as you say, of the Potomac Basin problem. Do they pay dues? Do they pay a dollar a year or \$5 a year?

Mr. THOMPSON. Yes, we do. We work on several categories of membership, and I might say, in order again here to save time, Senator Bible, a complete rundown on our association is contained in the hearings on S. 1, this year, the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Land Acquisition Policies Act. Our bylaws and the way in which we operate is contained therein, and to save time you might make reference to that.

Senator BIBLE. Well, we can refer to that and that would be easily obtainable, because I think very properly somebody might want to ask the question and we would want to know the answer.

Mr. THOMPSON. This is right. We have filed with the committee full particulars.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, and I certainly appreciate your statement, Mr. Thompson.

(The full statement referred to follows:)

CHALLENGE ON THE BUFFALO—A REPORT BY THE AMERICAN LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The situation of the landowner in the area of a public project is often one of acute anxiety. It is a feeling that the great white father is foisting a proposal on them which will force them from their homes and lands—a feeling that only outside interests will benefit. It can be expected that they will react in this manner and for this reason many people come to believe that landowners are opposed to the project. In actuality the landowners oppose their removal—the fact that they will not share in the benefits. Because they have been blessed with the ownership of desirable land they will be cursed with condemnation. They oppose the fact that they are being moved out for “ease of management”,—that no real attempt is made to integrate them into the project. They, too, deserve to be partners and beneficiaries.

With the magnitude of the problems this nation faces in the area of land and water resource use, with the increasing amount of land use change to meet public needs, landowner opposition can be expected to slow down the process by which we reach out for our goals.

Our job is to create a climate where the landowners view these projects as a valuable tool to private landowners and residents of local communities, as well as state and regional interests of the nation. Since we know that these projects will increase in scope and frequency, we must devise a way to win landowner support for the goals we seek to attain. Once the public interest in an area is defined, maximum effort should be made to allow local interests to devise a plan to protect public values or to offer public benefits. These public proposals should be molded to meet the particular needs of the local area where the project is to be located.

All too often the proponents of these projects tend to picture the local landowners as selfish and destructive of the public interest. They picture themselves as the guardians of public values. This is quite often far from the reality of the situation. Landowners who, by their very nature, support the concept of such projects and the justification for public interest in an area, find themselves faced with eviction—eviction which is not necessarily imperative to protect the public values in the project. Their opposition is taken as opposition to the project as a whole. The situation on the Buffalo River in Arkansas is typical.

Public interest in the Buffalo River has been defined. A National River has been proposed to protect the inventory of public values included in the definition. Proponents of this plan argue that if the river is left to the landowners and businessmen, public values will be destroyed. They also argue that this is the only way to preserve public values on the Buffalo River. The American Landowners Association makes no comment on the first argument, the second argument is, however, entirely untrue. It is also entirely untrue that landowners have no sense of public values.

Under today's climate there is practically no way for landowners to propose, initiate, plan or devise projects which will protect public values unless they can get help from some agency of government. The magnificent effort on the part of landowners to donate environmental easements to protect the view from Mount Vernon was an example of the cooperation of landowners, state officials and a federal agency. Given a plan whereby they are a part of an effort to preserve public values and in some way share in the benefits—landowners have become valuable proponents of projects which have enriched this nation.

It is a sad fact that landowners in general do not have the organization, budget and staff to initiate and help formulate these projects. Their attitude toward public values could be more adequately expressed. As it is, however, it will remain for government to define and inventory these values. It should be the part of the local interests to help mold the project to meet local needs as well.

Proof of the fact that landowners on the Buffalo do have a sense of public values is the instant report and proposal for a management plan which will protect public values as they have been defined and offer public benefits in excess

of the benefits to be derived from National River Management. The Buffalo River Landowners outline in this report proposal for a Pastoral River Management Plan as a replacement for the National River Plan which they oppose because of certain restrictive features of the management plan associated with that proposal.

Under the Pastoral River Proposal, the river area would be divided into two zones: a primitive zone or resource-oriented area, and, a user-oriented area. In the resource-oriented zone a more restrictive management could be applied than to the rest of the river area; in accordance with the language now protecting the Cape Cod National Sea-Shore:

"The (seashore) shall be permanently preserved in its present state and no development or plan for the convenience of visitors shall be undertaken therein which would be incompatible with the preservation of the unique flora and fauna of the physiographic conditions."

The Pastoral River Proposal would also create a user-oriented area designed to help this country further meet its outdoor recreation need and allow more people to share the rich resources of the river area. It is a proposal molded to fit the local needs and admirably suited to the protection of the public values. More than any proposal submitted thus far—this proposal allows for enhancement of the rivers ability to serve and please all Americans.

It is time to recognize this fact: local people most affected by these projects want to have some voice in decisions affecting their destiny. It is one thing to say to them "the land use in your area will have to change to meet public needs"; it is entirely another matter to say to them "you must be moved out so that this land can serve public purposes". They deserve to be shown why they can not share the benefits. They deserve to be given a chance to come up with a proposal which will meet public needs and serve their own needs too. If they can do this then it is incumbent upon Congress to listen very carefully to what they have to say.

It would be wrong to determine the disposition of the resources of the Buffalo River based on fear of a dam. It would be far better to pass a bill prohibiting licensing of such a project on the river than to rush the river into a status which falls short of meeting the necessary goals. National Park Status is too restrictive for the Buffalo, the imposition of a concept more than 50 years old is not acceptable. We must start now to devise management for land and water resources which the owners will invite and welcome. Acceptance of the Pastoral River Proposal would be such a beginning. The proposal is imaginative and goal directed and much of the information which accompanies this proposal is designed to outline our national needs and compare the chances for attainment of national goals under National and Pastoral River Management. It should be noted that the Pastoral River would be managed by the Forest Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture as an extension of the Ozark National Forest. This would cost less to the taxpayer an important consideration today.

The Buffalo River Landowners desire to protect public values on the Buffalo and to stay in their homes, on their lands. This proposal would allow them to do so. It deserves serious consideration.

INTRODUCTION

The movement for better management of the Nation's land and water resources has received great impetus during the 20th century. The realization that our resources are diminishing while the number of users is increasing has led to efforts to achieve higher yields from replenishable resources and toward greater conservation of non-renewable resources. The Nation's open-space needs have become recognized and must be met. Recreation in the outdoors, formerly a mere by-stander in our technical age, has become a prime consideration in our planning effort and a matter of concern to government at all levels as well as to private citizens and their organizations.

The Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (ORRRC) has shown that the present demand for outdoor recreation is only a small sample of what is to come. "Not only will there be many more people, they will want to do more, and they will have more money and time to do it with. By the year 2000 the population should double; the demand for recreation should triple." It is apparent that this nation must be gravely concerned with meeting these needs. All land use planning must take these needs into consideration.

The American Landowners Association has, since its inception, advocated a balanced program to meet the recognized needs for all aspects of American Land Use. It has continued to warn of the dangers of a government monopoly in any aspect of land use, including recreation in the outdoors. The Association mentioned in its statement to the Public Land Law Review Commission that this nation could not afford to own publicly all of the land which might be in danger from management adverse to public interests. (A.L.A. Statement on Private Initiative and State Activity in American Land Use Policy)

Later in testimony on a bill to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, the Association warned against a government money alone policy in solving problems which really require the mustering of many varied resources—both public and private (A.L.A. Statement on S. 1401—90th Cong.) Consistently the Association has warned against the excessive use of eminent domain powers and pleaded for programs which integrated the landowner into the project rather than forcing him out.

Use of eminent domain powers has never been so great; our nation's projects require greater tracts of land than ever before. Federal Courts are clogged with condemnation cases and many of the methods used to acquire land are highly suspicious and unjust. While many projects call for the removal of landowners due to a change in land use which will make the area unfit for human habitation, many projects call for such removal for ease of management or other lesser reasons. It is the management of these projects which must be seriously questioned. In addition to costing the government more money by overbuying interests in land, shaking the federal system by reducing the sovereignty of the states and state and local tax bases, this management wins the wrath of the resident landowner, slows down needed public projects and delays the time when we shall meet the needs we recognize existing today and growing in the future.

Agencies are given power to acquire land & waters and interests in both to implement a project authorization and the legislature expects that the administrative agency will use its discretion in arriving at an inventory of interests necessary to protect public values or offer public benefits. These agencies tend to overuse fee title acquisition, neglecting the possibility that lesser interests might serve. This is a hold over from an earlier time when such projects were rarities and no other management could be devised other than management of government owned lands.

The American Landowners Association warns again that our land use problems cannot be solved under the climate that prevails today: where owners are antagonistic toward public uses that exclude them, and that somehow a harmony of interests must be sought. There must be a working partnership between those who own the land and those who plan for its use in light of national needs. The success of the Soil Conservation Program is testimony to what can be accomplished in a voluntary program which is creative and not coercive. While many participants are not necessarily public spirited in considerations which determine the best use of their land—they respond to a program which will mean economic benefits to them. National Goals are met at the same time.

We do not question the need for the continued use of our National Parks or the continued creation of National Recreation Areas. We feel that more Recreation Areas will be needed. And we are sure that they will never be obtained in a fiscally responsible program unless certain conditions are met with regard to cooperation with owners of our national land resources. It would be politically dangerous and financially impossible to radically change the pattern of American land ownership to meet future public use needs—especially where such an attempt would only generate the stiffest opposition from the owners. It is possible to devise programs whereby our landowners desire to conform their land use to use which serves their nation as well as themselves. We must begin immediately to do so.

Management plans which determine land interests to be acquired and reestablish patterns of land ownership and use in a given area must be drawn up as part of a program to meet national needs in land use as well as considering the unique aspects of the project land base. They must be molded to local needs and designed to make present residents share the benefits. These resident landowners are our most important hope in meeting the critical open-space needs of this country. They must be won over—made a part of the picture. Ownership by

government is not always necessary for such projects. Use controls will prove necessary to some extent and can be enacted without serious damage to local economies. Economic factors could be adjusted to make resident landowners willing partners. There is no need to pit outside interests against inside interests when plans can be devised which serve the best interests of both.

There is no better place to start than on the Buffalo. Current thinking on the disposition of Buffalo River resources will be enriched by the considerations brought out in the instant report. It will be shown that limited thinking and older concepts will not move us forward along the path to accomplishment of our national land use goals. This thinking, then, must be made more imaginative and goal oriented. Restrictive management patterns of the past must be reshaped to compatible usage of our land and water resources. In addition to these considerations, we propose a plan for management which does greater justice to the river itself—it recognizes some deficiencies in the resource inventory and seeks to enhance them as part of the overall plan for management. The instant proposal fits better both the national and local needs and interests. It is an outgrowth of a movement which is starting to make itself known in this country—a movement for creative conservation and an end to coercive conservation. It allows the resident landowner to choose between integration into the project and a share of its benefits, to continue his present land use which is not injurious to values in the area, or to negotiate the sale of full interests or partial interests to managers of the area. Landowners who do not choose to be a part of the management plan could not be condemned in fee, their injurious uses of land could be stopped by purchase of those rights, whose exercise would be injurious to public values. Management of the river resources would be balanced—resource responsibility would fall to the Forest Service and recreation responsibility would fall to the Recreation Cooperative which would be formed as part of the Pastoral River Proposal. The Cooperative would have Forest Service representation to assure that recreational development would be consistent with the purposes of the management plan and the integrity of the natural resources there—all with due consideration of over-all national goals.

The Buffalo River should be managed at the least possible cost to the taxpayer and with the greatest possible return to the economic and aesthetic wealth of the Nation.

EXISTING REPORTS

Existing reports have been little more than Park Service Promotional Treatises; with the exception of the report published by the Corps of Engineers—The Interim Report on the Buffalo. We are not convinced by the material or all of the projections contained in the NPS Surveys or the University of Arkansas Economic Reports. Even should the predictions prove a reality—they do not serve as a convincing argument for public ownership. Use not ownership is the key to the economic benefits to be derived from such public projects.

The main problem with the existing reports is that they were commissioned to support a specific proposal for a type of management. As such they were wed to the thinking which generated the management proposal and lose much of their needed objectivity. Fear of a dam or desire for another National Park could cloud a picture where the Buffalo itself should dominate.

The NPS Survey Report states that the river is practically floatable the year around. The residents have been quick to call to our attention that such is not the case. Severe low flow conditions occur—reference to Corps of Engineers hydrological data as well as weather bureau statistics for the area and Geological Survey will back this up. This data is discussed more fully later on in this report. It suffices to say that National River Status will not enhance the floatability of the river. Low water conditions have also acted to drive much of the highly touted smallmouth bass fishing to ponds which do not suffer these fluctuations.

Wildlife conditions are, perhaps, overtouted and residents complain that black bear are very uncommon despite the reports description. Similiar inaccuracies are found elsewhere in the report. Description of forest resources failed to mention Oak, one of the mainstays of the Oak-Hickory Forest which covers much of the area. This omission was, however, corrected in the 1969 NPS Report (p. 7 & p. 13). The report list many other things which are not questioned here as they might as well serve as arguments for some other type of management than that proposed by the NPS. Table 26 of the first NPS Report compares the expenditures at Bull Shoals Reservoir and Dam, Norfolk Reservoir and Dam and the Buffalo River State Park; the River Park accounted for only 5% of the

visitors and 3% of the expenditures. Here access and facilities may have played a part but other figures show where the visitation to outdoor projects is.

The water problem in the Buffalo is serious during many times of the year and the reports do not deal with this problem because it hinders the point these reports wish to make, (here again the Corps Report, which advocates a dam, deals rather thoroughly with hydrological data as this is important to their argument.)

Park Service statements that public support is high—even locally—should be modified. It is quite clear that many local residents do not want this project in its present form. Newton County voted overwhelmingly their rejection of the National River during the November 1968 election. It is expected that if Searcy County had had a chance to vote, the proposal would have been very soundly defeated there too. The Park Service does this Nation more harm than good when it pits outsiders against insiders to accomplish its purposes and while it may state that there is widespread support among perspective users—it should be kept in mind that a plan which enjoys both sides' support is better to be desired than one which engenders the same old adversaries as rise up about all of the projects of this nature. The strategy of bringing in outside "conservation" organizations to lobby for a public interest which can be turned over to an agency is well known. The life expectancy of this ploy is exceedingly short. It is one thing for an organization to recognize a public value and bring it to the attention of the public. It is another thing when plans are drawn up for the management of these values without utmost participation of the most affected property owners and without the possibility of the integration of them into the management plan. There is no need for the opposition of public and private values in these projects since it can be expected that integration would allow landowners to conform their use of land to suit the public purpose with just compensation for the rights surrendered.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS ECONOMIC REPORT

The report issued by the University of Arkansas in 1963 was designed to support and underline the National River Proposal. The report is mainly economic and since this Association has made no comparable studies, we will find little to take issue with where the report deals with purely statistical materials on population, economic base, land use, etc. It is rather where the report deals with projections and conclusions based on the materials gathered that we will comment. Two things are apparent:

(1) The report could be equally well used to support a dam or the Pastoral River Proposal as to support the National River Status—all three could be seen to have the economic benefits of the type described in the report.

(2) The report is limited by the fact that its purpose is to support the National River Proposal—a management plan already decided upon, rather than to help in searching for the best possible management plan in light of the particular needs of the Buffalo River Basin, the region and State of Arkansas and the national needs already described.

The report does support the contention of this Association that public use and not public ownership is the key to the economic benefits. The report fails to see that economic benefits could be increased at little expense to other considerations in another type of more liberal management plan. It depreciates the tax loss to the counties involved and writes this off against the other benefits it projects they will receive. National River Management should be compared on the basis of figures which would show the costs and benefits of Pastoral River Management as well as consideration of the fact that the counties would lose none of their tax base. National River Management may seem favorable when compared with some aspects of the existing situation on the Buffalo—but comparison with alternative types of management approach will deflate the values of National River Management. Projections of private investment expenditures in the area as shown in table 35 of the report (p. 119) would be naturally increased by rising costs in the period 1963-1969. Pastoral River Management would substantially increase these figures since the facilities would be provided by the Recreational Cooperative. Since the cooperative would acquire land interests for their facilities—those increases would also be shown in the figures for table 35.

Federal costs for the project would be significantly diminished through management by an agency which is already managing resources in the immediate area and the fact that the entire spectrum of federal burdens would be lightened

by the Cooperative in that while the Forest Service would be responsible for the preservation areas—the Cooperative would see to proper development of those areas which could allow development. Tax considerations given to landowners who surrendered development rights to their land and are compensated both by fee payments or tax breaks would make quite a change in the Local Property Tax Revenue Reduction Table 38 (p. 127). The report further states that private enterprises would operate boat and horse rental concessions—what better holders of these contracts and permits than the resident landowners who are thus encouraged to change their land use to serve a public purpose.

TWO KEYS FOR DETERMINING THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The management plan itself should be determined after consideration of two prime factors listed here, but not necessarily in order of precedence: (1) Characteristics of the River Area itself; (2) National Outdoor Needs.

Certainly some attention should be paid to the prime aspect to the character of any river—the quality and quantity of its water resources. NPS surveys do not deal with this aspect adequately and we suspect that this is because full knowledge of the water situation on the Buffalo would detract from the picture the Park Service has painted. Let us look at the Park Service appraisal of the water resources of the river:

“Clear, cool water is one of the most outstanding and noteworthy attributes of the Buffalo River. Though turbid following rains, the water returns to its usual transparency in a few days. The average fall of the river is 10 feet per mile and is characterized by short, comparatively quiet, pools separated by short riffles. The rapids are usually too mild to be considered challenging to the white water canoeist, yet they are charming aesthetically and make float-boating popular, exciting and interesting—it can be said that virtually the entire river is floatable the year round. A person with a canoe or light boat and a little gear, could traverse the river at any time.” (NPS Report—1963—p. 8)

Let us contrast this with the hydrological data supplied by the Interim Report on the Buffalo, Corps of Engineers—1964:

“Streamflow on the main stem of the Buffalo River averages about 1.25 cubic feet per second per square mile. The average flow at the two U.S. Geological Survey gaging stations, Rush and St. Poe, is 1,329 and 1,070 cubic feet per second, respectively.” (Vol. 1, p. 7.)

Basically we should remember that in late Summer and Fall the river is characterized by greatly reduced flows—often falling below 1% of the annual mean flow—This pattern is common in all years but is more pronounced during drought years. (Vol. II—Interim Report, Corps of Engineers, p. A-12.)

Further attention is given to float possibilities and related recreational possibilities on page 27, Vol. 1 of the Corps Report.

“Other activities that may be classified as specialized recreation are floating and canoeing on the Buffalo River where there is unique and beautiful scenery. On the basis of extensive aerial surveys, the day use of this type of recreation is estimated by the Corps of Engineers to be 10,700 for the year 1963. This use, no doubt, would be much greater if the river was not subject to extremely low flows during the normal vacation seasons, which makes navigation of the stream difficult.” (Vol. 1, p. 27.)

It would seem that any management plan should give much consideration to enhancing this type of recreation. National River Status would preclude such enhancement under its stricter management policies. Pastoral River Status would allow the Secretary of Agriculture to devise plans for the enhancement of the possibilities of this type of recreation. For this reason it is assumed that canoeists and floatboaters will prefer Pastoral River Management to the proposed National River Plan.

While the NPS report touts a river which can virtually be floated the year around, the Corps reports:

“Augmentation of low flows on the Buffalo River to facilitate float trips for fishing and scenic enjoyment is a primary objective in the overall development of the basin. ‘Floating’ on the Buffalo is possible from Ponca to the mouth, a distance of 122 miles, during the spring months when streamflows are adequate. However, later in the season and during the summer months streamflows diminish so that the length of the river that can be floated becomes shorter.” (Vol. 2, p. A-31.)

Pastoral River Management would mean enhancing both floating and fishing opportunities on the Buffalo River—greater recreational opportunity at no cost to the environment.

THE BUFFALO—A PASTORAL RIVER

By the very nature of the land use which prevails along its banks, the Buffalo River in Arkansas is a Pastoral River. Far from being the type of wild river which figured so at the recent hearings to establish a system of wild rivers, the Buffalo had more in common with the scenic rivers—but then what river is not scenic? The description Pastoral, however, is not to be taken to signify that the Buffalo should be managed in the manner prescribed for wild and scenic rivers. Pastoral takes on new meaning when applied to the Buffalo for the concepts which will be used as a tool to make this Pastoral Management Plan a successful reality are in some cases new and in other cases concepts which we had “on the tip of our tongue” with regard to newer concepts in riverside land use—perhaps not yet tried, but necessarily the outgrowth of problems and experiences with other concepts in river management.

The controversy over a dam for the Buffalo has led many to rush the Buffalo into some kind of protective category. Hurry, lack of insight into the national ramifications of such a move have led to a proposal to impose National Park Management upon the river. As a Pastoral River, the Buffalo deserves its own special management plan. A plan which will bring to light the enormous potential latent in the creative conservation which makes the resident landowner part of the plan. The plan is based on the premise that current uses of land along the river will not detract, but rather add to the variety and quality of experience available to the visitor. Pastoral River status will not lead to degradation of the river resources—for even National River Management would not be so restricted as to be “wilderness rivers.”

“These national rivers would not be wilderness rivers in that they would be available for other uses and recreational development would be permitted along the shores to encourage use of the river.” (Secretary Udall—Wild Rivers Hearing—April 13, 1967.)

Pastoral River Management would recognize the compatibility of the many existing uses of land with the purposes of the enabling legislation.

“Many land uses are compatible with scenic river area purposes. I want to make this clear. Livestock grazing, farming, forestry, and simple, rustic recreation developments are all part of a picturesque rural environment. These kinds of land uses should continue. When viewed from the streams they will foster an understanding of wise land use—of how man can improve Nature’s productivity and use its bounty, without impairing its quality.” (Secretary Freeman—Wild Rivers Hearing—April 13, 1967.)

The main feature of the Pastoral River Management Plan is the emphasis on a balanced effort to provide the greatest variety of experience to the visitor while protecting the environment amenities. Less restrictive than the National Park Concept as applied to the river, Pastoral River Management would have as its foundation, the philosophy of the U.S. Department of Agriculture with regard to wise land use. Managers of the river resources would weigh carefully any idea considered too permissive in the resource-oriented “protective” zone of the river or any idea considered too restrictive for the user-oriented zone. Truly the Pastoral River Plan provides something for everyone. Rugged, individualistic outdoorsmen may prefer the experiences available in the protective zone, with its bare minimum of visitor facilities; the young family may wish to patronize the user-oriented zone, designed to provide the kind of recreation that the majority of Americans have shown, through visitation figures, they want. Floaters and fishermen will find the streamflow so improved as to make year-round what was only a seasonal experience.

Most of all, Pastoral Management for the Buffalo would provide a land use showcase, showing how a land and water area may be managed to meet a variety of compatible needs. To the visitor who takes the time to study the facets of the management of the area, there will come an understanding of the interrelation of man with his environment and both preservation and conservation will be on display.

“... I will also recommend that we add prime outdoor recreation areas to our National Forest System . . .” (Pres. Johnson: Message on Natural Beauty, Feb. 8, 1965.)

FEATURES OF THE PASTORAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Pastoral Status for the Buffalo will mean many things to many people. To the Counties it will mean that their tax base will not be diminished. To the landowner it will mean the end of that ominous cloud which has hung over his head since the controversy over the Buffalo started—he will be allowed to retain his home and lands. Should the managers of the area find that his land would be valuable in providing access or some other benefit, a program will be available which will encourage the landowner to make some of his landrights available. Should the landowner wish to improve the quantity or quality of the recreational facilities which he manages in conjunction with the Recreational Cooperative, he would be eligible for loan guarantees under a title of the Housing Act of 1968.

As a land use showcase for compatible uses, the Pastoral River would serve an educational function. The picturesque rural environment which would be on display here would be made accessible to the many city-dwellers who would come as visitors. The plan would provide an inventory of resource values to be protected and land use lessons to be demonstrated. Not a project foisted upon the residents, the Pastoral River would be a valuable tool to them—to help them share in America's rich economic bounty—while they share their rich aesthetic heritage with the rest of the Nation. It is a trade—a barter situation with all of the aspects of a voluntary contract and both sides the richer for the trade. Creative Conservation and the ensuing development of a vital rural economy in the area will find a home in the showcase provided by the Pastoral River Management Plan.

RESOURCE-ORIENTED ZONE

As part of the showcase of compatible uses a zone of the river area would be dedicated to the ideals of the preservationist movement in this country. The upper portion of the basin is admirably suited to this purpose with its many areas of outstanding and rugged beauty. Management would be directed toward maintaining, for posterity, a prime natural environment for the purpose of public education and inspiration as well as the more rugged type of recreational opportunities which this zone could provide. Improvements would be limited to the simple features necessary for the enjoyment of a primitive area, sanitation, and resource protection. All of these projects or facilities would be constructed by the Forest Service and managed by the Service in harmony with their charge to guard the resources of the zone against permissive development. Such projects as were found necessary to enhance the streamflow and thereby the floating and fishing opportunities of this zone would be constructed on the headwaters outside this zone.

USER-ORIENTED ZONE

In the middle and lower portion of the basin there would exist a user-oriented zone to provide the type of outdoor opportunities most Americans have shown they want. While the Resource-Oriented Zone may appeal to the experienced outdoorsman, neophytes will prefer, perhaps, this zone which will be managed with the public in mind. A feature of this zone would be the facilities constructed and managed by the Recreational Cooperative. This cooperative would be created by the Pastoral River Act and would be a model for other river basins as a device to enlist the support and aid of private resources in the management of our environment and the reclamation of the rural economy.

OWNERSHIP AND USE IN THE PROJECT AREA

Ownership of lands in the Resource-Oriented Zone would remain vested in private landowners. The Forest Service would be authorized to negotiate purchase of all development and adverse use rights (rights to use land adverse to purposes of the act) within the lines set up for the zone. Purchase by the Forest Service of rights or the exchange of covenants and easements between landowner and the Service shall include guarantee by the Service against any condemnation of fee interests.

Use of the lands and interests purchased within the project area would be established by the management plan drawn up by the Forest Service with regard to the Resource Zone and the Forest Service and the Cooperative with regard to the User Zone. While the Forest Service would acquire interests through purchase and donation within the Resource Zone, maximum participation of

local residents would be assured in the User Zone by the fact that the Cooperative would acquire lands or interests therein through purchase or donation. The Cooperative would construct and manage the facilities permitted by the Resource Inventory to provide recreational opportunities and access to river values.

COORDINATED RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Unlike the type of haphazard and often over-commercialized recreational and tourist development which so often occurs where no overall plan operates—the plan drawn up by the Cooperative with the approval of the Forest Service would allow for coordinated development of and access provision to all river values.

WILDLIFE VALUES

Throughout the entire area of the project, management objectives would be to establish and maintain optimum habitat for native wildlife species so that the visitor may enjoy observing, photographing, and learning about wildlife in their proper frame—their native natural setting. Any facility which would infringe upon the habitat could be added to the project only with the addition of a plan to provide for reestablishment of such habitat elsewhere in the project area.

WATER VALUES

As mentioned elsewhere in this report—water, as the prime river resource, would be protected as to quality and enhanced as to quantity.

Ownership and Use—Conflict or Harmony in American Land Use Policy?

As this Nation has progressed—its needs have become more defined. With the definition of these needs have come programs to protect the public interest in many areas which had not been the subject of such scrutiny. Agriculture became regulated years ago and Forest Management policies are heading in the same direction; thus two main aspects of land use are already regulated or heading in that direction. It can be expected that all land use will, in the future, be scrutinized in light of public needs.

For years our land use was determined by the axiom—ownership determines use. Each landowner could be expected to put his land to that use which would return those benefits upon which he placed the highest priority and to which use he could apply proper capital and labor. There might be some conflict in his mind as to how he should use the land—but the decision was his. If there was a public interest in changing the use of that man's land—such as for a highway or Post Office or military installation, the way in which the public acquired the right to determine the use of that land was to purchase full ownership—this was necessary since the public interest was exclusive—there could exist no harmony of use considerations where the project, of necessity, must move the landowner off to make way for a public improvement. This need not be the case in considerations where the environmental approach is used since there exists the possibility of conforming land use while the land is still in private ownership.

America has defined her land use needs in a mass of legislation creating National Parks, Recreation Areas, Monuments, Lakeshores, Seashores, Riverways, etc. They are open space and recreational and environmental needs and they require land—hundreds of thousands of acres.

America has defined her interest in the waters of this country in the form of legislation determining the management of these waters above and beyond mere matters of allocation.

But this Nation has not concluded this program with the projects already initiated. This country will need more open-space in the future—more than she can afford to own publicly! The problem is this—how can our Nation meet these needs unless there is reached a harmony between the expressed public interest and the owners of those lands in which there exists such interest? If such a harmony could exist—whereby owners dedicated their lands to a use in which the public interest existed and were rewarded for doing so—not being penalized for having chosen to own choice land as they are under the present system—would we not be closer to reaching our public goals?

Many land owners today need no public encouragement to devote their lands to public uses, many others ask only that we clear away the maze of obstacles which stand in the way of a landowner who would like to put all or part of his

land to a public interest use. There does exist a class of landowners who will have to be helped to see the need for certain land use changes which involve their interests—they will have to be sold on the idea and they will have to receive something in recompense—restrictions on the use of their land will have to be bought and they are right in asking that fair compensation be rendered. It is probable that the majority of American Landowners fall into the third class, but it is to be remembered that this class asks only its due. It is this class which provides the key to attainment of our land use goals.

What turns landowners against these projects which are seeking to meet public needs? They are told there exists that same exclusivity of interest in these environmental projects as did in the projects involving Government buildings and highways. They can't believe this and we don't blame them.

It is time for a reappraisal of this business of use and interest exclusivity. There exists serious question as to whether some of the uses declared by administering agencies are really incompatible—as to whether the management plans do not tend to overstock the interests in land which are needed to conform to the purposes outlined in the legislation. Landowners can not be sold on a project which is to bring them certain benefits if they are then told they must move out.

More attention needs to be given to the lessons learned at Cape Cod, where the purpose of the legislation did not find incompatible single family residences or even rental units—yet the main purpose of the legislation was preservationist in its tone. The key was the opportunity for local zoning commissions to regulate land use in a manner acceptable to the Secretary of the Interior and to the purposes of the act. The lessons learned in New England must be applied to the Ozarks.

Attention needs to be given the matter of who manages the facilities that are permitted by the legislation. Many small businesses catering to tourists are often condemned to make a project a reality—then those same services being necessary to the purposes of the act—these rights are contracted or permitted to outside concessions.

Government has argued in the past that while it provides the main attractions, it leaves to private interests the job of providing the supportive services from which the economic benefits to the area derive. Why are landowners excluded from the main part of the picture—the natural attraction or combination of land and water features which make a land area desirable? Here the argument is that there is no way at present in which private interests can adequately do the necessary job—which then falls to government. Landowners want part of the main picture. Create the proper climate and they can play their proper role.

EMINENT DOMAIN AND THE PASTORAL RIVER

Since public use is the prime objective in land use change to meet our outdoor needs, it is important to discuss how public objectives can be met without fee title condemnation.

There is widespread objection to the use of eminent domain in environmental projects. While the special appendix to this report details the limitations on condemnation powers in more recent legislation and is important to show the changing public attitude toward use of that power, it is only part of the picture. The other part of the picture is the disastrous effect use of these powers has upon our Nation's conservation movement. It creates an equal and opposite force which works to slow down or stop the march toward recognized goals. While the power is employed for ease of management and other temporary objectives—the furor its exercise inevitably brings with it causes losses in the long run. Its use costs us more than the benefits it brings when we consider the open-space picture in this country. This came out very clear at the Wild River Hearings in 1967.

"On privately held land along the upper St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers the Secretary of the Interior would acquire scenic and recreational easements, not disturbing existing patterns of use. On the lower St. Croix, the same recreational zoning technique that has worked so well at the Cape Cod National Seashore would be utilized. In the event that zoning does not meet the Secretary's standards, the acquisition of easements rather than purchase is planned." (Sen. Nelson: Wild Rivers Hearing, April 13th, 1967.)

The remarks of Senator Church at the same hearings will prove instructive:

"We had this question before us in the wilderness legislation, and the issue was, Should the power of condemnation be granted to acquire private inholdings

in the wilderness area? . . . And the Congress chose, in the wilderness bill, not to grant that power of condemnation in order to protect the private property owners against forceable seizure of their properties within the wilderness."

Secretary Freeman desired powers of condemnation where access to a river was a real problem. Experience on New York State points out that condemnation powers are not needed to assure access.

In 1935 the New York State Department of Conservation became concerned about the degree of landowner posting in the area of good quality streams and was faced with the problem of devising a good program of assuring public access to stream resources. Its avowed purpose was to come up with a program which would assure that no one who wanted to fish would have to drive more than fifty miles to get to a major trout stream with public access adequate to demand projections. After the important streams were identified, it became necessary to consider the device by which public access could be assured. Since leasing might be difficult where state and federal laws prohibit use of state and federal management and development funds on leased lands, fee title or easement acquisition were the two choices left. Both could be condemned if desired. Fee title was seen to be too costly—especially where use and not ownership was the public desire. Access easements were decided upon and New York State found landowners willing to sell such access easements. Key to the success of the project was the fact that representatives of the conservation department dealt with the landowners in an understanding, courteous and respectful manner, refusing to deal with them as mere nails being placed for the hammer—in spite of the fact that they possessed the hammer and could have used it if they wanted.

It is a shame that agencies have resorted to condemnation and its long term losses and expenses rather than using imagination and experimentation to solve these problems. Pastoral River Management will give the Forest Service ample opportunity to deal with landowners without the hammer of condemnation—and to the degree that these landowners are integrated into the project, such problems will not prove impossible of solution.

EMINENT DOMAIN AND LONG-TERM LOSSES

It would be impossible to determine in a quantitative way the losses which use of eminent domain powers have caused in our national conservation movement. The existence of such losses has long been a point of agreement between the landowner movement and the conservation movement. Leading conservation organizations have spoken out on the issue. Perhaps the best summation of the question was rendered by the National Parks Association at the 1967 Wild and Scenic Rivers Hearings.

"The sweeping condemnation of land for big roads and big dams in recent years by Federal, State and local governments has been causing a reaction. All throughout America more and more people fear the exercise of the power of eminent domain by their own governments, while the acquisition of land for parks, forests, and open spaces has probably, in fact, been too cautious. The reaction against big dam and big road condemnation has spilled over into more benign areas. The ambitious land acquisition provisions in the scenic rivers bills will meet with widespread resistance. . . . The unfortunate thing about it, furthermore, is that for the purposes of a wild or scenic rivers program these broad powers of eminent domain are not necessary. Nor are the powers represented by an overly broad definition of scenic easements intended to confer undefined authority on administrators with little protection for landowners.

"A well defined system for the acquisition of covenant running with the land, supported by minimal protection and access easements, should be substituted for the broad powers to condemn in fee simple and to acquire unlimited authority under the caption of scenic easements which some of the present measures contain. . . .

"There is much reason to believe that protective covenants or easements of this kind could be obtained as voluntary contributions from landowners interested in the permanent preservation of their own lands; many people nowadays, dismayed by the advance of the bulldozers and the ready-mixed concrete trucks, are looking for ways to protect the land they love for their children and their grand-children. They are interested in protecting the localities in which they dwell and the surrounding scenic beauty against the destructive march of so-called development. One way to encourage such donations would be to grant reciprocal covenants to the effect that no agency of the United States shall

exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire fee title to the affected land with respect to which covenants have been acquired by the government unless specifically authorized by subsequent legislation" (Paul Tilden, Ass't to the President, National Parks Assn.)

APPENDIX No. 1

RESTRICTIONS ON CONDEMNATION AUTHORITY IN NPS AREAS FROM CAPE COD ON

- Cape Cod National Seashore: The Secretary may not condemn—
 Improved property in certain Towns—Aug. 7, 1961 to Aug. 6, 1962.
 Estate for 25 years or for life on certain "improved property" at the election of the landowner, subject to continued conforming use.
 Lands owned by state or political subdivisions thereof.
 "Improved Property" in certain towns while approved zoning by law is in effect.
 Commercial property while used for approved purposes.
- Point Reyes National Seashore: The Secretary may not condemn—
 Lands owned by state or political subdivisions thereof.
 Pastoral tracts 500 acres (except if needed for access) so long as it remains pastoral.
- Padre Island National Seashore: The Secretary may not condemn—
 Oil and gas rights and leases.
 Lands owned by state or political subdivision thereof.
- Fire Island National Seashore: The Secretary may not condemn—
 "Improved property" outside certain 8 mile stretch.
 Estate for 25 years on "improved property."
 Lands owned by state of political subdivision thereof.
 Certain improved property, while subject to approved ordinance, with minor exceptions.
- Assateague Island National Seashore: The Secretary may not condemn—
 Estate for 25 years on improved property.
 Lands owned by the state.
- Cape Lookout National Seashore: The Secretary may not condemn—
 All lands outside "Shackleford Banks."
 Life estate or estate for 25 years, at owner's option, on improved property, with exceptions.
- Ozark National Scenic Riverways: The Secretary may not condemn—
 Scenic easements.
 Estate for life on "improved property."
 Lands owned by state.
 Certain agricultural parcels less than 500 acres unless all of such parcel is condemned.
- Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area: The Secretary may not condemn—
 1,300 acres near certain localities.
 Estate for life or 25 years on "improved property" at the option of the owner.
- Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area: The Secretary may not condemn—
 Life estate on "improved property."
 Lands owned by state or political subdivision thereof.
 "Improved property" while approved zoning ordinance is in effect.
- Pictured Rocks National Recreation Area: The Secretary may not condemn—
 "Improved property" within inland buffer zone.
 Any property within inland buffer zone if used for specified purposes.
 Estate for life or 25 years on "improved property" at owner's option.
 Cottage and hunting lodge leases.
 Lands owned by state or political subdivision.

THE RURAL RECREATION COOPERATIVE

Providing open space and recreational opportunity is as important today as rural electrification. It is a tribute to American Enterprise that today's rural electrification has been accomplished by investor-owned cooperatives, for a large part. This in spite of the public power movement. As government has avoided a monopoly in the field of power generated by conventional means, so it is quickly moving to avoid a monopoly in the field of nuclear power.

Not so bright is the outdoor recreation picture in this country. Today's concepts have government providing the primary outdoor attractions (exceptional land and water areas, developed or preserved as the case may be) while private commerce provides the many supportive services, food, lodging, auto services, sporting goods, etc. In many cases private commerce provides or manages facilities in publicly owned areas.

Building the recreation and tourist industry can revitalize the rural economy—a prime objective of the U.S.D.A. This department already has programs aimed at this. But passage of the Pastoral River Plan for the Buffalo would give this department the task of developing a large scale solution to the outdoor recreation problem. The Buffalo will have served a noble purpose if it help to solve it.

American families now spend over \$45 billion a year on recreation. This figure is growing at least three times faster than the whole economy. This should demonstrate that it is a growth industry. The rise in personal incomes, greater availability of leisure time and greater availability of outdoor recreation resources made accessible, all will add to the demand. Population growth and the changing age composition of our population will have profound effects on demand.

It is increasingly imperative that we find new ways to meet the demands which we can already project. Government alone cannot provide for the entire program—private industry, private capital must be called upon to aid.

Assistance to private enterprise in the field of outdoor recreation finds itself in the same state as so many other government programs—fragmented, departmentalized and ineffective on a large scale. Standards for eligibility depend upon the agency granting the assistance. Loan limitations for most agencies are too small to cope with the problems we can already foresee.

There is an urgent need to attract capital into the recreation industry in the underdeveloped regions of the country and also to assure that recreation development respects natural resources and the appreciation of them by avoiding haphazard and over-commercialized development. It is a sad fact that some of our nation's most scenic and beautiful areas have not been partners on America's economic progress. This is true of the Buffalo River Area.

A concept is needed now to do these things:

- (1) Attract private capital into outdoor recreation.
- (2) Ease the creation of outdoor recreation areas.
- (3) Win support of the owners of prime outdoor areas.
- (4) Revitalize the rural economy in underdeveloped areas.
- (5) Place proper emphasis on role of private enterprise in meeting outdoor needs (recommendation of ORRRC).

Such a concept is the investor-owned Rural Recreation Cooperative. The Cooperative would be a local corporation of landowners and businessmen.

Landowner investors could put up money or land rights for stock (such land rights as they own in the project area), businessmen would invest their money. Large capital resources would come through federal loan guarantees under a special section of the Housing Act of 1968 according to the provisions of S. 1474 of Senator Proxmire (S. 1474—91st Congress, introduced March 11, 1969).

By accomplishing points (1), (3), and (5) this concept would bring about the attainment of points (2) and (4).

It is appropriate that this program be placed into service in an area recommended for resource administration by the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture. It has long been the desire of this Association that all government agencies could have developed the working partnership with landowners that this agency has.

Let us move at once so that this concept may be placed in the service of our country at the earliest possible date. Let us begin on the Arkansas Buffalo.

MAN OF THE BUFFALO RIVER

I've lived here for many a year, in fact all my life.
 Here is where we children played and here I met my wife.
 Here is where my own were born, my daughters and my son.
 Here is where I've cried and prayed and here I buried one.
 Now they tell me I must go, they need my land they say.
 The tourists need to fish and canoe, I'm only in their way.
 I just can't go and leave my roots, they're just too deep you know.
 I want to live here on my land 'til its my time to go.

The Buffalo has been my life, it flows so wild and free.
 Life back here in these Ozark Hills is just the place for me.
 I've fished along these bottom lands and hunted of her game.
 I've seen the handi-work of God and called upon his name.
 I live here the year around, not just in the summer time.
 I stay here when things go bad, not just in weather fine.
 So may I live the remainder of my life at home in peace.
 Don't make me leave my Buffalo until my life has ceased.

CHARLDENE SPARKS.

(Subsequent to the hearing, the following information was received:)

THE AMERICAN LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION,
Harpers Ferry, W. Va., July 1, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*U.S. Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am enclosing two items for the record of the hearings on the Buffalo National River Bill. One is a press release from our Association announcing the Pastoral River Proposal as a management plan for the Buffalo. The other is a press release from the Buffalo River Conservation and Recreation Council. This press release is the same as that mentioned above, however the cover letter issued by the Council is most revealing of the attitude of conservationists toward the newest proposal for the Buffalo. They have seen that some way had to be found to conserve without condemnation.

We sincerely hope that your committee will give serious thought to the possibilities of Pastoral River Management for this is a plan commissioned by the Landowners themselves, the plan they desire to see realized on the river. The landowners along the Buffalo sincerely believe that with this proposal they are making a significant contribution to our Nation, for as the report "Challenge on the Buffalo" states: "More than any other proposal submitted thus far, this proposal allows for the enhancement of the river's ability to serve and please all Americans."

Sincerely,

CHARLES THOMPSON,
President and Executive Director.

[Press release]

AMERICAN LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION ISSUES REPORT ON ARKANSAS BUFFALO RIVER

The American Landowners Association released its report on the Arkansas Buffalo River today. The report rejected National River Status for the Buffalo but admitted that public values were involved and should be made accessible to all Americans. The Report, entitled "Challenge on the Buffalo" stated that its purpose was to assess the present situation on the Buffalo and devise a plan that would make accessible the public values while allowing the landowners to share in the benefits, and further to present some new concepts necessary to the attainment of conservation and recreation goals.

The Report criticized existing reports on the River because "They're designed to support a management plan already decided upon rather than to help in the search for that management plan best suited to local, state and national needs."

The Association Report advocates extension of the Ozark National Forest to cover the River and lands along the river (project area). The Buffalo would become a "Pastoral River" with resource conservation management by the Forest Service and recreational opportunity provided by a "Rural Recreation Cooperative"—one of the new concepts presented in the report.

The Forest Service would not be given powers of condemnation, under the proposal, but would be funded to allow for opportunity purchase of land and land interests where resource conservation would dictate their need. Because the Forest Service is already managing a large National Forest in the immediate vicinity—Forest Service management of the "Pastoral River" would be less expensive.

The Pastoral River Proposal outlined in the report would feature a land use showcase in that the management of the area would demonstrate how resource

oriented and user oriented goals can be harmonized. "Its management," said Charles Thompson, president of the American Landowners Association, "would not only harmonize these sometimes differing goals, but also show how it can be done in other areas of this nation."

The proposal features both a "protective zone" where preservation of the resources in their natural setting would be the key note and a user oriented zone where America's outdoor recreation needs can be met.

"Challenge on the Buffalo" states: "The Buffalo River should be managed at the least possible cost to the taxpayer and with the greatest possible return to the economic and aesthetic wealth of the nation." Thompson said there were many factors complicating the picture in the search for the proper plan for the disposition of Buffalo River resources. "Fear of a dam or desire for another National Park could cloud a picture where the Buffalo itself should dominate," says the report. Thompson added that there were really only two valid keys to arriving at the proper management plan: 1) Recognized National, State and local needs, 2) Conservation and enhancement of the characteristics of the river which will meet these needs. Only the Pastoral River Plan meets all needs to a sufficient degree. National River management falls short in the enhancement of the river's capability to serve the maximum outdoor goals and because it employs condemnation of lands, serves to hinder rather than to help in the march toward resource goal attainment."

CONSERVATION—WED TO CONDEMNATION?

The report delves at some length into the subject of eminent domain and its effects on long term Conservation Goals. Backlash against condemnation is seriously hampering valid conservation efforts, says the report, and quotes a well known conservation organization to make its point. It further presents data to show that national concern over the extent of condemnation has resulted in ever more restricted condemnation provisions in the more recent park bills.

"Because the Pastoral River Plan does not allow condemnation, but offers in its place a way of attracting sale or donation of land rights rather than grabbing them," Thompson said, "this plan will have the support of the resident landowners as well as the local communities."

"It will permit them to come in rather than forcing them to vacate. Rather than decreasing the local tax base—it would add significantly—in a manner far greater than the National River or a dam—both of which would reduce the amount of taxable land in the area."

Perhaps the newest idea presented in the report is that of the Rural Recreation Cooperative. The RRC would be an investor-owned of local landowners and businessmen. Landowners would exchange interests in land for stock in the cooperative and funding would be made available under the Small Business Administration, the Department of Agriculture and a special amendment to the Housing Act of 1968.

The reader of the report gets the idea that this is a proposal which destroys the old plot of outside interests versus inside interests—for here both sides are left happy. As the report states (p. 19):

"As a land use showcase for compatible uses, the Pastoral River Plan would serve an educational function. The picturesque rural environment which would be on display here would be made accessible to the many city dwellers who would come here as visitors. The plan would provide an inventory of resource values to be protected and land use lessons to be demonstrated. Not a project foisted upon the residents, the Pastoral River would be a valuable tool to help them share in America's rich economic bounty—while they share their rich aesthetic heritage with the rest of the Nation. It is a trade—with all of the aspects of a voluntary contract and both sides the richer for the trade. Creative Conservation and the ensuing development of a vital rural economy in the area will find a home in the showcase provided by the Pastoral River Management Plan."

"The Pastoral River Plan will be supported by conservation groups," said Thompson, "especially fishermen and floating groups who fear restrictions on their sporting interests would come with nationalization of the river and who also prefer those features of Pastoral River Management which would enhance the river's ability to meet their needs. These people have an interest in the river—but even these most dedicated conservationists are land and home owners themselves and they hate to see landowners moved out for these projects—they will support a plan which will keep landowners in their homes."

The report states this: "The Buffalo River Landowners desire to protect public values and to stay on their lands, in their homes. This proposal would allow them

to do so. It deserves serious consideration," and further . . . "(the Pastoral River Proposal) is a proposal molded to fit local and national needs and admirably suited to the protection of public values." More than any other proposal submitted thus far—this proposal allows for the enhancement of the river's ability to serve and please all Americans.

BUFFALO RIVER CONSERVATION & RECREATION COUNCIL,
Pruitt, Ark., June 18, 1969.

PRESS RELEASE TO ALL NEWS MEDIA RE: PASTORAL RIVER PROPOSAL ON BUFFALO RIVER

The accompanying news release is for immediate publication and announcement.

There has been considerable controversy about the Buffalo River in Arkansas. It is very scenic; has many varieties of birds, and can be floated part of the year. Conservationists feel strongly that the Buffalo River should be kept for this and future generations. The landowners along the Buffalo are now taking the unique attitude that this is absolutely correct, and are now inviting the conservationists to join forces in this new concept. Cost to the Government in the Pastoral River Proposal is the least of all methods used to date, and will retain private ownership as the American pattern of life.

Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

MARVIN SHERMAN.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness in this one group that came up is Mr. P. W. Yarborough, Jasper, Ark.

STATEMENT OF P. W. YARBOROUGH, JASPER, ARK.

Mr. YARBOROUGH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear here today, and in preparing my testimony, it is highlighted, so, I will be brief.

I would like to say before we start, however, that this is the area in which we are located, and this is the area that was so rapidly passed over this morning when we were inquiring about the other area in this Buffalo region.

Senator BIBLE. Why do you not describe that a little more definitely.

Mr. YARBOROUGH. Well, the Boxley Area was talked about this morning and how the farm areas and so forth were situated there. Right here at our own entrance on Highway 74—

Senator BIBLE. Entrance at Highway 74.

Mr. YARBOROUGH. Seventy-four is designated on the National Parks Proposed Buffalo National River map as a scenic point of interest.

Senator BIBLE. All right. Very well.

Mr. THOMPSON. Then from there we take in the holdings. So in order to keep from digressing, I would like to read my prepared testimony.

Senator BIBLE. Very well.

Mr. THOMPSON. To open my testimony, I would like to quote from the National Park brochure entitled "Proposed Buffalo National River," page seven, paragraph two, and I quote:

The entire Buffalo can generally be floated from the autumn rains until late May or early June. During summer's drought, the upper part of the river and later the middle reaches sometimes drop too low for boating, except for small craft. But any measurement of the river's "floatability" must consider the vagaries of weather, floaters' preference for small boats or large ones, and their willingness to walk the shallows occasionally. Even with these small limitations, floating remains the best way to experience the river.

And I might add there it is practically the only way to experience the river.

We have spent the past 20 years acquiring and developing over 5 miles of the land through which the Buffalo River flows. In the 20 years I have known this river, I have seen it in every stage and I know that to attempt to make it a National River would be highly impractical and not economically feasible.

The reason I say it is impractical is that it can only be floated during a very short period in the year, that is, in the early spring after the rains or during the winter when it is too cold. If floated early in the spring before it has receded, the river can be treacherous and dangerous. Many experienced canoeists underestimate the swift current. People have been injured and, in some cases, have narrowly escaped. Turn-overs are frequent and in many cases equipment and canoes are lost. Because of the steep watershed on the upper section of the Buffalo where we are situated this stream rises rapidly after a rain and, in some instances, traps campers. We had one instance this spring where it was necessary to send out a search plane to locate two people after they had lost their equipment from a rapid rise during the night.

Contrary to what the National Park Service's brochure would indicate, the floating period in the spring is only for a few short weeks. During the remainder of the year the river recedes so low that in places it goes underground and the river bed dries up. During the tourist season of June, July, and August, the river in our area becomes so low that it can be crossed in the fords without getting one's feet wet. We have seen many people become utterly discouraged when trying to float the river because of having to drag their canoes over the rocks between pools of water, for, as they expressed their feelings, any pleasure derived was not worth the effort expended.

It is our understanding that the Park Service is not in favor of damming the river, but if it is ever to be used for the purpose they indicate, then it would seem necessary to place a dam on the upper reaches in an effort to maintain the river at a floatable level. This may even be impossible.

This radical variation, of course, adversely affects fishing conditions. When the river is high enough to float, it is too rapid in our area to float and fish. The water being too low for a greater part of the season, most people who want to fish are disappointed.

The National Park Service has indicated that 15 million people are within an easy day's drive of this proposed National River area. Our question is: How many of that 15 million would or want to float this river? We have found, through the years, that the majority of the people who float this river do so from year to year and have someone locally telephone to tell them when it is just right. The rest of the year they stay away. We see few canoeists or campers after Memorial Day until the next season. For several years there has been a great deal of publicity in the press about the Buffalo River, but even with all the publicity, it has not seemed to increase the number who attempt to float the river. We can testify to that fact because we have made counts from season to season on the weekends when floating was possible.

With so few who would be willing to endure the rigors of such an arduous experience, we cannot see how the Federal Government can morally justify spending the millions of dollars that would be required

to favor so few. Neither are we in agreement with the statements about what the river would do for the local economy. We know one enterprising man in the community of Ponca near where our property is located who just knew he would make a great deal of money if he would open a nice restaurant to serve the campers. This he did and the food served was good, but after two seasons of selling little to these canoeists other than coffee and cigarettes, he closed up. There is also a store in this community which sells groceries and gasoline. The proprietor has stated on several occasions that even the canoeists who return year after year rarely make any purchases, not even gasoline. This situation seems to also prevail in the nearby county-seat town of Jasper. These campers seem to bring everything with them, including their equipment and food.

We know that much has also been printed about the residents destroying the Buffalo River. In those areas with which we are familiar, this is not true. It is more a case of the river destroying the land. I am by nature a conservationist and over the years we have tried to practice good soil conservation. We have, almost yearly, had to do extensive work on the channel of the river in order to protect the soil. We have established permanent grass sod in the water courses wherever the fields are subject to overflow or erosion. We have cleared only those slopes that could be established in permanent grass and mowed for proper pasture and weed control. We have not permitted our timber to be harvested, even when over-ripe, unless the area was to be permanently cleared for establishing pastures which could be properly managed and controlled. We have built ponds and terraces to eliminate rapid run-off and erosion, and those areas of particular significance and beauty, we would not, under any circumstances, change or destroy.

Over the years we have acquired a number of farms and other land to put this valley and the surrounding mountains into one block. When we first acquired these farms, the river had, in the past, done great damage in some cases by cutting through the fields at flood stage with continued erosion year after year. We spent a great deal of money and years with heavy equipment to doze and fill these cuts and contour the fields in some instances down to the water's edge so that with heavy runoff the river would have sufficient room and would do no further damage. We have been criticized by one of the waterways clubs that annually floats this river because we removed the brush and opened the channels. This, in their opinion, destroyed the beauty. In our opinion, it was good soil conservation.

Over the years we have developed a ranch home of singular beauty. And I might say that it is modern in every respect. Our whole establishment is modern. We have three baths in that house, because we have good water and we like to keep clean.

Moreover, all of the facilities for the visitors facilities around are modern. We have an annual payroll of something over \$36,000 a years. We keep part-time people employed all the time. So in this 20 years we have contributed substantially to the economy of the area. And it is our intention to continue to do so.

We have established an Arabian horse breeding herd of national importance. And right here I would like to introduce, if I may, some national ads that we have had in magazines concerning our herd. This

shows that we had a top 10 mare nationally in 1966. We had another one in 1967. And we have visitors from all over the United States that come there. I might say that so far this year of our Arabian horses we have sold over \$30,000, and our better season is yet to come. So it is not a desolate area. It is not an area that has been forgotten.

What we have done here has been a slow, arduous, and expensive task. We also raise fine quarter horses and commercial cattle. But before we could do any of these things, it was necessary to even build a road to get into our valley. Recently, we completely rebuilt this road from our entrance to the main buildings which is a distance of 1.3 miles from the top of the mountain to the valley floor. This project required more than a year to complete. We now have a more gentle, uniform grade all the way to the top with sweeping curves to facilitate easy movement of traffic in and out of our property.

An operation such as ours takes the greater part of one's lifetime to establish. We have spent many thousands of dollars in developing the land, in erecting modern, serviceable buildings and other facilities because extensive improvements are required. But money and time are not the only ingredients. Our entire past life and future are wrapped up in this home and development. This is our permanent ranch home and we had no thought of ever losing this property or someday being forced to give it up. This must not be permitted to take place.

We respectfully recommend that before this committee takes final action, each member should personally and individually inspect this area. We invite you to be our guests during the tourist season of June, July, and August or September and October. You would then have an opportunity to review the information we have presented here and could then see firsthand the truth of our statements. We believe you would find it most revealing to visit with the landowners who are involved and the many others who, like myself, are quite opposed to this action.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much.

Senator BIBLE. Well, that was a very fine statement, Mr. Yarborough. And as a matter of fact, I am personally concerned, and I am going to get down there and take a look at this someday. I do not know when.

Mr. YARBOROUGH. We hope you will.

Senator BIBLE. Oh, I will. I cannot tell you when. I stay committed about 90 days in advance. But I will get down there one of these bright days, you can rest assured.

Mr. YARBOROUGH. Fine. We will look forward to seeing you.

Senator BIBLE. I am looking forward to seeing you. I went through high school with Yarboroughs, and they were mighty fine people.

Mr. YARBOROUGH. Thank you. We have a few relatives around.

Senator BIBLE. That is right. I understand there is a U.S. Senator here by the name of Yarborough.

Gentlemen, that is a very fine presentation. I am very happy that you were here with us today.

Let me make it clear, I am going to keep this record open for—let us see, today is what, the 27th. We will keep this record open to the Fourth of July. That is a good easy date to remember. So you can have until the Fourth of July to supplement or add any additional comments you would like to make for the benefit of the committee.

Mr. YARBOROUGH. That is very fair, and we certainly thank you.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, gentlemen, I appreciate your being here.

Our next witness will be James Gaston, of Lakeview, Ark.

I have a letter, Mr. Reporter, from the Arkansas State Parks, Recreation and Travel Commission introducing Mr. Jim Gaston to this committee, and without objection that will be made a part of the record.

(The letter referred to follows:)

ARKANSAS STATE PARKS,
RECREATION & TRAVEL COMMISSION,
Little Rock, Ark., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This will introduce Mr. Jim Gaston, a resort operator on the famous White River in Arkansas, and a leader in the development of the state's recreation and travel industry.

Mr. Gaston has been the manager and operator of Gaston's White River Resort at Lakeview, Arkansas—one of the finest and most successful fishing resorts in our area—for the past seven years. During this period, he has found time from his own busy schedule to take an active part in some of the more important regional travel development organizations and programs.

For five years he has been a member of the Ozark Playground Association and is now serving as Vice President of this (1000-plus members) largest regional tourist organization in the country.

He is the immediate past president of the Bull Shoals Lake-White River Association and is president of the Bull Shoals-Lakeview Rotary Club.

He is an active member of the Ozark Society, the National Wildlife Federation and the National Audubon Society. He, also, participated in a travel mission to Europe with the Southern Travel Directors Council in October '68.

I hope that these credentials will serve to identify Mr. Gaston as an important member of the travel industry in Arkansas.

Sincerely,

LOU OBERSTE,
Director, Recreation and Travel.

Senator BIBLE. Mr. Gaston, your full statement will be made a part of the record, and in the interest of time, because we still have quite a few witnesses that want to get away this afternoon, I suggest you highlight your statement.

STATEMENT OF JAMES GASTON, THE LAKEVIEW PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION AND THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER INDUSTRY, LAKEVIEW, ARK.

Mr. GASTON. Yes, sir. Thank you.

As the statement says, I come as a representative of the Travel Industry in the State of Arkansas, which happens to be the third largest industry in the State.

Since I am going to be brief, I would like to answer some questions that were brought up by the gentleman before me.

On the statement that people tend to rather not rough it out, camping has grown 370 percent since 1962. That is from the Revised Economical Study of the Proposed Buffalo National River.

I am also in the resort business and a float operator, and we float the Buffalo. And I can testify that the publicity has increased the float business on the Buffalo.

I might add that there were 22 million visitors to the State of Arkansas that would be classified as tourists in 1964. So I do not think it is unreasonable that perhaps a million or more people could visit this proposed national river. And in answer to Mr. Thompson's statements, I would suggest that the national park form of advisory board be set up in this area that can perhaps help advise what would take place in this river.

Senator BIBLE. We have done that repeatedly, and we have done that in the Cape Cod area, and many of the lakeshore areas. We find a great apprehension on the part of local people, and I can understand that, as to their treatment by the bureaucracy in far distant Washington. And we have built into many of these parks advisory boards, and we find that once they find that we have worked with them and can work with them, they do not feel quite as bad off then as they originally thought they were. I think an advisory committee does have some merit. It will be considered.

Mr. GASTON. I will make this brief. I will cut a lot of my statement out, but I want to bring this forth.

When one considers the views of the proposed dam or the proposed Buffalo National River, one must consider which will be of most importance to the travel industry, the people of the area, and to the general economics of the State and to the Ozarks. Arkansas today is a State which is blessed with many large lakes and dams. The appeal and benefits that these projects offered 20 years ago, is not the same today as it was then, nor will their value be as great in the future as then. The reason is that when Norfolk and Bull Shoals Dams and the many others in the Ozark area were built, there was at that time a very great need. At that time very few areas in the United States could offer the large reservoir recreation benefits. But as more and more dams and lakes were built, the supply of natural land areas and natural waterways was greatly reduced.

This, in itself, has created a greater need for the natural, unspoiled playgrounds. One must remember that the arguments of the 1930's and 1940's and of the early 1950's are no longer valid for this section of the United States. Arkansas does not need more lakes and dams, but is in need of diversification. Diversification is the keyword in the travel industry today. Areas which have diversified are the prime travel areas today, and will continue to be in the future.

In the Ozark region the completion of Table Rock Reservoir in the north, Beaver Reservoir to the northwest, several reservoirs in Oklahoma to the west, and Greers Ferry Reservoir to the south, have formed a block to the Norfolk and Bull Shoals Reservoirs. One more reservoir in the center of this area will not increase the total tourist count, but will shift income from one reservoir to another. With this competition, it becomes imperative for each area within the Arkansas Ozark region to develop its existing and potential recreation capacities as rapidly as possible if they are to capture their fair share of the various segments of the potential tourist market. It is an accepted fact of business life that the organizations providing the best products, services, and accommodations at the right prices will gain greatest consumer acceptance in their respective fields. These are the considerations facing the

leader of the Arkansas Ozark region today. With the overnight visitor spending approximately \$11.48 per day in the Ozark area.

The importance of this can be seen by looking at the attendance figures of 1960 through 1966, at Norfolk, Bull Shoals Reservoirs, and Buffalo River State Park. Norfolk Reservoir attendance increased 40 percent while Bull Shoals Reservoir decreased by 20 percent but, please note, the Buffalo River State Park visitation increased nearly 300 percent. This only helps prove that we need more diversification.

I am going to look through this and just take out the main parts.

One thing that is very important when considering the Buffalo River and why perhaps it had not developed now is that when one takes a look at the vacationing public on an analytical basis, the following comes to light: 56 percent of their vacation nights are spent in motels, 17 percent in resort complexes, 8 percent in hotels or lodges, and 31 percent camp out. But let us take a look at these figures for a moment. The Buffalo River has no major resort facilities to handle the traveling visitor except for the modest accommodations at the Buffalo River State Park, and the limited camping facilities. But remember that the camping visitor is only 31 percent of the total market; thus this area is now losing 69 percent or more of its market. This area can offer 11 of the major tourist activities to the traveling public and is taking little or no advantage of these activities now.

One must look and see the benefits to the people of the Buffalo River area also. The average income in many of the areas which the Buffalo River flows through is now less than \$1,300 per capita, and as low as \$791 per capita, compared to areas in Arkansas in which the travel industry has grown, where the per capita income is \$2,200. This \$2,200 per capita income is 180 percent more than the vast majority of the people of the Buffalo River country, and 40 percent more than the per capita income for the Ozark region.

I think that most of this is self-explanatory, so I do not think there is any need for me to read the seven pages to you.

Senator BIBLE. I find a great deal of this cumulative, and again I think that is a very fine statement, Mr. Gaston. I appreciate your summarizing it, in the manner that you have, because I am going to try to accommodate everyone that is from out of the city and finish up by 4 o'clock this afternoon. This does not give us much time.

Much of the testimony that is cumulative I do not think has to be repeated, but your full statement will be incorporated in the record.

Thank you very much.

Mr. GASTON. Thank you.

(The statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF JAMES A. GASTON, THE LAKEVIEW PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION AND THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER INDUSTRY, LAKEVIEW, ARK.

I come to you today as a representative of the third largest industry in the United States, and in the state of Arkansas. The travel industry is not only third largest in the state of Arkansas, but it is one of the prime sources of employment and development in the northern section of the state. When one considers the travel industry, one must remember that this industry does not remove, deface, deplete, or pollute the natural resources of an area. Thus the travel industry has become a prime industry for this reason alone.

When one considers the views of the proposed dam or the proposed Buffalo National River, one must consider which will be of most importance to the travel industry . . . the people of the area . . . and to the general economics of the

state and to the Ozarks. Arkansas today is a state which is blessed with many, large lakes and dams. The appeal and benefits that these projects offered twenty years ago, is not the same today as it was then . . . Nor . . . will their value be as great in the future as then. The reason being that when Norfolk and Bull Shoals Dams and the many others in the Ozark area were built, there was at that time a very great need. At that time very few areas in the United States could offer the large reservoir recreation benefits. But as more and more dams and lakes were built, the supply of natural land areas and natural waterways, was greatly reduced. This in itself has created a greater need for the natural unspoiled playgrounds. One must remember that the arguments of the 30's, 40's and of the early 50's are no longer valid for this section of the United States . . . Arkansas does not need more lakes and dams, but is in need of diversification. Diversification is the key word in the travel industry today. Areas which have diversified are the prime travel areas today, and will continue to be in the future.

In the Ozark region the completion of Table Rock Reservoir to the north, Beaver Reservoir to the northwest, several reservoirs in Oklahoma to the west, and Greers Ferry Reservoir to the South, have formed a block to the Norfolk and Bull Shoals Reservoirs. One more reservoir in the center of this area will not increase the total tourist count, but will shift income from one reservoir to another.¹ With this competition, it becomes imperative for each area within the Arkansas Ozark region to develop their existing and potential recreation capacities as rapidly as possible if they are to capture their fair share of the various segments of the potential tourist market. It is an accepted fact of business life that the organizations providing the best products, services, and accommodations at the right prices will gain greatest consumer acceptance in their respective fields. These are the considerations facing the leader of the Arkansas Ozark region today. With the overnight visitor spending approximately \$11.48 per day in the Ozark area.² The importance of this can be seen by looking at the attendance figures of 1960 thru 1966, at Norfolk, Bull Shoals Reservoirs and Buffalo River State Park. Norfolk Reservoir attendance increased 40%, while Bull Shoals Reservoir decreased by 20%. But, please note, the Buffalo River State Park increased nearly 300%!³ This only helps prove that we need more diversification.

Buffalo River State Park has offered this and it's indicated that the traveling public believe this is an outstanding attraction. Prior to 1958 Buffalo River State Park was accessible only by a 12 mile dirt road or by the same distance by way of dirt road also, plus a toll ferry. Yet . . . the Buffalo River State Park visitations increased faster than the average growth for all state parks in Arkansas. Since the completion of a bridge and paved highways, the only limits on the park have been in limited size and facilities. The demand for facilities far exceeds the supply.⁴ The proposed Buffalo National River, I sincerely believe is the key to the development of the travel industry in the Ozarks.

All of the foregoing is easily proved by present day growth figures and projections that we of the travel industry base our plans on. The figures I use are from the Missouri and Arkansas Travel Departments, American Auto Club, and the University of Arkansas Economic Study of the Proposed Buffalo National River. I repeat that these are documented figures and not high hopes.

It is a basic projection that all forms of recreation will grow over 150% by 1980, and that outdoor recreation will grow to even larger amounts. The reason is very simple . . . With the advent of shorter work weeks, paid vacations, and paid holidays, the average worker has 125 free days each year now. People do take vacations . . . not many years ago only the affluent took a vacation, but vacations and weekend trips are a part of the American scene now. With the over-crowding and urbanization of our cities, people have the desire to get out of the city and "back to nature".⁵ Please remember that the travel industry could very well be the number one industry in the United States in the next decade, as it is in many European countries today.

¹ Revised Economic Study of the Proposed Buffalo National River, page 49 (University of Arkansas).

² Missouri Tourist Study, 1968.

³ Revised Economic Study of the Proposed Buffalo National River, page 49 (University of Arkansas).

⁴ Revised Economic Study of the Proposed Buffalo National River, page 90 (University of Arkansas).

⁵ Revised Economic Study of the Proposed Buffalo National River, page 78 (University of Arkansas).

When one takes a look at the vacationing public on an analytical basis, the following comes to light. 56% of their vacation nights are spent in motels, 17% in resort complexes, 8% in hotels or lodges, and 31% camp out.⁶ But let us take a look at these figures for a moment. The Buffalo River has no major resort facilities to handle the traveling visitor except for the modest accommodations at the Buffalo River State Park, and the limited camping facilities. But . . . remember that the camping visitor is only 31% of the total market, thus this area is now losing 69% or more of its market. This area can offer 11 of the major tourist activities to the traveling public and is taking little or no advantage of these activities now.

One can say if the dam is built, this too will bring resorts and travel attractions . . . true . . . but will this be a stable growth or will it diminish in a few years after the newness of the lake has worn off? It is a sad but true fact that once the prime fishing which all new lakes offer, begins to slow down in five to seven years, the business failures are staggering! This is a fact that one must remember . . . Today, large lakes do not represent the stable business opportunity that they did twenty years ago.

With the combined attractions of the lakes and dams now in the Ozarks, the development of Blanchard Springs Caverns, which will be one of the largest and most beautiful caverns in the United States, and the proposed Buffalo National River, the Ozarks would enjoy one of the most stable growth rates in the American Scene. The combination of these attractions would give the Arkansas travel industry the diversification we need so desperately.

With the development of the proposed Buffalo National River, the travel industry would likely become the largest single industry in the state of Arkansas. More than doubling the jobs, development, and of course the county, state and federal taxes that the area now produces. This would be a fact almost immediately after the formation of the National River, and with a projected growth rate of 150% for the travel industry on the whole by 1980, it does not take much foresight to see that this area can and would produce over 300% more than it does today.

But one must look and see the benefits to the people of the Buffalo River area also. The average income in many of the areas which the Buffalo River flows through is now less than \$1300 per capita, and as low as \$791 per capita . . . But . . . compared to areas in Arkansas in which the travel industry has grown, the per capita is \$2200. This \$2200 per capita income is 180% more than the vast majority of the Buffalo River country, and 40% more than the per capita income for the Ozark region.⁷

Why is the travel industry the key to the economic problems of the Buffalo River country, why not other forms of industry? Many reasons can be given, but the major reasons are the lack of sizable labor forces and the complete lack of good transportation means. The river, its valleys, cliffs, water falls, wild life, and it's unspoiled natural beauty, are natural for travel development. The proposed Buffalo National River would offer the diversification, that the Ozarks need for a stable growth.

In closing it must be said that, Arkansas and the Ozarks have long been famous for the beauty, recreational opportunities and the priority of the rivers, and streams that flow through the hills. Rivers and streams such as the Kings, White, and Norfolk have attracted recreationists from afar to enjoy their fine fishing, canoeing, camping and the seclusion provided by their forested watersheds.

Today . . . we find that we have utilized, and in some instances sacrificed, a large percentage of these streams for limited purposes such as navigation, power development and flood control. These purposes are valid and in most instances have contributed much to the industrial or economic development of the state. Such objectives have, likewise, provided many lakes for mass recreation.

It should be understood that such developments bring about associated ecological changes in both the waters and the associated watersheds. Temperatures are changed, pools, and rapids are lost, and stream-wide vegetation is inundated or cut away. Smallmouth bass and waterfowl habitats disappear. Water tables are often change, and scenic areas are covered up forever.

⁶ Missouri Tourist Study, 1968, page 8.

⁷ Revised Economic Study of the Proposed Buffalo National River, page 28 (University of Arkansas).

We have reached a point where we are in danger of sacrificing all our streams to industrial, agricultural or power purposes without regard for recreational and other values these streams may have for Arkansas and for our visitors.

In the Ouachita mountain region of our state, for example, all of the major clearwater streams have been or are being impounded; the famed Cossatot, Rolling Fork, Caddo, and Little Missouri are among these. In the lowlands, most of our rivers and streams have or are being channeled, diverted or radically changed.

The significance many of our streams have for us includes values which are tangible and intangible, aesthetic, spiritual, cultural, historic, economic and scientific. In their natural state, and particularly in an increasingly crowded world, rivers and streams can contribute to a growing need for types of recreation offering seclusion, challenge, and opportunities to escape from the pressures of a mechanized world.

In the state's and country's interest, we should be concerned with the great opportunities we have for perpetuating beauty and diversity for the vast numbers of recreationists who will invade our woodlands, streams and lakes in the future. We have a last chance to save what may be called "quality" recreational opportunities which are identified with our free flowing, unaltered streams. We must establish policies and programs to accomplish this for gentlemen, tomorrow that opportunity will be gone, forever.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Margaret Hedges, of Ponca, Ark., the Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club. Very happy to have you with us today.

STATEMENT OF MARGARET HEDGES, PONCA, ARK., THE OZARK WILDERNESS WATERWAYS CLUB

Mrs. HEDGES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And since I am anxious to get back to Arkansas, I, too, will cut my statement. I will be brief.

Senator BIBLE. You do not want to leave us that fast.

We have a few problems up here, but I take it from the testimony you might have a few down in Arkansas.

Mrs. HEDGES. Thank you.

My name is Margaret Hedges. I live on the Buffalo River 2 miles south of the little community of Boxley, Ark. Before we retired to Boxley 18 months ago, my husband and I worked and lived in the Kansas City area. During this time we made frequent weekend and vacation trips to the Ozarks of Missouri and Arkansas including numerous canoe trips on the Buffalo River. It was soon obvious to us that there was nothing in the whole country to compare with the Buffalo River for natural scenic beauty and it was in this lovely valley that we later chose to make our home.

Though I am certain we will always be "outsiders" to many, we do feel we have been warmly received and loved by our neighbors and we are proud to be a part of the Boxley community. Long before we dreamed of retiring in Arkansas we were working for the preservation of the Buffalo River. Now that we live on the river we are still working to preserve it. Like all people who own property along the river we do not want to give up our land, but rather prefer to give "scenic easement" that would allow us to keep our home and land to pass on to our children. When Senator Fulbright introduced Senate bill 855, he made reference in his opening remarks to disturbing the people who live in the area as little as possible and, whenever possible,

give scenic easements. On this premise we urge preservation of the river.

Thus I stand before you today representing both sides of the Buffalo Park issue—first as a conservationist with deep concern for the vanishing beauty of America, and, secondly as a landowner whose home and property lies completely within the boundaries of the proposed Buffalo National River. The Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club, which I represent today, is a group of canoeists and conservationists who, in 1956, banded together to help preserve some of the remaining streams and rivers of the Ozark region. We began as a small group and in a few short years have attained a membership in excess of 500. Our purpose is to keep informed on conservation issues, to promote the enjoyment of the free-flowing streams of the Ozarks, to promote good conservation practices and to aid in the preservation of the scenic riverways of America.

Since the formation of the Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club we have hiked and canoed the entire length of the Buffalo River from its source near the Buffalo fire tower in the southwest corner of Newton County to its junction with the White River approximately 150 miles downstream. We feel we are well qualified to compare and evaluate the Buffalo River.

Within the boundaries of the State of Arkansas lie some of the most spectacular scenery in the United States. The worndown mountains and the heavily forested lands are a source of joy to those who seek beauty in the outdoors, but, of all the scenic marvels that Arkansas contains, none can compare to the Buffalo River and its valley. Long treasured by fishermen as one of the best smallmouth bass streams in the country, the Buffalo now stands the the only major float stream in Arkansas still unmarred by dams.

To those of you who have never seen the Buffalo, we find it difficult to describe. True, it has magnificent bluffs, towering over blue-green pools of still water and smooth gravel bars for camping and relaxing in the sun. But the river has a quality that defies description; something you feel as you shove off downstream for a lazy communion with nature. This feeling can best be described as peace, an inner peace that permeates the body, mind, and soul of man like sunshine after rain. There is something about a free-flowing river, something about this unharnessed creation of God that imparts a rapture to men who seek its secrets.

We know the overhanging ledges where the phoebes build their nests; we know the rocky crags where the turkey vultures roost; we know the springs where pure water seeps and drips, where ferns and moss and cress grow in luxurious abundance. We've heard the cry of hawks overhead, we've seen the antics of the water thrush at river's edge. We've watched the sun tinting the rugged bluffs so abundant on this river, we've dodged the boulders that nature's erosive forces planted in the streambed and we've ridden the white water down her rock packed riffles.

Yes, nature has outdone herself along the banks of the Buffalo. Where the hillsides fall steeply, the variegated limestone bluffs are startling to behold. Where the hillsides fall more gently, the foliage is green and lush. Sweet gum is everywhere. Naked sycamores lean

far across the river and high upon the bluffs the cedars and the pines sway in the wind. In late winter the bottomland witch hazel blooms and shortly the wildflowers appear to spread a blanket of blossom across the forest floor. Spice bush sets out her display, then service berry and redbud bloom and all the world knows that spring has arrived. In swift succession comes the dogwood and the rarer umbrella magnolia, but the greatest climax of the season bloom arrives with the azalea, truly nature's masterpiece of floral perfection and perfume. Communion with God is easy here.

As we drift along we listen to our paddles as they gently stroke the water. No other sound in all the world is so musical as that of a perfectly balanced paddle in the hands of an experienced canoeist. There is rhythm here as he finds his pace, and melody as the water spreads across the paddle blade and drops with a pleasant sigh back to the river from which it came. Time has no meaning here, for this is timelessness; water flowing over rocks liltng, gurgling; softly, swiftly, constantly. This is the measure of time on a river. A free-flowing river is a joy to behold. It should not be slowed, or stopped, or harnessed or altered. God created it free. Man should keep it free.

Arkansas has a rare and precious thing in the valley of the Buffalo—a free flowing, clear water stream, protected from man by its inaccessibility, unpolluted by cities or factories, a sparkling jewel nestled in the ancient, eroded mountains, seeking only to receive her waters from the sky above, and, in her own way and time, to send them on their journey toward the sea, and thence back to the heavens from which they came. Here is a river with a flow of water constant enough to allow floating on some segment every month of the year, situated in a mild climate and protected sufficiently to maintain fishing matched by few other streams.

If conservation minded people yield to the pressure of the masses, America is lost. Her forests will be slaughtered, her wildlife will perish, either at the hands of the hunter, or for lack of sufficient cover and food, her meager wilderness will disappear overnight. Her people will have no place to go to find rest from the crush of civilization and no measure of what is truly lovely upon the face of America. We of the Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club implore you to save the Buffalo. We feel that this river should be left unaltered for future generations of Americans to enjoy. We feel that this river deserves the protection of the Federal Government under the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service as a sanctuary for man and animal. Limited use and limited access will preserve the river's fragile quality. We propose to give this stream eternal freedom, to keep its watershed in a natural state, to hold it forever against harsh intrusion.

The Buffalo River is under severe pressure today. There are still those who would dam it under the guise of leaving it alone. There are real estate agents who would exploit it. Private use is gradually turning to private misuse. A national park along the Buffalo is the only answer. It will stop the dams and it will more nearly result in leaving the river alone than any other alternative. If left for private development, change, ye, even destruction, is inevitable.

For many years a newspaper at Marshall, Ark.; namely, the Mountain Wave, has promoted the damming of the Buffalo. They have claimed that the river scenery has been vastly overrated, that the river is only floatable for a few weeks out of the year, that no tourists come to Arkansas now to view the Buffalo and no tourists will come if it is made into a park. Yet in the new Arkansas Tour Guide for 1969 there is a page sponsored by the Marshall Mountain Wave advertising the beauties of the Buffalo River. The color picture used on page 90 was borrowed from Dr. Neil Compton, president and founder of the Ozark Society, an organization formed for the purpose of preserving the Buffalo. The title for their page was borrowed from Ken Smith's book, "Buffalo River Country." But the caption under Dr. Compton's picture is entirely their own and I quote in part—

The wonders of the exotic Buffalo River will fascinate you beyond your wildest imagination. This river is one of America's most beautiful. The scenery, the rugged mountains, and the free flowing river are a must on your trip to Arkansas.

Thus we are in one accord in describing the wonders of the Buffalo River. Now there remains the problem of keeping this river beautiful and inviolate. We of the Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club urge immediate passage of Senate bill 855 that this purpose might be accomplished, that America will have another national park, and that Arkansas may lead the way for conservation of her finest resource—the beautiful free flowing Buffalo River.

Senator BIBLE. That is an unusually fine statement, Mrs. Hedges. I compliment you on it.

Mrs. HEDGES. May I take just a moment to add that I, until challenged, claim to be the only woman to have covered the Buffalo River from where it bubbles out of the ground up near Buffalo Tower to where it enters the White River.

Senator BIBLE. I will take your word for it, but if there are any takers here, please stand. Thank you very much, Mrs. Hedges.

Our next witness is Mr. George Smith, Mountain Home, Ark., Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce. This is the kind of statement I like. You may read it in its entirety.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE SMITH, MOUNTAIN HOME CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MOUNTAIN HOME, ARK.

Mr. SMITH. If it is all right, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Don't try to highlight it because you might spoil it.

Mr. SMITH. I am George Smith, one of the associate editors of one of the largest weekly newspapers in Arkansas. I can just enter this in the record if you would like.

Senator BIBLE. No, no; it is one page. It is the kind of a statement I like. Go right ahead.

Mr. SMITH. The Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce on February 23, 1965, adopted a resolution strongly endorsing the creation of the proposed Buffalo National River, along the scenic Buffalo River in north Arkansas. The chamber today wishes to reiterate its 1965 position and express its enthusiastic support of the Senate bill 855

by Senators J. W. Fulbright and John L. McClellan, calling for designation of the Buffalo as a national river.

The Buffalo watercourse contains scenery and other natural attributes that are priceless to both this area and the Nation, and the Buffalo should be preserved and protected with national river status as recommended in a 1968 report by the National Park Service. This would be achieved through Senate bill 855, and the developments proposed by the Park Service along the stream also would contribute substantially to the economic improvement of this Ozark area. A report on a study of the national river potential by the University of Arkansas states that its establishment would result in a tourist expenditure of \$92 million during the 5-year development period. Following completion of the Buffalo National River, the report says, the facility would contribute \$34 million annually to the local economy.

This chamber, in its 1965 resolution of support for the Buffalo National River concept, noted that the Buffalo already "has attracted widespread national attention as a place of unique and unexcelled natural beauty." The resolution further stated that the national river project "would place the area on the National Park Service's map of recreational areas and would provide this section with a splendid diversity of attractions."

Recreation and tourism account for a large portion of this area's livelihood, bringing several million dollars annually into Baxter County, of which Mountain Home is the county seat. The accent is heavily on lake-type recreation. Two Federal reservoirs in this area have some 1,500 miles of shoreline, and there are scores of lake resorts, docks, and recreation sites. The Buffalo National River proposed in Senate bill 855 is needed to afford more variety in the recreational offerings of the area, which is a low-income sector. With a wider range of attractions, tourists would stay in the area longer, and more would come to the area. The Buffalo development would provide an excellent balance for the nearby lakes development which is already completed.

Mountain Home and Baxter County have much interest in the Buffalo River. The mouth of the river is in this county, only about 12 miles south of Mountain Home.

This chamber urges affirmative action on Senate bill 855.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much. I am happy to have a statement of the Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Mrs. Bryant Davidson, Shreveport, La.

STATEMENT OF MRS. BRYANT DAVIDSON, THE BOY SCOUTS AND GIRL SCOUTS OF SHREVEPORT, SHREVEPORT, LA.

Mrs. DAVIDSON. I am Mrs. Bryant Davidson of Shreveport, La.

I have been asked to tell you what canoe trips on the Buffalo River in Northwest Arkansas mean to the young people I have taken on the river.

My background will have some bearing on my testimony. I have been working with young people all my life—in camps as a counselor

and as a camp director, as a college professor, and as recreation director of the YWCA. I have been on canoe trips on the Kentucky River and on Wisconsin lakes. I have been twice on trips of the Border Canoe Country of Ontario and Minnesota. I have canoed the wild and beautiful rivers, I think maybe as much as Margaret Hedges has—the Clearwater, the Locksa, and the Selway in Idaho; but most of all I have canoed the rivers of Arkansas—the White and Buffalo. The White River, as you know, is now a succession of lakes and has ceased to be a free flowing river. Since my husband and I bought our canoes in 1943—we bought two because we liked taking people with us—we estimate we have taken 24 canoe trips and that 84 adults have gone with us and in the past 6 years, we had access to a number of canoes, we have taken 260 young people on 5-day Buffalo canoe trips.

I represent at this hearing two youth groups—one is the Council of Youth Groups for Natural Beauty and Conservation organized in 1966 and representing the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, the 4-H Clubs, and Red Cross Youth, the YMCA and the YWCA. I am co-sponsor. I would like you to know something about the group. The group has, among other things, participated in three highway cleanup drives, sold and planted 1,400 little tulip trees, have had 2-day annual youth conservation camps, have taken field trips to see oil well pollution and this year sponsored a public meeting on “Quality Environment for the World” with the nationally known conservationist David Brower speaking to 1,000 people. And we take annual canoe trips on the Buffalo River. The second group I represent is the Aquatic Club of Northwestern College in Natchitoches, La.

For 6 years we have taken about 30 of these college students each year on a canoe trip on the Buffalo River during their Easter vacation. For 3 years we have taken 25 to 30 of the high school group on the river in August.

For these college and high school students and others like them, I ask that you report favorably Senate bill 855, that the Buffalo River may be kept in its natural, free flowing state without dams and with a minimum of development and change to its surrounding territory.

We in Louisiana are low landers and the high school students are from urban areas. Sparkling fast-flowing mountain streams are unique to us as indeed to most Americans.

My husband and I have observed some intangibles which I wish to give as my chief reasons for making the Buffalo a national river to protect it from change. Intangibles are difficult to express. I hope I can make you see them.

Almost without exception, after a few hours on the river, I have seen in each young person a quickening of spirit, a wholeness, an eagerness, a zest for living, a come aliveness—the river and the mountains take hold of them. I have seen a motley crowd turn into an exuberant unified whole.

One has a sense of challenge and adventure as one pits one's strength and skill against the river and its rapids and what fierce joy there is in finding one's self not wanting.

There is something elemental and essential about getting somewhere on your own steam and protecting yourself from the elements; and to

be where there is no turning back or giving up. Climbing the bluffs are difficult and challenging and require courage and skill. All these are, I say, essential and elemental experiences for young people. Throughout man's history he has tested himself against elements of nature. We need keep such testing grounds.

The beauty of the mountains, the clear and sparkling water, the rapids, the adventure, the fun takes hold of people and makes them whole. They shout because they are happy and are alive—they are thankful.

I asked my husband if this made sense to him. He said, sure it does and that he has also seen it happen to adults.

If our observation of these intangibles are true, and I believe they are, does this not justify our supporting Senate bill 855 and does it not give us a clue that our cities' young people everywhere need more such natural places?

Senator BIBLE. That is very well expressed, and I think you have a little different facet of it.

Mr. DAVIDSON. I have a letter here that I would like to put in the record, written by a junior college student who had taken these trips.

Senator BIBLE. Without objection, the letter will be received, and will be made a part of the record.

(The letter referred to follows:)

MAY 27, 1969.

In your consideration of the Senate Bill 855 please weigh the value of another common lake in Arkansas, where there are many, against the value of a live, pure, relatively wild flowing stream, of which very few exist in the United States today.

I have camped in most of the southern and western United States and along the Mediterranean coast of Europe, yet I have never found another area quite like the Buffalo River. Riding the river current is an exhilarating experience and the scenery and quality of wilderness can't be matched without the considerable effort and expense of a pack or hiking trip far into one of our wilderness areas, yet the Buffalo is easily accessible and a trip down it requires little effort or cost.

Today an average American can travel to some lake in a few minutes or hours where he can participate in fishing—if there are any fish, swimming—if the pollution isn't too bad, and skiing—if he can afford a ski rig; exactly the same sports as are available on nearly any other lake of the tens of thousands that dot the country.

Today on the Buffalo one can experience the thrill of testing his skill at running white water rapids for a ride unequalled by any other on earth, or fish in the calm pools, or swim in clear, cold water, or camp on insect-free beaches, or view waterfalls, bluffs, plants, and animals, with the scene changing around every bend.

Such variety can never be matched by any lake that man can devise and such a lake would drown and forever destroy these already too rare qualities.

I believe that the value and recreation potential of the Buffalo as a park or wild river can be matched by no other stream in the South and by very few in the United States. To destroy this remaining wild stream by a dam or by pollution or by over-development of any sort would be a sin and a crime as surely as would be destroying our last whooping cranes.

Gentlemen, please do all that is within your power to save the Buffalo River.

LESLIE JOHNSON.

Mrs. DAVIDSON. I would like to thank Mr. Yarborough for using his Jeep to get one of our canoes off of the rock that we couldn't pull off, the three of us.

Senator BIBLE. Very good. There you are, Mr. Yarborough. Our next witness is Col. Jack Diggs, Fayetteville, Ark.

STATEMENT OF COL. JACK DIGGS, U.S. ARMY, RETIRED, THE ARKANSAS SECTION SIERRA CLUB, FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.

Mr. Diggs. Mr. Chairman, my name is Jack Diggs. I am a retired colonel of the Regular Army. I am a native and resident of Fayetteville, Ark. I represent the Arkansas members of the Sierra Club, an organization dedicated to the conservation of natural resources of scenic beauty and the protection of the natural environment. We support Senate bill 855 by Senators Fulbright and McClellan, which would provide for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas.

Arkansas is a beautiful State, still rich in the basic natural resources of flora and fauna, soil and water, but since World War II, as economic development has proceeded, a number of environmental factors have become evident. Most of the major streams of the State have been altered by the construction of dams. Small watershed developments, with small dams and the channelization of streams, are affecting the ecology. Over 2 millions of acre of land are being leveled, shaped, and graded for agricultural production. Hardwood timber is being cut at a faster rate than nature can replace it. The opening of the Arkansas River navigation project, with cheaper transportation costs, may lead to more extensive surface mining with consequent disturbance of the terrain. All of these factors affect fish and wildlife habitat. Many persons have begun to wonder what the Arkansas of the future will look like.

Certainly most Arkansans are in favor of economic progress, but concern over the cumulative impact of these activities has led to the development of a stronger, and more vocal, constituency for conservation in the State. An example of this was the public outcry several years ago when a proposal to dam the Buffalo River was advanced. It appears that there are a number of selective actions which may be taken to protect the natural environment, or to ameliorate the impact of human activity upon it. Some of these will require action at the various levels of government. National river status for the Buffalo River is one desirable course of action.

Some features of the natural landscapes and seascapes of the earth deserve preservation "just because they're there," and many people would consider this a valid reason to take steps to prevent a slow erosion of the natural beauty of the Buffalo River. The result of such measures will, of course, have to be considered in the context of their effects upon the local residents, and of their value to the Nation as a whole.

A number of studies have been made of the existing economic and sociologic status of the five counties in which land would be acquired for the proposed national river. We are informed that about 95,000 acres would be included within the boundaries of the river. Over two-thirds of the land lies in only two counties—Newton and Searcy Counties—and a brief consideration of a few statistics on these two coun-

ties will give a reasonable impression of conditions existing all along the river.

Preliminary 1966 population estimates showed Newton County to have about 6,200 inhabitants, and showed a population gain of only about 3.9 percent since 1960, when the county had seven inhabitants per square mile. Searcy County in 1966 had about 8,100 inhabitants, for no gain over the 1960 total, when it had only 12 inhabitants per square mile. Some of these citizens live in the area which would be included by the national river boundaries, and some of them will probably not want to give up their properties, or the portions of their holdings required for the river. The severance of a property holder from his property is certainly not a matter to be taken in an arbitrary manner by an element of a government. Senate bill 855, however, contains provisions to ease the impact on the property owner caused by the public acquisition of his property. From the point of view of the public, it is clear that no great number of persons would be displaced.

As might be expected, the income of residents in the area is substantially lower than the national average. In 1966, preliminary estimate of national income was \$2,940 per capita; the Newton County per capita income was estimated at only \$836, while that of Searcy County, was at \$1,244. The figure of the entire Arkansas Ozark region was estimated at \$1,726 per capita in that year.

In all of the areas contiguous to the Buffalo River, the economy has not been highly developed. The value of agricultural production is relatively low because of the nature of the rugged terrain. Much of the timberland area is second-growth hardwood, and excessive cutting threatens the long-range prospects of the hardwood timber industry. Light manufacturing activity has made some progress elsewhere in the counties concerned, but seems unlikely to generate sustained economic growth.

The region does, however, have an excellent natural resource: the Ozark Mountains, with their handsome rural scenery, fine climate, and natural attractions for tourism. The development of this scenic resource and the wise conservation of unspoiled features such as the Buffalo River will lead to a more prosperous economy for the Ozark area.

In the years to come, the increasing populations of large urban centers of the Middle West and Upper South—of cities such as St. Louis and Kansas City, Memphis and Dallas, Oklahoma City and Wichita, and of many smaller communities—will need access to semi-wild scenic areas for outdoor recreation, esthetic appreciation, and spiritual refreshment. The Ozark-Ouachita mountainous upland possesses many features to meet these needs and stands within easy distance of those cities and towns.

There are no national parks of large size in the area adjacent to the aforementioned cities. Most of the large parks appear to be in the western part of the Nation. There is, of course, Hot Springs National Park, Ark., and there will be an encouraging addition with the establishment of the Ozark National Scenic Riverway in Missouri.

The preservation of the few remaining free-flowing rivers of the region—among which the Buffalo River is exceptional—appears to be a feasible means of providing for the needs of the future before it is too late not only for the needs of the Ozark area, but for those of a large part of the central United States.

The Buffalo River is unusual. It is remote, secluded, and free flowing. The fact that it is difficult of access has, in the past, helped to preserve its many miles of impressive bluffs, its green pools and white rapids, the attractive foliage, and other natural features, from being degraded. A trip, or a stay on this river, is distinctly different from a visit to more artificial environments such as one encounters at man-made reservoirs. The Buffalo River deserves protection so that future generations may enjoy it, and appreciate what a beautiful thing a natural river is. This protection must be established soon if the superb qualities of the river are to be maintained.

We think there are five things that the establishment of the Buffalo National River will do for us. In the first place, it will provide a national recreation area of high quality at a relatively modest cost. Fourteen million dollars or so seems like a great amount of money to us as individuals, but from the national level it is very important that we provide for the people of the future recreation areas where they can get out into the outdoors.

Secondly, we believe that the establishment of the Buffalo National River will serve an area of the Nation where more national parks will be needed in the future. It has been pointed out that most of the national parks seem to be in the West, where most of the dramatic scenery is, whereas most of the people seem to be in the Northeast.

We inhabit an area of medium-sized cities, which will be growing, cities like Memphis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Dallas, and all of these areas are within easy distance of the proposed national park.

We believe that the establishment of this National River will displace relatively few persons. I think the testimony which has been given here this morning will indicate that. Most of the river lies in Searcy County and Newton County, two-thirds of the proposed land would be in those two counties.

One of those counties had no gain in the last 6 years in population, or rather from 1960 to 1966, and one had a gain of only 3.9 percent. It is rather evident that not a great number of people will be bothered by the establishment of the river. Very few significant economic interests will be bothered by the establishment of the river, because the economy is at a rather low level in those areas.

We think, as the fourth point, that the establishment of this national river will provide a substantial addition to the economy of an area where additional support is badly needed.

Fifth, and most importantly, we believe that the establishment of the Buffalo National River will preserve for future generations a handsome and unique natural scenic resource of a type which has almost been obliterated from this Nation.

The Sierra Club members of Arkansas urge your favorable consideration of Senate bill 855, and we thank you for the privilege of appearing here today.

Senator BIBLE. A very fine statement, and you pinpoint its greatest merits. Thank you, sir.

Our next witness is Bob Ferris, of Tulsa, Okla., the Tulsa Canoe Club. The full statement will be incorporated in the record, sir. You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF BOB FERRIS, TULSA CANOE CLUB, TULSA, OKLA.

Mr. FERRIS. Thank you, Senator Bible. I really think that anything that I might say has already been said in better words. I just want to say or make the point that I represent a large metropolitan area.

Tulsa is now an area of a half million people. It is growing rapidly. The other large midwestern cities—St. Louis, Kansas City, Wichita, Oklahoma City, and several others—together make up either 15 million or 20 million people. I have heard those two figures in the testimony. Regardless of whether it is 15 million or 20 million, this is a lot of people within a day's drive of the proposed Buffalo National River.

We really are short on national park facilities in our part of the country. I have been in many of the national parks. I have always had to drive at least 2 days to get to the Rocky Mountains. Last summer I went to the Great Smokies. These parks offer tremendous scenery and recreational facilities, but since discovering the Buffalo River, I am now aware that within a half day's drive of Tulsa we have comparable scenery and recreational facilities.

Three weeks ago I drove over to Buffalo River after working on Friday, and enjoyed the wonderful weekend with 30 other people in my group from Tulsa.

This can provide most enjoyable escape-type recreation for city people. The tourist season has been mentioned here in the testimony. Actually there is no tourist season for the Buffalo River.

I have been over there in late October and in the early spring as well as in August. This is a delightful area. It offers wonderful recreation at all times of the year. So the tourist season is of no consequence, and I believe that you are one of the Senators who asked what the seasonal use might be for the Buffalo River. I can answer that. It is year round.

The point was made by some of the opponents of this that we people from the cities are welcome on the Buffalo River. This has not been our experience. We have been threatened, trees have been cut down to block the channel, barbed wire has been stretched across the river. Many of the people in Tulsa are now afraid to visit the Buffalo River because of threats.

Although we are outsiders as compared to other people who have been testifying here who live on the river or near it, it is our firm belief that this is a national treasure. In this respect I feel that I am personally involved, and that in this sense I have as much to say as perhaps some of the people who live there. I speak firmly for myself and other people in Tulsa for Senate bill 855. We strongly urge that this bill be passed.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Mr. Ferris, for a very fine statement.

(The prepared statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF ROBERT A. FERRIS, TULSA, OKLA.

Mr. Chairman and Senators of the Committee, I am speaking as the representative of the Tulsa Canoe and Camping Club, an organization of families in North-east Oklahoma which is strongly endorsing Senate bill 855 to establish the "Buffalo National River".

Tulsa's urban area is one of the fastest growing in the nation. We now have over one-half million people in our metropolitan area, and with the population growth predicted as a result of the Arkansas River navigation project, soon to be completed, we will have people in numbers that will severely over-burden our existing state parks and other recreational facilities. We feel very strongly that enactment of Senate bill 855 is a step which should be taken immediately in order to preserve the lands and water so vital to providing recreation for the large urban areas of the midwest, such as Tulsa, St. Louis and Kansas City.

On April 26 and 27 I led a group of thirty members—men, women and children—of the Tulsa Canoe and Camping Club on a week-end canoe float from Ponca to Pruitt, with an overnight camp on a gravel bar near Erbie ford. During our Saturday lunch stop we hiked up into Hemmed-in-Hollow. This trip was truly a memorable experience for all of us. The splendor of the magnificent bluffs along the river, the graceful beauty of a 200-foot waterfall, the myriad varieties of trees and plant life along the river—wildflowers, ferns—the charm of a crystal-clear, unpolluted stream, the excitement of canoeing the white water of its rapids, the exhilaration, the tranquil relaxation from paddling in its quiet pools—the unspoiled beauty of Nature—these ingredients make for recreation at its finest—a quality increasingly difficult to find.

Our group is deeply appreciative of the opportunity for this wilderness-type experience. It is our great desire that the beauty of the Buffalo River be preserved—unpolluted, uncommercialized, unspoiled—for public use and enjoyment.

The summer before last I took a group of Boy Scouts on a six-day canoe float down the Buffalo from Gilbert to the White River. This was a highly enjoyable, never-to-be-forgotten wilderness adventure for these boys. Most of them had never before seen a river like the Buffalo, and all of them developed a deep affection for this beautiful freeflowing clear water stream, offering such wonderful swimming, fishing and scenery. There can be no doubt that an experience like this can do much in molding the character of a boy into that of a mature and responsible citizen, appreciative of his heritage of America's beauty.

Speaking as a volunteer Boy Scout leader of some twenty years of service, I can say from experience and observation that places like the Buffalo River, where you can take boys "back-to-nature", away from the noise, pressures and influences leading to delinquency common to our urban areas, are rapidly disappearing. The Buffalo National River Act provides the means to save an outstanding environment for wilderness experiences for boys and girls in America's heartland.

Although the river is of chief importance, near it are other outstanding features such as Beauty Cave. I have visited caves under National Park Service supervision, including Timpanagos Cave in Utah, and Carlsbad Caverns, and have been in a number of other caves, commercial and otherwise. Having seen the delicate and unique formations of Beauty Cave, which is included in the Buffalo National River proposal, and from comparison with other caves of national repute, I can say that Beauty Cave most certainly deserves preservation and opening to public view.

My family has taken many vacation camping trips to our national parks. We have marveled at the sky-high peaks of Glacier and the Tetons, at the towering redwoods of Sequoia and at the great granite cliffs of Yosemite. We feel that although some of these national parks offer more spectacular scenery, none of them surpass in beauty the Buffalo River, which has its own special charm. Not only would the Buffalo National River, just a four hours' drive away, be a great asset for the people in my home city of Tulsa, it would benefit twenty million other people within a day's drive away, including those in St. Louis, Kansas City, Wichita, Oklahoma City, Dallas, Ft. Worth and Shreveport. We need such a national parks in the midwest.

Oklahoma, my state, now has many reservoirs which provide recreation for thousands of people. Although these man-made lakes furnish mass recreation, they do not provide the "escape" recreation which so many urban people need and enjoy. The Buffalo River does offer this type of recreation—floating, stream fishing, bird watching, nature hikes—away from the crowds and noise. We need to save the Buffalo from the commercialization and pollution that would destroy its aesthetic and recreational quality.

On my more recent visits to the Buffalo River I have seen the bulldozers and chain saws at work. At this time advertisements are being run in the Tulsa papers offering lots for sale on the Buffalo. At our overnight camping spot on our Buffalo River float in April, I observed the recently poured foundations for buildings on the river bank in an area that has heretofore been completely undeveloped, its unspoiled wilderness character having been enjoyed by countless canoeists and fishermen. Time is of the essence in preserving the beautiful Buffalo and its exceptional recreational features. Congressional action is needed now on the Buffalo National River bill.

I respectfully urge the Committee to send Senate Bill 855 to the Congress with a recommendation for its enactment.

Senator BIBLE. The next witness is H. Charles Johnson, Jr., Little Rock, Ark.

**STATEMENT OF H. CHARLES JOHNSON, JR., LITTLE ROCK, ARK.,
READ BY MAURICE A. CREWS, AUDUBON SOCIETY, BETHESDA,
MD.**

Mr. CREWS. Mr. Johnson could not be here, and I have been asked to present his report.

Senator BIBLE. It will be incorporated in full in the record. It is a short statement; rather than highlight it, why don't you read it.

Mr. CREWS. The National Audubon Society and the Arkansas Audubon Society approve and strongly urge the passage of Senate bill 855, by Senators Fulbright and McClellan, for the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas.

The Buffalo River is an outstanding example of a beautiful natural area that is worthy of saving for its own sake. The river flows through all three levels of the Ozark Plateau, having a fall of approximately 2000 feet in 130 miles. The clear water moves over bedrock and gravel bars in alternating pools and riffles providing exceptional opportunity for fishing, canoeing, and camping. Its narrow flood plain is bounded by scenic cliffs. A float on this river is a trip through one of the richest botanical and zoological areas in the central part of the nation. The protected north-facing bluffs are covered by floristically rich and moist tall forests. The south-facing cliffs are dry and exposed, having prairie glades, scattered trees, shrubs, and cacti. Stands of pine trees occupy intermediate exposures. The richness of the molluscan, fish, and salamander fauna in the Ozark Plateau is world-renowned, and the Buffalo River exhibits this quality. Reptiles and mammals are abundant; beaver signs are conspicuous all along the Buffalo River.

Seventeen different species of warblers nest, and many others pass through in migration. The rare Swainson's warbler nests in the river cane. The yellow warbler finds the southern edge of its breeding range there. The roadrunner is a recent arrival in the area. Bald eagles, geese, and many kinds of ducks can be seen in winter along the river.

The need to exhibit to the public examples of environmental diversity becomes increasingly important as mankind progressively trans-

forms his world into single-purpose ecosystems. The creation of the Buffalo National River will bring national attention to this outstanding example of a complex biological system. Without this protection the continued preservation of the river in its present condition could not be assured.

The National Park Service proposal has two goals: first, to preserve the rich natural qualities of the area, and second, to provide the fullest use and enjoyment of the river by the public. The visitors' centers, campgrounds and picnic areas will be designed in a way that visitors may enjoy and interpret the area. Yet at the same time provisions are made to preserve its scenic and private aspects. Except for the Current River in Missouri, the Buffalo River offers a type of recreation that is unique in the central part of the United States. It would be within a 1-day drive of nearly 15 million people. The wisdom and foresightedness of the National Park Service proposal for the Buffalo National River seem obvious.

Senator BIBLE. A very fine statement. Thank you very much.

Our next witness is Duane Kelly of Kansas City, Mo., instructor in the public schools.

**STATEMENT OF DUANE KELLY, INSTRUCTOR, PUBLIC SCHOOLS,
KANSAS CITY, MO.**

Mr. KELLY. I want to thank you, Senator Bible, for the chance to come here and speak for Senate bill 855.

Christmas week of 1968 earthbound homo sapiens escaped the gravitational influence of the earth for the first time in the four and a half billion year history of the planet. Homo sapiens had only been gone a matter of hours when he was speaking emotionally of what we have here on this "good earth"—spaceship earth—for planet earth and her resources are finite. The earth is not a gadget, but an unbiased visitor from outer space would surely conclude that we treat the earth as though we could live without her. The good earth supports life, but homo sapiens is battering the environment to the point of collapse and in the process seems to be dehumanizing humanity. In the United States alone we have exterminated 48 vertebrates, and possibly as many as 300 are in danger. On a world scale it is much worse, and this is the only earth we have.

What does this have to do with the Buffalo River? It is an ecological fact of life that periodic escape from our cities is a necessary requirement for making them livable. This, of course, implies escape to a more natural environment. The Buffalo River is a wild, free place that is good to escape to. The air is clean and fresh. The water is so clear you seem suspended above the bottom rather than floating on waters. The flora, fauna, and geology are still wild and present the appearance of genuine wilderness. You do not hear cars, buses, trucks, trains, sirens, bells, screeching brakes, and you seldom hear airplanes. The stars are not blotted out by the lights of the city, the bluff tops are not blotted out by smog. The Buffalo, with its continuous bluffs of 200 to 700 feet is spectacular. The Buffalo provides an island of sanity and solitude to escape back to from a world madly chasing after material possessions and trying to physically capture happiness. The Buffalo gives substance to Thoreau's statement: "In the wilderness is the preservation of the world."

The Buffalo is clearly of national river quality. All that remains for us to do is formalize its status.

Cost cannot be a negative factor in the proposition to establish the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. Discount for the moment the billions spent on space programs and war and consider the cost estimate for one dam on the Buffalo was \$55 million, or more than six times the initial cost to establish park facilities along the river.

At this point we should consider for a moment the concept of the irreversible decision. This type of decision is judged forever after by others—not from the decisionmaker's point of judgment, but with hindsight. And we must remember that hindsight gives even a blind man vision. With only one chance an irreversible decision has to be right. If it is wrong, in this case it will take several thousand years to undo what will be done. Generation after generation will have to live with this decision.

I would like to see the cost of a river basin calculated. What would it cost to purchase the entire basin? What would be the landscaping fee for an entire basin? What are the construction costs of caves? Of springs? Who can construct a layer of limestone hundreds of feet thick? At what cost? Are we speaking of dollars on the order of billions of dollars? Trillions of dollars?

Let me offer you an opinion from a man whose judgment in these matters rests on extremely solid ground. The man is Ben Ferrier. His lifetime canoeing mileage, 40,000 miles. He canoed extensively over the United States, Canada, and Alaska. He crossed the continent from east to west by canoe, retracing Alexander Mackenzie's route. He has been to Hudson Bay 11 times by canoe. He has been to the Arctic Ocean by canoe.

I had the privilege of canoeing a portion of Lake Superior with Ben Ferrier before his untimely death interrupted the project of retracing all the routes used by the voyageurs in the fur trade. In the nearly 2 weeks I paddled with Ben he told me about many things, and one of his most emphatic convictions was how truly great the Buffalo River was, how it was nearly a wilderness river still. How there was nothing like it within hundreds of miles in any direction. Ben Ferrier knew we were approaching the last of the best and said the Buffalo River in Arkansas is the best of the last.

Senator BIBLE. Very fine, Mr. Kelly. That is a very fine statement, and I appreciate it.

Mr. KELLY. Thank you, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Tom Kimball, director of the National Wildlife Federation.

STATEMENT OF THOMAS L. KIMBALL, NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION, WITH COMMENTS BY ED STEGNER, COLUMBIA, MO.

Mr. STEGNER. I am Ed Stegner, from Jefferson City, Mo. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Kimball was unable to stay, and he asked me to tell you that he had submitted his statement, and asked me to make a couple of comments for him, if I may.

Senator BIBLE. Very fine. I saw him earlier.

(The statement of Mr. Kimball follows:)

STATEMENT OF THOMAS L. KIMBALL ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE
FEDERATION

Mr. Chairman, I am Thomas L. Kimball, Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation, which has its national headquarters at 1412 Sixteenth Street, N.W., here in Washington, D.C.

Ours is a private organization which seeks to attain conservation goals through educational means. The National Wildlife Federation has affiliates in 49 States. These affiliates, in turn, are made up of local groups and individuals who, when combined with associate members and other supporters of the National Wildlife Federation, number an estimated $2\frac{1}{4}$ million persons.

We welcome the invitation to comment upon S. 855.

Mr. Chairman, the National Wildlife Federation long has favored the establishment of the Buffalo National River. People in our organization and in our affiliate in Arkansas, the Arkansas Wildlife Federation, had a hand in initiating the original studies on suitability of the Buffalo National River proposal which resulted in the initial survey completed by the University of Arkansas and published in April, 1963. We have supported the establishment of this area in articles published in the NATIONAL WILDLIFE Magazine and others of our publications and, while this is the first full-fledged hearing to be held by Committees of the Congress on this one proposal, we have urged the establishment of this area when testifying in previous years on wild or scenic rivers proposals. The wild or scenic river bill, of course, subsequently was cleared by this Committee and became law as one of the outstanding accomplishments of the 90th Congress.

In view of the foregoing, it is obvious that we support the principle of the establishment of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. We do think that it will serve the purpose as outlined in Section 1, of S. 855: "for the purpose of conserving and interpreting an area containing unique scenic and scientific features, and preserving as a free-flowing stream an important segment of the Buffalo River in Arkansas for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations." In addition, we generally are in accord with the proposed boundaries as outlined by the National Park Service in a Drawing Number NR-BUF-7103, dated December 1967, and containing not more than 95,370 acres. Witnesses appearing earlier in these hearings have outlined the outstanding qualities of this stream and we consider it of at least equal calibre to those which are already set aside in the Ozark National Rivers in Missouri. Winding through the Ozark Mountains through northeastern Arkansas, this outstanding stream traverses a region of exceptional and varied beauty, and the Buffalo National River can provide many types of outdoor recreational and educational opportunities.

To comment about specifics in S. 855, we believe that Section 2 outlines proper authority for the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands needed for this facility. We think that the land exchange provision in this section can help implement acquisition of needed properties and we are in agreement with the established procedure whereby property owners within the National River can retain occupancy for up to 25 years.

We are pleased that Section 3 sets out that "The Secretary shall permit hunting and fishing on lands and waters under his jurisdiction within the boundaries of the Buffalo National River in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws, except that he may designate zones where and establish periods when, no hunting or fishing shall be permitted for reasons of public safety, administration, or public use and enjoyment." We do not feel the Secretary should be involved in resident fish and wildlife management.

We also agree that Section 4 has much merit in protecting the area from licensing of the construction of any dam, water conduit, reservoir, powerhouse, transmission line, or other project work. Unless this protection is provided for, outside influences well might be able to diminish or spoil the outstanding scenic, recreational and fish and wildlife values which are present in the National River.

Section 5 specifies that the Buffalo National River would be administered in accord with the basic, organic Act establishing the National Park Service. This Act, and others, give the Secretary of the Interior sufficient authority, in our opinion, to make the arrests and seizures proposed in Section 6. Therefore, we see no need for this section, and actually consider it to be unduly restrictive in some respects.

In summary, Mr. Chairman, we hope that the Committee sees fit to clear this important bill. We recognize that the current budgetary difficulties prevent acqui-

sition of park and recreation areas as we would like to have it. However, authorization of this facility would allow the area to be protected until funds do become available. In fact, we would even recommend that the Committee give thought to inserting a "legislative taking" provision similar to that invoked by the Congress last year in the Redwood Park Act.

We have been interested to note that Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt (Ark.) has introduced H.R. 10246, which differs in some respects with S. 855. His bill would establish a slightly larger National River, one of 103,000 acres. It also contains specific direction and authority which we believe the National Park Service already has under organic legislation. However, his bill does contain one provision to which we wish to call attention. This is section 4, requiring the Secretary of the Interior to make payments to the counties involved for losses in tax revenues. As a matter of principle, we are against this provision, believing it not to be in the best public interest.

Thank you for the opportunity of making these observations.

Mr. STEGNER. The National Wildlife Federation, of course, supports this legislation, and he asked me to tell you also that the Arkansas Wildlife Federation, their affiliate in that State, that was unable to be here, also supports and has passed a resolution to this effect.

He asked me to mention one thing that he was a little bit concerned about in the legislation, and this is found on page 4 of the bill near the bottom where it puts the management of fish and wildlife in the Arkansas Fish and Game Commission, but states that the Secretary can close certain areas to hunting and fishing for certain reasons, and he has no quarrel, and I agree with him, as far as public safety and this sort of thing is concerned, but he wondered, due to the litigation now pending in the Federal courts, whether this fish and wildlife management should be considered as a reason for the Secretary to close certain areas to hunting and fishing. He suggested over on the next page that perhaps rather than saying "after consultation with the Arkansas Fish and Game Commission," maybe it would be better if it read "if mutually acceptable to the Arkansas Fish and Game Commission and the Secretary."

Senator BIBLE. Well, as you and good old Tom Kimball know, it has been a running problem in practically every bill we have had.

Mr. STEGNER. And I know you are very familiar with it.

Senator BIBLE. I know Tom Kimball's viewpoint on that. I don't know that he is completely wrong on it, but we have had great difficulty in reconciling the areas of difference between the State fish and game commission and the Federal agencies, because each wants to be supreme, and when the word "consultation" is certainly a far weaker word than "after agreement with the Arkansas Fish and Game Commission," that is the point he is trying to make. I hope we can resolve that, as these Supreme Court cases move along, once and for all, because it comes up in every bill we have.

Mr. STEGNER. I guess it will now go to the Supreme Court, since the court of appeals reversed the lower court.

Senator BIBLE. I assume it will, but we will sure bear his interests in mind, and I am very well aware of his feelings on it. They are very largely feelings that I share. I just hope that we spell out some language where everybody will agree on it.

Mr. STEGNER. I will submit this then, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Yes, without objection we did incorporate his statement in full in the record.

Mr. STEGNER. Would you rather I went on with my statement? I am four or five down.

Senator BIBLE. I think we had better wait. I think we can finish.
Our next witness is Clayton Little, of Bentonville, Ark., of the Arkansas Stream Preservation Committee.

**STATEMENT OF CLAYTON LITTLE, THE ARKANSAS STREAM
PRESERVATION COMMITTEE, BENTONVILLE, ARK.**

Mr. LITTLE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate this opportunity. I am a small town practicing lawyer, and have been interested in conservation, and also water development.

I am secretary of the bureau water district, which has a contract with the Corps of Engineers for 120 million gallons a day water for municipal purposes, so I am familiar with that phase of it. I think though that we ought to have utilization of all our land. It appears to me that from the work I have done, it would best be served by the creation of the Buffalo National River. In my prepared remarks, I am going to just let them go into the record.

Senator BIBLE. They will be incorporated in full, Mr. Little, at the end of your remarks.

Mr. LITTLE. Together with a report from the Stream Preservation Committee, and also we have copies for all members of your committee.

Senator BIBLE. That will be adopted by reference.

Mr. LITTLE. On that I would point out and Mr. Tudor mentioned much of the other springs of Arkansas, the Mulberry, the Big Piney and the others. They are covered in this report, and also are recommended for preservation.

In summary of what I would like to say about the bill, I was to discuss the legal aspects, and I think that those were well covered concerning the life tenure given to the people, the taking of scenic easements, and so it appears to me that this bill will accomplish it with the least possible disruption of the people in the area, and yet be of an economic benefit to them.

The bill is compassionate in its treatment, correct in maintaining balance between economic development conservation and complete and properly entrusting the preservation of the Buffalo River to the National Park Service, the keeper of the people's heritage. With that summary I will close.

Senator BIBLE. That is mighty fine for a lawyer. That is a pretty short statement.

Guy Williams is a great friend of mine. When he was attorney general of Arkansas I knew him very well. That was a mighty fine statement. We fellow lawyers have to kid each other a little.

(The prepared statement referred to follows:)

**STATEMENT OF CLAYTON LITTLE, CHAIRMAN, ARKANSAS STATE COMMITTEE ON
STREAM PRESERVATION**

Senator Bible, and members of the Senate Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, I wish to thank you for the privilege of appearing before this Subcommittee in support of Senate Bill 855 by Senators Fulbright and McClellan to provide for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas.

By way of background, I am a small-town practicing lawyer in Bentonville, Arkansas. I first became interested in the rivers and streams of Arkansas in 1937 when, fresh out of Law School, I campaigned the width and breadth of the

northern ten counties of Arkansas in the Congressional campaign of Clyde Ellis who was proposing the development of the White River Basin. As you know, after his election, he continued to press for the development of the White River, much of which was accomplished during the service of Congressman Jim Trimble from 1946 to 1966.

My background shows that I have an interest in the utilization of our area, whether it be by development or conservation. To me, the two should work hand in hand, and I have identified myself for a number of years with the concept and idea of preserving the Buffalo River and other selected streams in their natural beauty and unspoiled qualities for the use and enjoyment of generations to come.

I was a member of the Arkansas Legislature for three years. I co-authored the bill for the establishment of the Arkansas Pea Ridge National Military Park Commission and served this Commission in cooperation with the National Park Service in the establishment of the Pea Ridge National Military Park.

I continued to be interested in the development of the water resources of the area upon the creation of the Beaver Reservoir and was appointed to the newly-created Beaver Water District in 1959, and have served on that Commission since its inception as Secretary and Treasurer. The District made a contract with the Corps of Engineers for the use of 120 million gallons of water per day from Beaver Reservoir through contracts with the cities of Bentonville, Rogers, Springdale and Fayetteville.

Governor Faubus appointed me to the Governor's Committee on Stream Preservation in 1966, and when the Legislature of the State of Arkansas gave legislative status to the Committee on Stream Preservation, Governor Rockefeller appointed me to this Committee, and I have served on it ever since, serving as its Chairman during a portion of 1968 and 1969. It was during this time that our Committee made a report to Governor Rockefeller and the Legislature concerning preservation of the streams in the State of Arkansas. This report is a comprehensive study of the major streams of Arkansas. A copy of this report is being furnished to the members of this Subcommittee.

The State committee on Stream Preservation in the State of Arkansas has passed a resolution unanimously approving Senate Bill 855 for the establishment of the Buffalo National River. We think the evidence in support of this Bill is overwhelming, going far beyond "preponderance of the evidence" and in fact being of that quality and quantity of evidence required to establish it "beyond a reasonable doubt" by fair-minded men.

I wish to discuss briefly the legal aspects of Senate Bill 855 as it relates to the impact on the people whose lands would be affected by this Bill.

The landowners in the proposed Buffalo National River generally fall into three categories:

- (1) Those who wish the creation of the Buffalo National River;
- (2) Those who wish the building of large dams; and
- (3) Those who wish neither of the first 2 but simply desire to be left alone.

Let's discuss the impact of this Bill on each category:

1. There are many people in the area of the Buffalo River who live in the area by choice because it is a beautiful and scenic area. It is a pleasant place in which to live, and they wish to spend the rest of their days upon this earth living there. They wish to share with their fellow man the natural beauty and pleasure afforded by the River, and in the establishment of the Buffalo National River, they see a way in which this accomplishment can be brought about. They will receive just compensation for their land through a negotiated sale so that it will not be a financial hardship on them and yet they will be able to assist in the preservation of natural scenic beauty for the enjoyment of generations yet to come. They approve of the provisions of the Bill that would allow them to continue in present farming practices, which is part and parcel of the entire pastoral scene. In addition to providing the landowner with a fair market value at the time of acquisition, the landowner also may elect to:

- (a) Retain a life estate in self or spouse; or
- (b) Give possession on or before 25 years.

This right of possession is assignable so that the owner, for instance, could keep possession for 15 years and then assign possession to someone else for the remaining 10 years.

They would be much opposed to the establishment of large dams because of necessity, it would dispossess them of their homes as their lands would be ac-

quired by eminent domain if negotiations failed. They would be equally opposed to commercializing or industrializing the area.

2. There are those who wish large dams constructed on the Buffalo, believing that this would be of greater economic value to the area. It is my belief that these people disregard and overlook the economic dividends that will come to the area in the way of greater utilization of recreational benefits through the establishment of the Buffalo National River. The economic studies indicate that there is a great portion of the American public who desire to come to the River wilderness area instead of a commercially developed Reservoir, of which the region has an abundance. By far, most of the vocal opponents of the establishment of the Buffalo National River are those who want the big dams which would dispossess many and completely destroy the natural beauty of the area.

3. There are those that definitely do not want dams, but also do not feel that they want any restrictions that may be imposed by the creation of the Buffalo National River. Scenic easements to insure the undisturbed character of bluffs and of the area visible from the river would allow the landowner the continued use of his land. To them, I would point out that Senate Bill 855 goes to the fullest possible extent in seeing that they will not be disturbed in their normal use of the property during their lifetime, but simply providing that ultimately someday the Buffalo River will be preserved for the enjoyment and happiness of all of our people.

In summary, it appears that Senate Bill 855 will accomplish the preservation of the Buffalo River as a free-flowing unpolluted stream of unparalleled beauty—one of the last of such streams in Mid-America. It will do so with the least possible disruption of the people in the area and yet be an economic benefit to them. The Bill is:

- (a) compassionate in its treatment of people;
- (b) correct in maintaining balance between economic development and conservation; and
- (c) complete in properly entrusting the preservation of the Buffalo River to the National Park Service, the keeper of the people's heritage.

Senator BIBLE. Joe Nix, of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., water research program.

STATEMENT OF JOE NIX, PH. D., OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY, ARKADELPHIA, ARK., WATER RESEARCH PROGRAM

Mr. NIX. Senator, may I please correct something on the list of witnesses that you gave out or that was circulated earlier this morning. It has Corps of Engineers after my name, and I think that is an error. I am certainly not representing the Corps of Engineers. Some of our research work at Ouachita University was sponsored by the U.S. Corps of Engineers earlier, and I am sure this is where the misunderstanding was, but I would like to set the record straight.

Senator BIBLE. We will correct the record. You are not the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. NIX. No, sir.

Senator BIBLE. All right, Mr. Nix.

Mr. NIX. My name is Joe F. Nix. I am presently associate professor of chemistry at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. During the past 3½ years I have been actively engaged in water resources research at Ouachita University.

The purpose of our work there is to study the effect of the impoundment on water quality, the chemistry of reservoirs, and the effect it has on the streams. It is from this viewpoint that I would like to offer a statement concerning this, and I would like for my whole statement to please be included.

Senator BIBLE. It will be incorporated in full in the record.

Mr. Nix. This work has been supported by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and more recently, the Office of Water Resources Research, Department of the Interior. The goal of our research group is to study the effect of impoundment on the chemistry of some Arkansas streams. Both from literature review and direct research findings, I have been exposed to a considerable quantity of data on the alteration of the chemistry of streams. It is from this viewpoint that I would like to offer testimony in support of S. 855, which would create a Buffalo National River in northern Arkansas.

The unique scenic and wilderness features of the Buffalo River of northern Arkansas are an asset to the Nation and should be preserved as near as possible in their natural state for the enjoyment of this and future generations.

An awareness of the value of these unique features and a realization of their existence will not alone guarantee that generations of the future can enjoy the quality outdoor experience that is being demanded and will continue to be demanded in years to come. Scenic and wilderness areas are in high demand but their supply is rapidly diminishing.

The principal value of a scenic river, such as the Buffalo is based on the undisturbed natural environment accentuated by the beauty of the delicate ecological systems that operate in the stream and its associated land areas.

Under S. 855 and the proposal of the National Park Service, the Buffalo River would remain in its natural undisturbed state and continue to offer its unique recreation opportunity for years to come.

A delay in the initial implementation of at least the early stages of the plan, as outlined in the National Park Service report, could cause a disruption of the natural systems and a decrease in its value as a natural, free-flowing stream.

As has been so very obvious during past years, the life systems and the beauty of many of the Nation's most outstanding streams have been destroyed or altered by the introduction of pollutants. There are no metropolitan areas or industrial complexes in the vicinity of the Buffalo River, so this river is not endangered from large-scale pollution. However, even meager developments, particularly in the headwaters of the stream, could severely damage the value of the river.

Improper land use, such as excessive land clearance, large housing developments, or other engineering activities in the vicinity of the river could produce significant changes in the water conditions and cause a disruption of the very systems that enhance the value of the river. Increased turbidity from erosion of improperly constructed road grades and other land moving activities cause a river to be unsightly in addition to causing a long-range effect on the ecosystems. The introduction of excessive nutrients from domestic sewage or large agricultural activities can cause an overproduction of undesirable plant species.

Without protection of the Buffalo River, the possibility of the creation of an impoundment on some segments of the river will continue to exist. The idea that the construction of a large impoundment in the headwaters of the Buffalo River would not affect the lower regions of the stream is absurd. In addition to the alteration of streamflow

patterns, the temperature and the quality of the water released from impoundments is almost always altered and will produce ecological disruption of the downstream situation.

S. 855 is needed now to insure that the Buffalo River of Arkansas will retain its unique natural systems for all of America to enjoy.

Senator BIBLE. Dr. Nix, that is a very fine statement. What is the name "Ouachita"? Is that an Indian name?

Mr. NIX. Yes, it is an Indian name—right.

Senator BIBLE. You have done very well.

Mr. NIX. Thank you for the opportunity.

(The prepared statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF JOE F. NIX, PH. D., CHEMIST

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, my name is Joe F. Nix. I am presently Associate Professor of Chemistry at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas. During the past three and a half years I have been actively engaged in water resources research at Ouachita University. This work has been supported by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and more recently, the Office of Water Resources Research, Department of the Interior. The goal of our research group is to study the effect of impoundment on the chemistry of some Arkansas streams. Both from literature review and direct research findings. I have been exposed to a considerable quantity of data on the alteration of the chemistry of streams. It is from this view point that I would like to offer testimony in support of S. 855 which would create a Buffalo National River in northern Arkansas.

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An awareness of the value of these unique features and a realization of their existence will not alone guarantee that generations of the future can enjoy the quality outdoor experience that is being demanded and will continue to be demanded in years to come. Scenic and wilderness areas are in high demand but their supply is rapidly diminishing.

The principal value of a scenic river, such as the Buffalo is based on the undisturbed natural environment accentuated by the beauty of the delicate ecological systems that operate in the stream and its associated land areas.

Under S. 855 and the proposal of the National Park Service, the Buffalo River would remain in its natural-undisturbed state and continue to offer its unique recreation opportunity for years to come.

A delay in the initial implementation of at least the early stages of the plan, as outlined in the National Park Service Report, could cause a disruption of the natural systems and a decrease in its value as a natural-free flowing stream.

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would not affect the lower regions of the stream is absurd. In addition to the alteration of stream flow patterns, the temperature and the quality of the water released from impoundments is almost always altered and will produce ecological disruption of the downstream situation.

S. 855 is needed *now* to insure that the Buffalo River of Arkansas will retain its unique natural systems for all of America to enjoy.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Mr. Stegner again. Are you any relation to the very famous Stegner who wrote "Powell's Ventures in Colorado"?

STATEMENT OF ED STEGNER, THE CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI, COLUMBIA, MO.

Mr. STEGNER. No, sir. I have heard of him for years, but I don't think we are any relation. He is a fine writer.

Senator BIBLE. He likes to float down a river. He went down the Colorado River.

Mr. STEGNER. Yes, sir. Mr. Chairman, my statement is 4 to 5 minutes. I will be glad to summarize it.

Senator BIBLE. Yes, the statement will be incorporated in full in the record and why don't you just summarize it.

Mr. STEGNER. All right, I will, sir. I wanted to say outside of my statement, anyhow, that I recall when you were down, you and Senator Moss, and I think some others were down on the Current River several years ago.

Senator BIBLE. That is right.

Mr. STEGNER. And floated the Current River. I was unable to be there at that time. I had to be out of the State at another meeting, but I had been down earlier when the Secretary of the Interior was down there and floated the river, and I said to him then, and I would say to you now, I hope you will see the Buffalo River, because it is an even more beautiful stream than the Current River is, and the Current is in my home State.

Senator BIBLE. I want to be there one of these days.

Mr. STEGNER. You will enjoy it when you go, because it is a truly beautiful river. My statement is pretty much a God and motherhood statement, anyhow.

Senator BIBLE. There aren't any problems with those.

Mr. STEGNER. That is right. That is why I said it. Although the Buffalo River is not in our State, many Missourians do enjoy it, many people from the entire surrounding area.

The Buffalo River represents a unique and beautiful unspoiled wilderness type of resource that it is hard to put a value on, and we think should be preserved for this and the future generations to enjoy and for this reason, of course, we are wholeheartedly in favor of this bill introduced by the two Arkansas Senators to preserve this river in its present condition, and we hope that in developing it, the National Park Service will keep it as near a wilderness area as it is possible to do, and still provide for the people to see it, use it, and enjoy it.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much. We appreciate your statement. (The prepared statement referred to as follows:)

STATEMENT OF ED STEGNER, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE CONSERVATION
FEDERATION OF MISSOURI

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, ladies and gentlemen: My name is Ed Stegner of Jefferson City, Missouri. I am Executive Secretary of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, a private association of nearly 200 conservation clubs and 24,000 individual members. Our Federation is the largest and most representative private conservation group in my state, being interested in all phases of natural resource conservation. We appreciate the opportunity to present this statement in support of Senate Bill 855 to establish the Buffalo National River.

For many years, my organization has recognized that this nation's beautiful, free flowing rivers and streams represent one of our most valuable and unique natural resources, a resource which cannot be evaluated in dollars and cents.

We are, of course, most concerned with streams in the Midwest and particularly those in the Ozark mountains of Missouri and Arkansas where some of this nation's streams of highest quality are located and where many Missourians seek wilderness-type outdoor recreation. We believe that at least some of these high quality streams should be preserved in their present free flowing condition.

We would not want to leave the impression with this committee that we are opposed to all dams and reservoirs or other forms of river development. We do believe, however, that those remaining undeveloped streams of highest quality should be classified by law for preservation in their present free flowing, scenic condition for this and future generations to enjoy. As Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman told your full committee two years ago, "Scenic rivers are a part of rural America—its economy and its environment."

Some of the Ozark's rivers, such as the White, North Fork and Little Red, have already been destroyed as free flowing streams by dams. Others are fast deteriorating from pollution, uncontrolled development and overuse. Still others like the Current and Jacks Fork in Missouri have been assured preservation by the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, and the Eleven Point in Missouri has been included in the recently enacted Wild and Scenic Rivers System and thereby preserved. The Congress is to be commended for its wisdom and forethought in preserving these and other high quality streams. Many states, such as my own, have committees and commissions developing state scenic rivers systems.

The Buffalo River in northwest Arkansas is perhaps the most scenic of all the streams in the Missouri-Arkansas Ozark area. It flows through a relatively undeveloped, and one of the most beautiful parts of the Ozarks. Its beautiful high bluffs and waterfalls are believed to be the most spectacular in the entire Midwest. The area contains numerous unique geological and archeological features and the river's gravel bars are unexcelled for camping. Most of the area today is relatively unspoiled by human development. Although the stability of flow is not quite as consistent as that of the Current River, with the exception of the headwaters it can be floated the year around. This area is perhaps the nearest to a true wilderness of any in the Ozarks. We would hope that the National Park Service would develop the area with the objective of keeping it as near a wilderness as possible and still accommodate the visitors who wish to visit it.

If this most beautiful of the Ozark rivers is not protected by law, its unique wilderness qualities will gradually deteriorate because of uncontrolled commercial development and pollution or will be completely destroyed by dams which are already proposed and planned by the Corps of Engineers.

Although the Buffalo River is in the State of Arkansas, it represents a recreational resource enjoyed by people from all the surrounding states and actually belongs to all the people of our nation just as surely as does Old Faithful in Yellowstone National Park.

Although the establishment of the National River will be a badly needed boost to the economy of the area, our primary concern is the resource and its importance to the welfare of all the people. Simply stated, it is a resource too unique and valuable to be lost for this and future generations.

It is against this background that we wholeheartedly support and endorse the establishment of the Buffalo National River as proposed by the Arkansas Senators in S. 855.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Mr. Rupert Cutler of the Wilderness Society of Washington. Without objection his written statement will be made a part of the record.

**STATEMENT OF M. RUPERT CUTLER, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY**

Mr. CUTLER. Mr. Chairman, my name is Rupert Cutler. I am an assistant executive director of the Wilderness Society, a national conservation organization headquartered here in Washington and concerned primarily with encouraging the protection and appropriate use of our Nation's wilderness resource.

The Wilderness Society has studied the National Park Service's proposal for a Buffalo National River in Arkansas, and Senate bill 855 which would establish the national river essentially as set forth in the Park Service's proposal, and is pleased to have this opportunity to comment on both.

It was my pleasure recently to visit a portion of the Buffalo River area while on a trip to Arkansas. This trip gave me an opportunity to hike in to see the caves and waterfalls of Lost Valley, and to walk along the Goat Trail which crosses high on the face of Big Bluff, and from that exposure alone I believe that the Buffalo is one of the finest among the natural landscapes of the entire middle United States.

I also viewed firsthand the things that are happening, right now, which are beginning to degrade this great natural scenery. Within the past year, highway builders have stripped a half mile of the upper Buffalo's bottom land to obtain sandstone fill for a road; this road fill could as well have been obtained elsewhere. Not far away, I saw the ugly gash of a strip mine which was opened last year on a green mountainside overlooking the river. And I heard from residents of that area about subdivisions, by individuals who had schemes to profit by destroying a scenic amenity which should be left intact for all our people to enjoy.

For reasons such as these, the Wilderness Society endorses the provisions of Senate bill 855 to preserve the Buffalo River, its many noteworthy natural and historical sites, and the river's scenic corridor through the Ozark hill country.

We are pleased that the National Park Service recognizes and proposes that two areas along the river be reserved as primitive areas—for hikers, trail riders, and students of the natural sciences. Though neither area is large when compared with western wilderness, they do offer important opportunities for wilderness experiences in a region where tracts of roadless mountain land of even a few thousand acres are extremely rare.

From our own studies, we know that there are only a half dozen or fewer such opportunities for establishing and protecting primitive areas in the entire Ozark-Ouachita Mountain region of Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Furthermore, the Ozarks and Ouachitas may contain the only such opportunities in the whole vast midland of America.

We find that there are no great economic obstacles to creating these primitive areas within the Buffalo National River. The prime resource, commercial timber, is largely gone. Also, practically every family has moved out of these two isolated corners of the hill country. The few people who live there and want to remain can certainly be accommodated with the right of life tenancy.

However, once these people's wishes have been fulfilled and the works of man have been removed or allowed to disappear through time, we would want these two primitive areas on the Buffalo to become eligible for full statutory protection under the Wilderness Act. Here would be two rugged and beautiful stretches of country for those who, in tomorrow's more crowded world, would wish to find self-renewal in the experiences of wilderness.

This is our society's interest, but it is hardly to slight the great values of all the Buffalo River for recreation in a superlative natural setting. Again, we endorse Senate bill 855 and its provisions which would preserve this outstanding stream and its landscape.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these remarks.

Senator BIBLE. Ben H. Thompson, legislative assistant of the National Recreation and Park Association, Washington, D.C. I saw him here earlier. Without objection his statement will be incorporated in the record.

STATEMENT OF BEN. H. THOMPSON, NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Ben H. Thompson, legislative officer on the staff of the National Recreation and Park Association. The association is a private, non-profit educational and service organization dedicated to the wise use of free time, conservation of natural resources, and beautification of the American environment.

We support the proposal to establish the Buffalo National River, essentially as provided for in this bill, S. 855.

The Buffalo has outstanding scenic and recreation qualities. Its natural history, prehistory, and history can be presented and interpreted in ways that will greatly enhance the appreciation, knowledge and pleasure of people who will visit it. It can provide a wide variety of recreational experiences of the simple and fundamental kinds such as float fishing, boating, canoeing, swimming, camping, picnicking, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, or simply relaxing and enjoying an unusually scenic region and the changing moods of nature.

There is great need for the preservation and management of such wild rivers to meet the present desire for the kinds of recreation that can be enjoyed along such rivers and, certainly, the need for such public reservations will increase as the population of the country increases during the next few decades.

The proposed national river has been extensively and carefully studied over a number of years. The proposed boundaries appear to be modest and reasonable, the minimum amount that should be acquired or partially controlled to preserve the qualities of the river setting and to provide for public use and enjoyment. The suggested plan of devel-

opment and management of the proposed national river, as set forth in the National Park Service's brochure on the project, has evidently been prepared with sensitivity to the variations in the river setting and to the values to be enjoyed.

Additionally, the bill would authorize a sensible and flexible approach to the acquisition of lands and interests in lands, permitting the continued occupancy of homes for a long period of time, if so desired by their owners, and providing for the continuation of private use zones within the proposed exterior boundaries of the national river.

As one looks at a map of the State of Arkansas, it is readily apparent that the proposed national river is situated within a ring of large reservoirs, including Dardanelle, Greers Ferry, Norfolk, Bull Shoals, Table Rock, and Beaver. Additionally, there are eight large reservoirs in the adjacent northeast corner of the State of Oklahoma and numerous other large reservoirs in western Arkansas.

In view of the numerous large reservoirs in the general region of the Buffalo National River, it would seem especially appropriate and wise to retain the Buffalo River in its natural condition to provide variety in the recreational and economic benefits that stem from such use and development of natural resources.

The enactment of this bill would set in motion a well-conceived plan of protection, development, and use that would result in preserving a very significant, though small, segment of the natural landscape of northern Arkansas, which is very worthy of such preservation and public use.

We urge that your committee report this measure favorably and that it be enacted by the Congress.

Senator BIBLE. Spencer M. Smith, Jr., Citizens Committee on National Resources. He was here earlier. He was called away this afternoon. His statement will be made a part of the record.

**STATEMENT OF DR. SPENCER M. SMITH, JR., SECRETARY,
CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I am Dr. Spencer M. Smith, Jr., secretary of the Citizens Committee on Natural Resources, a national conservation organization with offices in Washington, D.C.

The concern for the preservation of the Buffalo River in Arkansas has been supported by the citizens committee since the mid-1950's. This committee is aware of the few rivers within the United States which have their entirety in a free-flowing State, the contiguous land areas not developed, and/or a high-water quality devoid of pollution.

The conflict in regard to the uses to which the river is to be put has been occasioned in regard to the Buffalo. Such conflicts are practically inexorable and we do not suggest that the proposal before you is unanimously supported. We do suggest, however, that the enactment of S. 855 will best serve the public interest at present and in the foreseeable future.

It would be redundant and perhaps impertinent for me to compete with the many knowledgeable people from this area in extolling the

scenic and recreation virtues of the lands and waters of this region. Suffice for our purposes here is to add to the creditability of those who are knowledgeable regarding the unique geological features of the river; the large number of archeological sites which indicate some 9,000 years of Indian residence; the availability of almost every animal and fish species of this ecology; the unique visibility of the magnificent bluffs, yielding some 1,500 species of plants; and which, as now comprised, would offer a rare opportunity to perpetuate a river which represents a complete ecological unit.

The river area appears to be between two worlds at the present time. A decision will be made as to which direction its use will take, within a relatively short period of time. This decision will be made irrespective as to whether the Congress acts positively or not. Only positive action will protect the area in its present state. A failure to act positively would open the way for a variety of developments which would not be compatible with the purposes of this legislation.

It is with some hesitation that one begins to compare the economic enhancement of the area with one means or another. To date the area has been utilized economically by agriculture, forestry, and recreation. The returns at best have been small and dwindling over the last decade from agriculture and forestry. There is some thought that the preservation of the river would expand recreation activities, which would expand and extend them over most of the year. The result would increase tourist expenditures and provide private investment opportunities. We would not suggest, however, that the economic basis for recreation in the region per se, though the case does appear to be a good one, causes the committee to base their final determination upon this exclusively.

Far more compelling to us is the rare opportunity of preserving a river as natural and unspoiled as the Buffalo. The area of the Ozarks cannot be said to have been forgotten in the scheme of water development. On the contrary, reservoirs and water impoundments are as plentiful in this region as in any other one area of the United States. With the wealth of reservoir recreation opportunities as well as many other varieties in the more arid upland areas, the particular and peculiar quality of the Buffalo represents an appropriate balance to the other recreation programs and economic activities.

We have not commented upon the specifics of the legislation proposed in S. 855 and we will not do so except to point out that the procedures set forth in S. 855 are essentially that adopted in a number of other instances for the preservation of similar areas by this committee. It is quite evident that the committee is following its own pioneering efforts in establishing these areas and has chosen the techniques of acquisition and administration that have worked effectively in the past.

We feel that the record will show that the preservation of the Buffalo River has received a long and careful consideration. This is further substantiated by the support of the present proposal by Congressman Hammerschmidt, whose district is directly affected, by Governor Rockefeller and the authors of the bill, Senators Fulbright and McClellan. Administratively, this has been a bipartisan effort extending over a long period of time. We are more than pleased to offer our support to the unique opportunity of establishing a Buffalo National

River. We hope the subcommittee will act with favor upon this proposal and the Congress will do likewise at an early date.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Barry Weaver of the Washington, D.C., Sierra Club. Is Mr. Weaver here? Without objection, his statement will be made a part of the record.

STATEMENT OF BARRY R. WEAVER, MEMBER, SIERRA CLUB

Mr. WEAVER. Mr. Chairman, I am Barry R. Weaver, a member of the Sierra Club Council, representing the national organization of the Sierra Club. I was raised in northwest Arkansas and resided there for some 20 years.

The Sierra Club, nationally, is a conservation organization of approximately 77,000 members. We have been interested in exploring and helping to protect the Nation's scenic resources since naturalist John Muir founded the group in 1892. The Buffalo River in the Ozark Mountains of northern Arkansas is one scenic resource we believe worth protecting for this and future generations.

The Buffalo National River proposal outlines a good program, in our view, to preserve the natural beauty of this green, free-flowing stream. The Buffalo has been a delight to the many people who enjoy float trips of various kinds. It is no longer possible to float by johnboat or canoe the other nearby rivers—the White, the Little Red, and the Arkansas—because of dams and locks which block them.

Canoeists, fishermen, and others who enjoy streams with rushing waters along attractive banks of oak and hickory trees have just this one major free-flowing stream left in the Arkansas Ozarks.

During the week of April 7 this year, I floated a 32-mile section of the river by canoe. On this trip were outdoorsmen and women from the age of 8 to those in their 60's coming from 10 States and the District of Columbia. It is truly a stream of national attraction.

The Sierra Club is particularly impressed with the features of the proposed Buffalo National River which would help maintain its water quality, a healthy ecology and insure wise land use. We urge the subcommittee to consider this bill favorably.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Mr. Everett Bowman, of the Ozark Society. Mr. Bowman.

**STATEMENT OF EVERETT BOWMAN, PRESIDENT, PULASKI
CHAPTER, THE OZARK SOCIETY, INC.**

Mr. BOWMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Everett Bowman, president, Pulaski chapter of the Ozark Society.

Thank you. This is my first trip to Washington to speak before a subcommittee such as this and it is indeed a privilege.

Perhaps no men alive understand better the need to escape from the eroding pressures of business and the tensions inherent in our technological society than members of the U.S. Senate. You more than anyone.

Arkansas is emerging from a background as an agriculturally oriented State to one with an emphasis on industry and business. As

such, our increasingly urbanized population needs the release afforded by outdoor recreation and a pleasant, healthy environment.

As Architect Frank Lloyd Wright, once told one of his Arkansas-born proteges, "Go home to Arkansas to work. It is less spoiled than the rest of the country."

The Ozark Society is optimistic enough to believe that we can advance into the 21st century with some degree of dignity, determined not to make the mistakes other States have made. We believe Arkansas can advance industrially, yet still capitalize on the State's greatest untapped source of economic uplift—tourism.

This is where the Buffalo National River comes in. The members of the Ozark Society I represent live in central Arkansas. Contrary to the dream of some reservoir proponents in the Buffalo River area, we are not going to drive more than 100 miles to fish or boat on a small, wildly fluctuating reservoir such as the one formerly proposed for the Buffalo at Gilbert. We don't have to. We are surrounded by bigger, better lakes only short drives from home.

However, we will gladly drive many miles to enjoy the unique, high-quality river recreation afforded by the beautiful bluff-lined Buffalo. So do thousands of people each year from every State in the Union and some foreign countries.

The Buffalo River is nationally famous for its "float trips," canoeing, camping, and scenic beauty. It is ideally situated to be the hub of an Ozark tourist complex that will complement the existing man-made lakes that surround it. Wise tourist promotion could keep visitors circulating between the national rivers, lakes, and such attractions as the fabulous Blanchard Spring Cavern and the National Ozark Folk Cultural Center near Mountain View. The University of Arkansas study done for the National Park Service conservatively estimates an annual income of nearly \$34 million from the Buffalo National River once it is established.

That is quite an "industry" for an area with the lowest per capita income in Arkansas. And it's much more than can ever hope to be gained from the "sweat shop" types of industries that are usually attracted to the Ozark region to exploit the labor supply.

But legislation to create the national river must come soon. The publicity afforded the river has attracted a host of "get in, get out" land speculators, questionable real estate promoters, and shysters of all types who are preying on the fears and emotions of local residents.

Legislation cannot wait. We must not forfeit this priceless opportunity for wise development of the Buffalo. Once can always build a dam, amusement park, or subdivision—only God can make a river and he made only one Buffalo River.

We think our grandchildren have a right to know it as we have. This is not a local issue, but one important to all Americans. Surely we are not so poor we must sacrifice every river in Arkansas.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much for your statement, and I appreciate your appearance here today. Where is the Pulaski chapter located?

Mr. BOWMAN. That is in the Little Rock area, sir.

Senator BIBLE. In the Little Rock area, Little Rock, Ark.?

Mr. BOWMAN. Little Rock, Ark.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much. That seems to complete our list of witnesses. Do we have others that have to be heard?

As we adjourn, I simply want to state, so there is never any misunderstanding as to what the next step is along the way, the record will be kept open until the 4th of July, and any of you who have additional statements or any type of amplification that you care to make to your statement, you can make it by writing to the Senate Interior Committee, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

It has been a very fine hearing. I have enjoyed your companionship, I have enjoyed your interest, and I have enjoyed the very fine testimony that you have given us. Just as soon as we get into July, then we will study the record again, and any new additions made, and then it will be called before the subcommittee for whatever action or refinement or changes that seem to be indicated. If you have any additional thoughts, feel free to express them to us. With that we stand in adjournment.

(Whereupon, at 3:45 p.m., the subcommittee was adjourned.)

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 experimental conditions. The second part contains the results of the
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APPENDIX

(Under authority previously granted, the following statements and communications were ordered printed:)

STATEMENT OF THE STATE COMMITTEE ON STREAM PRESERVATION

The Stream Preservation Committee, at its last meeting in Little Rock, endorsed the new National Park Service proposal to make the Buffalo a national river.

The Committee, an instrument of the General Assembly, was authorized by the legislature in 1967 to study the feasibility and suitability of Arkansas streams for preservation in a scenic rivers system. The Committee submitted its report to the General Assembly and a bill which would have created an Arkansas Scenic Rivers System was introduced into the legislature by Senator Oscar Alagood. This bill died on the calendar of the Senate when it adjourned on May 9, 1969. Included in the state report are recommendations for the preservation of five streams including the Buffalo but is not to be confused with the national program administered by the National Park Service. State conservationists who have long sought federal administration of the Buffalo River gained additional support in January when Senators Fulbright and McClellan introduced S. 855 and later with the introduction of Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt's House Bill of 10246. These bills are now pending before the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of both Houses. The chairmen of the respective House and Senate committees are Congressman Wayne N. Aspinall (Demo., Colorado) and Senator Henry M. Jackson (Demo., Washington). Arkansas conservationists expect strong local support for both proposals and have been promised committee hearings at an early date.

The National Park Service report supplemented by an economic study conducted by the University of Arkansas revealed that Arkansas can expect widespread benefits by preserving the scenic and wilderness aspects of this unique Ozark Mountain stream. Opponents of the National River believed that the state's interests could best be served by the construction of two or more large dams, but the Corps of Engineers have determined that such dams would not be economically feasible. The numerous large dams presently operating in north Arkansas have not materially improved local economies, and in fact many reservoir concessionaires have sought Congressional relief from ill-advised lease agreements. The State of Arkansas still remains an area of out-migration and sub-national per capita income despite the construction of 95 public works projects requiring an annual appropriation of nearly 15 per cent of the nation's total public works expenditures.

The University of Arkansas study of the project's potential economic impact said that the establishment of the Buffalo National River will:

(1) Result in a tourist expenditure of \$92 million during the period of park development and will with completion of all proposed facilities contribute \$34 million annually to the local economy.

(2) Require National Park Service expenditures totaling \$18 million for land acquisition, development, maintenance, and personnel costs.

(3) An additional \$5 million will be invested by private investors for near-by tourist facilities and in-park concessions.

(4) The local area, including the counties of Newton, Searcy, Marion, Boone, and Baxter, will benefit by the creation of 3,500 new job opportunities and an increase of \$17 million in personal income. Census figures indicate an out-migration of 21 per cent from this area in recent years due largely to few employment opportunities and an average personal per capita income

of \$1,675. Local retail and service trade volumes are expected to increase by 23 per cent.

The National Park Service report describes the area as "one of this country's last significant natural rivers," and offers a master plan for preserving the river and scenic cliffs within a 132 mile strip of parkland varying in width from one-half to four miles. The proposed area includes from 95,730 to 103,000 acres. The Park Service will acquire some areas in fee, but also included are two state parks and portions of the Ozark National Forest. In selected areas presently devoted to agriculture the authorization bills provide for scenic easements and life tenancy for present owners.

Long valued for its clear and unpolluted waters, the Buffalo River originates in the Ozark caprock country of the Ozark National Forest and flows 148 miles to its junction with the White River in northcentral Arkansas. Located centrally within one day's drive of St. Louis, Memphis, Des Moines, Dallas, and Tulsa, it is anticipated that visitation will exceed 1.7 million annually. Complementary to the existing Corps of Engineers reservoirs and the new U.S. Forest Service Blanchard Springs Cave facility, the Buffalo River offers numerous and varied unique attractions. Geologically, the Ozark Uplift is among the oldest and most interesting mountain ranges in the United States. Much of the geologic history is exposed by forces of nature revealing ancient marine deposits, fossils, penneplaining, escarpments, caves, arches, sinks, and solution valleys.

There is an unmatched combination of both Appalachian and southwestern desert plants mixed with typical oak-hickory sites and cedar glades. Due to past abuse, wildlife numbers are limited, but varieties include all those found normally in this region. In number of fish species, the river and its tributaries constitute one of the richest in the nation.

Although never the scene of any great historical event, the Buffalo country does have many artifacts relating to a bygone era of American rural life; repeating the westward movement of pioneer families from Kentucky, settlement and eventual depletion of resources and emigration to the cities. Some historical sites are not far distant, including the National Park Service's Pea Ridge National Monument and Civil War lead and salt mines. Archeologically, sites have been located that should reveal prehistoric life of residents dating to 7-8000 B.C.

The National Park Service report proposes a major development center near the present U.S. Route 65 at Silver Hill and secondary public use areas at Pruitt on Arkansas Highway 7 and at the existing Buffalo River State Park. No major highway construction will parallel the river, but some scenic areas will provide for vehicular traffic. Most access areas to the river will be confined to presently existing highway crossings.

In conclusion, the Park Service report states, "The Buffalo, with its mild climate and lengthy season, is within an easy day's drive of nearly 15 million people. It is an outstanding remnant of wild America, worthy of saving for its own sake as well as for the present and future needs of the region. To dam the river would destroy its integrity and a great part of its irreplaceable and unique resources."

"To allow uncontrolled commercial development—and that is the greatest danger today—would also rapidly diminish the stream's fragile combination of values. But to keep it in its wild state and properly managed, the river valley will yield experiences of a kind and quality that are becoming all too rare in urbanized America."

While it now appears that all concerned are in favor of the immediate designation of the Buffalo River as a segment of the National Park Service's National Wild Rivers System, there remains one significant hurdle that the state's Congressional delegation must negotiate. There are presently sixteen similar park proposals before the Congress. Most of these projects are funded from user-fees and other income accruing to the federal Land and Water Fund. Congress has authorized \$200 million annually from this fund for such purposes. President Johnson, in his last budget, recommended this to be cut to \$154 million; now, with an even more economy-minded administration, President Nixon has further slashed the recommended federal share of land and water projects by an additional \$30 million. Unless there is wide support for park projects, which are one-of-a-kind and in jeopardy, the lion's share of the fund will go for neighbor-

hood golf courses and playgrounds, and Arkansas' Congressional delegation will find themselves in very competitive company for the remainder.

STATE OF ARKANSAS,
ARKANSAS SENATE,
Little Rock, Ark., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We would appreciate the favorable consideration by your committee on Senate Bill 855.

We hope that you and the members of the subcommittee on Parks and Recreation will have the opportunity to visit the Buffalo River in Arkansas. We are confident that the creation of the Buffalo National River would serve the best interest of conservationists throughout the United States.

We request that you make this letter part of the record on the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

Very truly yours,

BEN ALLEN.

ARKANSAS STATE PARKS,
RECREATION AND TRAVEL COMMISSION,
Little Rock, Ark., May 21, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
*U.S. Senate, Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to go on record as recommending to the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs that they give favorable consideration to Senate Bill 855 by Senators Fulbright and McClellan for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

I believe that anyone who has had the fortunate opportunity to float this last free flowing stream in the Ozark Mountains cannot help but become emotionally involved in trying to protect the scenic splendor of this wonderful river for future generations. There are too few places left on this earth where man can get a glimpse of what our country was like before man took it upon himself to reshape its face. The Buffalo River is one of those "windows in the past" and I respectfully urge your committee's favorable consideration of Senate Bill 855.

I would, also, like to request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearings of Senate Bill 855.

Sincerely,

LOU OBERSTE,
Director Recreation and Travel.

STATE OF ARKANSAS,
GAME AND FISH COMMISSION,
Little Rock, May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

Re Hearing on S. 855.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am pleased to inform you that the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, meeting in regular session on May 20, 1969, voted to support legislation for the creation of the Buffalo National River as described in the report, "Proposed Buffalo National River," by the U.S. Department of the Interior, 1968.

Please make this letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Very truly yours,

HUGH A. HACKLER,
Director.

ARKANSAS WILDLIFE FEDERATION,
 GRAND PRAIRIE CHAPTER,
 Stuttgart, Ark., May 19, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
 Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Grand Prairie Chapter of the Arkansas Wildlife Federation unanimously endorse Senate Bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

Our chapter represents families numbering almost 2,000 people.

I would like to request that it be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing of Senate Bill 855.

Yours for better conservation.

REX HANCOCK, D.D.S.,
 President, Grand Prairie Chapter, Arkansas Wildlife Federation.

Arkadelphia, Ark., June 3, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
 Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am highly in favor of the proposed legislation SB-855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas.

This will be an Act to preserve a beautiful stream in its natural state for the enjoyment of generations yet unborn.

Sincerely,

RANDALL MATHIS,
 County Judge, Clark County, Ark.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY,
 Chicago, Ill., June 19, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
 Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior Affairs,
 Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: The Illinois Audubon Society declares itself in favor of the Buffalo River proposal of Sen. J. Wm. Fulbright and Sen. McClellan which would create a Buffalo National River. We understand that efforts have been made by the residents of Arkansas and the Ozarks to preserve this area as a scenic river for over seven years.

There is almost no commercial exploitation on its banks and shore. It is our understanding that there is almost no water pollution in this river. This is most remarkable in this era of environmental decay which we see everywhere.

The area has one of the highest waterwalls in the midwest; with over 1,200 types of plants. It is rich in cave lore, with Indian occupation of several thousand years.

The area will be most useful for recreation of all types, including float trips, fishing, camping and boating. Preservation of our scenic rivers is long overdue. We trust Congress will press for immediate action.

Very truly,

RAYMOND MOSTEK,
 President, Illinois Audubon Society.

A STATEMENT OF AUDUBON PHILOSOPHY

We believe in the wisdom of nature's design.

We know that soil, water, plants, and wild creatures depend upon each other and are vital to human life.

We recognize that each living thing links to many others in the chain of nature,

We believe that persistent research into the intricate patterns of outdoor life will help to assure wise use of earth's abundance.

We condemn no wild creature and work to assure that no living species shall be lost.

We believe that every generation should be able to experience spiritual and physical refreshment in places where primitive nature is undisturbed.

So we will be vigilant to protect wilderness areas, refuges, and parks, and to encourage good use of nature's storehouse of resources.

We dedicate ourselves to the pleasant task of opening the eyes of young and old that all may come to enjoy the beauty of the outdoor world, and to share in conserving its wonders forever.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY,
Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Ill.

SOUTH SIDE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION,
St. Louis, Mo., June 26, 1969.

U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Our organization of active conservationists wishes to advise you of our interest in the establishment of the Buffalo National River.

We support the proposal of maintaining this beautiful river in Arkansas for ourselves and for the enjoyment of generations to follow.

Please add our request for approval to the record.

Sincerely,

H. F. WATSON.

JEFFERSON AUDUBON SOCIETY,
Pine Bluff, Ark., June 13, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We are grateful for your appreciation of the urgent need to preserve the Buffalo River for posterity.

The overwhelming majority of the people of Arkansas have demonstrated their support of a free-flowing Buffalo River administered under the National Park System. Now it is up to our Congress to bestow National River status on our Buffalo.

We hereby solicit the support of you and your committee, which will be of great significance in accomplishing our goal.

Please enter this statement into the Record of the Hearing of May 27, 1969, concerning the Buffalo River.

Sincerely yours,

J. CLYDE GLOVER, *President.*

ARKANSAS VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY,
May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Senate Interior Committee,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Arkansas Valley Audubon Society voted at its May 20 meeting to send a letter to the Arkansas Congressional Delegation and to your Committee to state that it is in favor of making the Buffalo River a National River. Further we would like to have our expression entered into the record of the hearings, if that is possible.

We are cognizant of economic problems present in the area involved. Impoundments will not be a permanent solution to this problem. Impoundments are irreversible entities and eliminate the possibility of posterity judging what to do with a natural situation. Arkansas has a vast area which has great value in the beauty it possesses. That beauty is not capable of being marketed at

present. It is unfortunate if we conclude now that that natural beauty will never be a marketable commodity.

We are appreciative of the difficult task ahead for your Committee. We hope that you are able to develop a true value perspective concerning the future of Arkansas and the United States.

Sincerely yours,

ARTHUR A. JOHNSON,
President.
Dr. JEWELL MOORE,
Vice President.
Mrs. EUGENE BURTON,
Secretary.
Mrs. RUTH RICHARDSON,
Treasurer.
Mr. JOE SHAW,
Reporter.

BLUFF CITY CANOE CLUB,
Memphis, Tenn., May 27, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please accept this statement from the Bluff City Canoe Club of Memphis, Tennessee as full endorsement of Senate Bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. We hope that your subcommittee and the full Interior Committee will give this measure your full endorsement also.

The issue of the status of the Arkansas Buffalo has remained unsettled too long. The National Park Service made recommendations for its preservation as early as 1963, and again shows the desirability in its recent report. Bills were introduced in both Houses of Congress in the 90th Congress to establish a national river, but action was not taken. In fairness to all concerned, definite action should now be taken.

The Arkansas Buffalo is one of the dwindling number of desirable free flowing streams remaining, but its desecration has begun. The passage of S. 855 can guarantee its preservation.

We request that our statement in support of S. 855 be made a permanent part of the record of the hearings conducted today by your subcommittee. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

O. U. WALLING, *Vice President.*

HASTY, ARK., *June 7, 1969.*

Re Buffalo River national project

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please enter this letter in the senate record on above subject.

Since participating in behalf of the injured and bewildered people on the Buffalo River in Arkansas, and surrounding areas of Newton and Searcy Counties, Arkansas concerning the Proposed National Park/River, at the hearings of the Senate Subcommittee on May 27, 1969 of which you are Chairman, I have been more than greatly concerned. For I realize this giant of a "steam roller" could grind us into the ground, without a degree of consideration shown the humble, honest, law-abiding citizens of the area. Our Constitutional rights must be preserved, if our great country is to function in the cause of Liberty.

I doubt if any Project at any time has been given more publicity than this Buffalo River area. Yet, where is the economy? Why did our Senators state the unsurpassed fishing for small mouth bass? When, as a matter of fact, there are hardly any small mouth bass left in this Buffalo River. In fact, any other species of fish are almost non-existent. I hope and pray our elected officials in Washington are more thoroughly briefed on the grave problems confronting our nation today in its hour of need than were our elected officials in Washington concerning the Buffalo River.

Mr. Chairman, our trip to Washington to attend the hearings on May 27, 1969, created a hardship on all involved financially, and to all the good citizens in the area for their assistance, also to those leaving their families and the orderly function of their farms.

Our purpose for coming to Washington for the Sub-committee hearings was to prove to the Chairman and the Sub-committee the extensive wrong-doings heaped upon the Buffalo River landowner. We suffered a major setback when I noticed only four members of the ten-man committee were in attendance; you, Mr. Chairman, Senator Frank Church of Idaho, Senator Barry Bellmon of Oklahoma, and Senator Frank E. Moss, Utah.

After my statement, you arranged a session with the Interior Department and our group. We were more than eager to meet with Mr. Hartzog, National Park Service Director. We were anxious to gather pressing and needed information on the 120 homes and 13 businesses on the property the Park Service would purchase if the Bill were passed. Our second major blow came when Mr. Hartzog did not meet with us. Bernard Campbell and Mr. Bright met with us, but couldn't render us any assistance. They couldn't so much as find my 247 acres of land and home on the map.

The most serious and damaging blow came when only you, Mr. Chairman, attended the afternoon hearings—not one single member of the Sub-committee was in attendance to hear Rev. Lendel R. Winners, P. W. Yarbrough, or Charles P. Thompson, Executive Director of the American Landowners Association.

We can show there are many times more than 120 homes and 13 businesses on the Buffalo River in Arkansas, but it wouldn't prove a thing, because of the very nature Mr. Hartzog worded his statement.

Mr. Chairman, I humbly beg you to schedule a field hearing in our area so our people can be heard. I asked Mr. George Hartzog to please send me a map forthwith of the 120 homes and 13 businesses with the precise boundary lines furnished us. This river doesn't merit the attention these selfish groups are heaping upon it.

Mr. Chairman, why isn't the Mulberry, Big Piney and Strawberry mentioned? For the simple reason the Government owns the big part of them and the canoe clubs already have them at their disposal—only the canoe clubs are giving us our grief—not the fishermen—the fisherman knows the Buffalo River is almost barren of fish. And what few fish there are, are now full of worms.

This "organized scheme" must be stopped. As far as this Buffalo River being one of the last free-flowing streams, there were 38 of these so-called streams on the planning board in the State of Arkansas. This is the trend of all selfish groups that have no consideration, and may I say if we gave up our lands and river to these selfish groups, the future generations, if they are to again be red blooded Americans, would be ashamed of us if we permitted this "organized harassment" to supersede our Just Rights. Also, these future generations would well know that we gave up our Constitutional Rights that were acquired for this Nation, and this includes the landowners, by spilling precious American blood down through the generations.

No, Mr. Chairman, we were not heard in Washington, and because of this very thing, it will only make us fight harder for what the price of freedom has cost for the past generations.

Sincerely,

GEORGE VIOREL,
*Chairman, Buffalo River Landowners Association,
Arkansas Chapter, American Landowners Association.*

GREATER LITTLE ROCK COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.,
Little Rock, Ark., May 9, 1969.

Re Senate bill 5855
Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

HON. SENATOR: Through our Garden Center, sponsored by Greater Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs and an affiliate of Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, we are stressing the preservation of the natural beauty of our surroundings—too much is being lost in the "name of progress".

We are opposed to any plan which changes the free-flowing Buffalo River of Arkansas.

We shall appreciate consideration given for the protection of this free-flowing river as a part of our heritage.

Sincerely,

Mrs. GEORGE WESENDONK, *Director.*

ARKANSAS FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.,
Little Rock, Ark., May 9, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., has gone on record a number of times in favor of preserving the Buffalo River of Arkansas in its natural free flowing state, and we have not changed our minds.

When this comes up for discussion on May 22, 1969, we still want to be counted as being in favor of the "preservation of the Buffalo River in it's free flowing state."

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Mrs. A. G. RITTER, *President.*

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION OF LITTLE ROCK,
Little Rock, Ark., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: This is to inform you that the Pulaski County Audubon Society of Arkansas, has by proper resolution empowered the undersigned to express our unqualified support of the proposed Buffalo National River in Arkansas, as detailed in legislation proposed by Senators Fulbright and McClellan, being Senate Bill 855.

You are therefore requested to make this letter a part of the record.

Yours most sincerely,

H. CHARLES JOHNSON, *President.*

ARKANSAS OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION,
Little Rock, Ark., May 22, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing you to urge your support for Senate Bill 855, which would create the Buffalo National River in Arkansas, introduced by Senators McClellan and Fulbright.

Arkansas has an abundance of man-made reservoirs which provide ample mass recreation facilities for a large number of residents and non-residents. This is fine.

However, as a former travel editor for the Arkansas Parks, Recreation and Travel Commission and freelance outdoor/travel writer. I believe Arkansas has placed too many of its recreational eggs in one basket. We love our lakes, true, but we must also preserve choice examples of our clearwater, unpolluted mountain rivers to provide diversified recreational opportunity.

The Buffalo National River would provide a unique natural, historical and recreational attraction in the midst of the "big lakes" of the Ozarks, thus complementing the mass recreation benefits already in abundance.

Once established, the anticipated \$34 million annual income to the Buffalo National River area would provide a much-needed influx of outside money to an area of traditionally low income. Frankly, I wish we could, for once, save a river just because it is a wonder of creation without having to justify it economically by the all-powerful fiscal yardstick. Fortunately, with the Buffalo, we can come as close as possible to "having our cake and eating it too."

Unfortunately, shyster real estate speculators, bogus religious cultists and speculators of the lowest caliber are zeroing in on the Buffalo because of the publicity. We need SB. 855 to nip this in the bud. Thank you.

Please make this a part of the permanent record of hearings on the bill.

Sincerely,

JOHN HEUSTON.

OUTDOOR AND HISTORICAL WRITING,
Columbia, Mo., May 23, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Senator from Nevada, Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I note that S. 855, providing for designation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas, has been referred to the Subcommittee on Park and Recreation under your chairmanship. This letter is written to request favorable consideration of the proposal.

By way of introduction the Senator may recall that we met about six years ago at Big Springs State Park in Missouri, at Governor John Dalton's steak fry for visiting members of Congress and other dignitaries. This was the evening preceding the hearing there on the Ozark National Scenic Rivers, which I was covering on magazine assignment.

I am probably as familiar with the nation's streams, in the 48 contiguous states, as any photojournalist working in the outdoor/travel field. My travels have encompassed every state, as, over the years, has my writing. I have been particularly interested in streams—there character, scenic and other attractions, geological and archeological values, recreational potential, and their history—both nature and man-imposed.

All unspoiled streams have their unique appeal. The Buffalo, however, differs from any other of my knowledge in the varied phases of the uniqueness—with its continuing massive bluffs and deep-cut gorges, it differs even from other Ozark streams. Its scenic and other values need not be delineated here; they are adequately covered in material submitted by other sources for study by the subcommittee.

My first contact with the Buffalo was in 1950, preparing an article for Ford Times magazine on Hemmed-in Hollow—a spot of magnificent wild beauty and inspiration, which I understand has now been ravished by the chain-saw. Other despoilation, changing the stream's character and defacing the scenery, is occurring in the narrow valley.

The Buffalo is, of course, the one free-flowing major Ozark stream left in Arkansas; it offers recreation in sharp contrast with that available on the numerous man-made impoundments on its perimeters, and its untarnished survival for the enjoyment of present and future generations can quite evidently be achieved only through federal protection.

I would very much appreciate it if my statement, together with the enclosed copy of an article published in Southern Outdoors, could be included in the permanent record of the hearing on S. 855.

Thanks for listening.

With best wishes,

DON G. CULLIMORE.

[Enclosure]

[From Southern Outdoors, April 1966]

BATTLE FOR THE BUFFALO

(Special Report by Don Cullimore)

"The buffalo: A Fight to the Death . . ."

Thus an Arkansas newspaper headline describes the struggle over the future of that state's Buffalo River, a stream of insignificant size and of such moderate flow that in dry season it can disappear entirely at one point, going underground to well up again four miles farther down-river in a spring hole.

On the one side, the fight stems from the Army's Corps of Engineers, which pulled an oft-rejected high-dam plan out of its pigeon hole and dressed it up with a "modified" new approach in November of 1964. As is often the case with the

Corps, this "modified" plan involved a considerable reversal of their findings and recommendations of a few years earlier.

On the other side is a now formidable combination of organizations, agencies, officials, and individuals who consider the Buffalo to be of such outstanding nature it should be preserved as a "free river"—undammed, and unspoiled by commercial exploitation.

Born in roadless mountain wilderness in northwest Arkansas, the Buffalo is only 150 miles in length. It brushes casually, and briefly, against "civilization." There is one narrow sparsely populated farming valley just below its headwaters. From there, it tumbles for more than hundred erratic miles through steepwalled rock gorges before its clear waters lose themselves in confluence with the famous White River of the Ozarks.

In that hundred-plus miles there exist no communities and few dwellings. Occasional grazing cattle reflect the limited extent of agricultural activity. There is one small state park. Only four highways bridge the stream. A few tenuous hill-country dirt roads touch it at widely separated spots; none traverse it. Launching and takeout joints for canoes and "john boats"—the only feasible means of extended travel—may be 25 miles or more apart.

Otherwise the Buffalo is inaccessible—unless you choose to chance sliding down sheer bluffs that range up to more than 600 feet in height.

The Buffalo has three outstanding characteristics:

1. It is the last of the state's undammed mountain rivers of appreciable extent.
2. It is unquestionably one of the nation's most beautiful rivers; and one unique from all others in its type of varied attractions.
3. It offers—and is popular for—streamborne and scenic recreation of a nature strikingly different from that available on the multiplicity of man-made lakes which ring it on every side.

There's one more characteristic of the Buffalo, pointed out by the Army Engineers themselves. Its flood damages are so small they "are considered to be negligible."

Those are the Engineers' own words.

Furthermore, the Engineers repeatedly had asserted over the years that the relatively minor stream flow of the Buffalo did not justify construction of a dam for hydroelectric power purposes.

Specifically, they reported (in 1954) that a high dam in the middle section of the Buffalo near Gilbert, Ark., "was not economically justified for flood control and hydroelectric power."

At the same time they reaffirmed their selection of a damsite much farther downstream at a location known as Lone Rock. But this should be for flood control only; "not to . . . include storage for hydroelectric power." Lone Rock had first been proposed back in 1938. It had languished ever since for lack of construction-fund approval.

That was the situation in 1962 when Senator J. William Fulbright asked the National Park Service to make a study of the river, with a view toward preservation.

In May 1963 the Park Service submitted a proposal to establish the Buffalo as a "National River."

This would involve federal acquisition of 128 of the river's 150 miles, taking in a narrow strip of land on the approaches at either side for a total of 103,000 acres. It would begin at the upstream point where the Buffalo emerges from Ozark National Forest and extend to its mouth. There would be restrained facilities under Park Service control; visitor's centers, access points, a museum, camping areas—all designed to preserve and enhance the region's natural attractions while precluding destructive exploitation.

The estimated cost was \$10-million.

The Park Service report cited destructive influences already impairing the river. "The need to save it," the report said, was "urgently clear."

With the Engineers' Lone Rock dam project lying dormant, and public interest in protecting the stream strongly stirred, this might well have led to action resolving the future of the Buffalo. The proposal was received with general acclaim, and editorially approved by the state's leading newspapers.

Whatever satisfaction the advocates of saving the Buffalo received, however, was short-lived.

The Army Engineers were embarked on another "re-study," a device all too familiar to the residents of various regions who repeatedly face the threat of questionable high-dam projects. In essence, it means that a non-popular dam plan is temporarily shelved, revised, and re-presented—usually when organized opposition has waned with the passing of time and a false sense of security.

The Engineers' latest "re-study" of the Buffalo—one of many over the years—turned up some surprising "findings." Its results were reported in November of 1964.

First, they decided the Lone Rock Reservoir wasn't actually the one they wanted—despite their 26 years of insistence on it.

Next, they proposed a 210-ft. high dam at Gilbert—which they had firmly rejected a few years back as unjustifiable.

And they completed their turn-about-face by deciding that power production *was* practical. To make it so, they'd run the water through the high-dam turbines, trap it downstream and pump it continually back up into the lake to run through again.

The cost: \$55-million.

The Corps then climaxed this bald reversal by proclaiming their dam plan as "compatible" with the National River proposal to preserve a free-flowing stream.

If they expected the lure of a lake to make the dam plan more palatable, they were quickly disabused.

Opponents pointed out that the 47-mile-long lake would inundate the most scenic stretch of the middle Buffalo—that is, when it was 47 miles long. When the projected 53-foot drawdown occurred after the rainy season, it would shrink to about two-thirds that length and leave exposed some 15 miles of unlovely mud flats and dead timber.

And the bottom-discharge, dumping icy cold water, would completely change the stream's character for the remaining 55 downstream miles. Bass, bluegill, and goggle-eye would disappear; replaceable only with trout, which in turn could be maintained only by a costly hatchery and put-and-take stocking program. The frigid water would wipe out swimming in the state's Buffalo River Park (the Engineers suggested substituting a swimming pool!).

On the specific point of "compatibility" with the National River plan, Park Service Regional Director, Elbert Cox, promptly set the record straight in a letter to the Corps of Engineers:

"I must state," he wrote, "that the Corps announced plan is NOT compatible with the Buffalo National River . . . the proposed reservoir would destroy the river's national significance . . . the river's integrity and its completeness would be lost forever."

John D. Findlay, acting regional director of the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, wrote:

"We have reviewed your report and cannot concur with the treatment given fish and wildlife resource . . . fishery benefits you have assigned to the project (lake fishing) are much higher than this bureau can justify . . . The benefits assigned in your report through creation of cold-water habitat appear to be excessive . . . Wildlife losses would also occur in wetland areas downstream as a result of flood control operations . . ."

It would seem logical that the Corps of Engineers, in drafting a project "compatible" with the National River proposal, would have sought the co-operation of the Park Service in ascertaining the accuracy of the Corps' "findings" on fish and wildlife resources.

The Corps, however, has never been noted for being particularly co-operative with agencies engaged in preservation and conservation—especially when it has reason to suspect it will encounter opposition.

Injection of the new Corps of Engineers' proposal in late 1964 threw an effective roadblock on legislation to further the National Rivers plan. Although various Arkansas agencies—such as the Publicity and Parks Commission—had endorsed the National River program, the state itself had taken no official stand.

The Engineers, with a rivers and harbors bill request for funds, appeared to have the upper hand.

Up until last mid-December . . .

When Gov. Orval E. Faubus, whose political potency within his state is unquestioned, came out with a flat statement that the proposed high dam was "unacceptable," and that, "I support the National River proposal."

The next move is up to Congress—and the Army Engineers. (They might start another "re-study"!).

BLUFF CITY CANOE CLUB,
Memphis, Tenn., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing you on behalf of the Bluff City Canoe Club here in Memphis to voice our vital concern in the legislation designed to nationalize the Buffalo River.

While the upper part of this river is 300 miles from Memphis, still we float it every spring when there is ample water. The lower stretch we canoe in the fall. We treasure the Buffalo as the finest recreation river in the entire Mid-west. We consider ourselves fortunate that it is within a day's drive of Memphis.

We would like to see the Buffalo become a national scenic riverway in much the same category as the Current River. It is our conviction that the scenic, spiritual, recreational, and scientific values associated with this unique stream are so outstanding as to deserve preservation on the national level for the benefit of all the people everywhere. Any other destiny for the Buffalo is unthinkable.

We thank those groups and individuals who are responsible for initiating this legislation. They have our unreserved support.

Please see that this letter is made a part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Cordially yours,

HENRY HALL,
Chairman of Waterways Committee.

SPORT FISHING INSTITUTE,
Washington, D.C., March 6, 1969.

Re S. 855 (Fulbright and McClellan)—To provide for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: The Sport Fishing Institute, a national, non-profit, professionally-staffed fish conservation organization supported largely by the fishing tackle industry of the United States, feels that there is considerable merit in the establishment of the Buffalo River as a National River. Under Congressional action the preservation of this extremely scenic and unique national riverway would be protected against future developments which could conceivably destroy its present natural asset.

There seems to have been a considerable program to dam the rivers of the central U.S. and make them into large impoundments, with good reservoir-type fisheries created by fishery scientists. Generally where flows are augmented downstream and reservoir releases are made from low enough levels trout fisheries have been established. However, there seems to be an adequate supply of such waters in the Arkansas area and proposals to dam the Buffalo should be viewed with a degree of concern in that there would be a great loss were the river basin itself flooded by such impoundment now being proposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The University of Arkansas, circa 1960, conducted an economic survey for the National Park Service indicating the potential impact of a Buffalo National River on the economy of the five counties that would be the most effected—New-

ton, Searcy, Marion, Boone, and Baxter. Within ten years following establishment of the Buffalo National River it was estimated by the University that there would be an annual level of tourist expenditures of nearly \$13 million. The study also anticipated that an accompanying increase of 1,500 jobs in non-farm occupations would develop within the same general period. It was estimated that the proposed area was readily accessible to more than 11 million people living within a 250 mile radius.

Mr. Chairman, comparison of these figures to those presented by the proponents of a dam in this area might bring about some interesting comparisons concerning cost-benefit ratios from the dam construction vs. benefits anticipated from the increased tourism in the area.

Kindly include those remarks in any record of public hearings that may be held on this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

PHILIP A. DOUGLAS,
Executive Secretary.

THE SCENIC RIVERS ASSOCIATION OF OKLAHOMA,
Muskogee, Okla., May 25, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: On behalf of the entire membership of the Scenic Rivers Association of Oklahoma, I wish to submit the following statement to become part of the permanent record of the hearing on Senate Bill 855, for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas.

As part of their first assessment of the Nation's water resources under the *Water Resources Planning Act of 1965*, the Water Resources Council reported that, "throughout the Nation there is a growing demand for preservation and restoration of the natural environment. As our society becomes more affluent and leisure time increases, more and more people seek the remaining wild lands for primitive and unconfined recreation and inspiration. Because these areas serve scientific, historical, recreational, and inspirational purposes, positive steps are being taken for their preservation and for the management measures needed for their best use."

On May 27th, when the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee considers the merits of creating the Buffalo National River in Arkansas, we feel that you will be given a golden opportunity to take another positive step in giving formal recognition, protection, and management to an area of incredible beauty. Preserving an area of such unique charm and natural beauty as that contained in the proposed Buffalo National River Plan will provide this and future generations a tremendously interesting and contrasting recreation opportunity in an area whose prestige and unique characteristics will be enhanced as years go by and more and more of our streams are impounded.

If I may speak from personal experience, my family and I have made at least six recreation visits to the Buffalo River during the past year and a half. During our last trip, in December of 1968, we found the wind too cold to canoe with our two-year old daughter, Sarah, so we chose to hike on Goat's Trail, 350 feet above the Buffalo River, on Big Bluff.

I had never realized just how magnificent the Buffalo River and its valley really was until that day. It is no wonder that Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas made a special trip just to see the Buffalo! Without any question in our minds, the most noble purpose of this superb Ozark river, a river like no other on this continent, is to play host and give joy and inspiration to all future generations of the American people.

We certainly appreciate whatever consideration that you give our views on this matter.

With best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

DAVID R. STRICKLAND, *President.*

PETITION

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN,
Madison, Wis., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: May we, in the strongest possible words, support Senate Bill 855 to create the Buffalo National River. It is imperative that this river be protected for its many unique biological values. 15 years ago one of us taught botany at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and had ample opportunity to explore the Boston Mts. and Ozarks botanically. The many rare and endemic species of plants, such as *Delphinium Neutonianum*, *Hammamelis vernalis* and *Heuchera arkansas*, and the many local animals, (esp. those of rivers and springs), *all organisms which grow nowhere else in the world*, make it mandatory that the whole region receive the *maximum protection* and least disturbance. Future generations of scientists and citizens alike will thank you.

Very sincerely,

HUGH H. ILTIS,
Professor of Botany,
Curator of the Herbarium.
(And nine others).

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO,
Boulder, Colo., June 19, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Sub-Committee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and
Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I would like to add my name to the list of persons supporting the designation of the Buffalo River as a national river to be maintained in a free-flowing state. I grew up in northwest Arkansas and wish now that there had been the enthusiasm for this activity then. I am now a resident of Colorado and see every weekend the pressures placed on our back country, extensive as it is. I can hardly improve upon the statements already made in favor of the proposal. I can only say I was not able to see Glen Canyon before it left and now have only a book to know what it was like. I would hate to have that happen back home.

Very truly yours,

HEYDON Z. LEWIS.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BRANCH,
Galveston, Tex., June 9, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee of Parks and Recreation,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I strongly support Senate Bill No. 855 which would create a national river under the National Park Service of the Buffalo River in Northern Arkansas.

Having spent a most enjoyable few days in that area and one day upon the Buffalo, I think it would be a crime to allow that fine wilderness area to be converted into one of our popular reservoir areas as is apparently threatened.

Please sir, record my voice among those who support Senate Bill No. 855. I thank you for your consideration of this statement.

Sincerely,

C. LEE JONES,
Director, Medical Branch Library.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS,
Fayetteville, Ark., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing this letter to lend my support for favorable consideration of bill S. 855, creation of the Buffalo National River.

I have been in Arkansas for over 30 years, 10 years as a forester with the U.S. Forest Service and the remainder with the University of Arkansas. I know the Buffalo River as it formed quite a bit of the boundary of a ranger district of the Ozark National Forest which I once had in charge.

I feel that it would be a catastrophic loss to dam the stream. It is the last free flowing stream of much consequence in the Arkansas Ozarks. It is part of the White River watershed on which there are already four large impoundments. We don't need any more.

No large public expenditures should be made to satisfy the desires of a few local people. That is what a small segment, not all by any means, of the local people seem to be asking.

We need to keep a few of our national resources in their native state or as near thereof as possible. We who support the National River feel that those who come after us have a right to enjoy the beauties of nature that it has been our privilege to enjoy. That is our case for the National River.

I should like to request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

F. M. MEADE,
Professor of Forestry.

NORTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE,
Natchitoches, La.

To Whom It May Concern:

A few of the many students here at Northwestern State College in Natchitoches, Louisiana, would like to voice our opinion concerning the Buffalo River in Arkansas. Our trip down the Buffalo was one of the best, if not the best experience we have ever had. We benefited socially, mentally, emotionally, as well as physically on this memorable trip.

We benefited socially because we met several groups of people also traveling down this river. We also became very close friends with everyone traveling in our energetic group. We will forever be friends with these people.

We also benefited mentally. At the time, we were taking a recreation course. This trip actually tested our mental ability. We needed to know the mechanics of tying knots and canoeing. We also needed to know where to camp, how to make quick decisions, and how to live away from civilization.

This trip greatly benefited us in our emotional aspect of life. We were able to express ourselves. We were able to release our emotions which result from a hard time at college. We could actually relax and enjoy life without any other distractions. There was no "civilization" which could have distracted us. We were only concerned with the beautiful land and water around us.

Last, but not least, we benefited physically. We definitely did get ample physical exercise. Canoeing, camping, and mountain climbing certainly helped us to attain top physical condition.

The Buffalo River is indeed the ideal place for anyone to relax and enjoy life. If this river is dammed up, many people will be deprived of social, mental, emotional, and physical benefit. The Buffalo River is especially a good recreation spot for college students. With proper supervision, many college students could learn that this "new type of living" is very valuable and enjoyable. It will definitely

help to keep these students out of trouble. All of these points stated should be taken into careful consideration before this river is dammed up. Are you going to be responsible for depriving us of such benefit and fun??

PAT TAUZIN,
FRANCES GRAVES,
VICKI WEEKS,
CAROLYN COMER.

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY,
Stillwater, Okla., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing this letter to urge your support for the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas.

I teach in the area of forest recreation in the Department of Forestry here at Oklahoma State University and I am very much interested in this proposal. I believe that passage of Senate Bill 855 will have a profound effect not only in Arkansas but in Oklahoma as well. In the eastern portion of our state are several waterways which, in my opinion, fall in the category of a scenic river. I would like to see these maintained in their present condition so that my children can know the peace, beauty and solitude of a free flowing stream. Unless something is done to curtail the development of impoundments by the Corps of Engineers throughout the United States, we are not likely to have many free flowing streams left and certainly none which are desirable from a recreational point of view. In the past, we have needed these impoundments for the obvious benefits they offer. But, in my opinion, these needs have been met. We should now consider the benefits which streams like the Buffalo, the Illinois and the Barren Fork offer the public in the way of recreational potential. We have an abundance of lakes in most of our states but streams of the quality and character of these three rivers are few and far in between.

I hope you will support this current legislation for the preservation of the Buffalo and I also hope you will develop an interest in similar such projects throughout our country.

Sincerely,

J. LAMAR TEATE, PH.D.,
Assistant Professor, Forest Recreation.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS,
Fayetteville, Okla., May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing with regard to your committee hearing scheduled for May 27 on the proposal of the National Park Service for the Buffalo National River in Arkansas.

I believe that you have already received word that my father, Maurice A. Crews, will present a statement at the hearing for the National Audubon Society. This is to notify you that Mr. Crews' statement will be representing the Arkansas Audubon Society as well.

Very truly yours,

(Mrs.) DOUGLAS A. JAMES.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, Ark., May 22, 1969.

Re Senate Bill 855.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Buffalo River is in a state of shambles as a result of the undisciplined traffic which occurs about this time of year. I have admired the stream and at one point considered the purchase of land fronting upon it. I recently took a guided float down the stream through most of the mid section. The litter was phenomenal and I was dumbfounded to find even the professional guides contributing to the mess. Target practice on floating bottles has rendered the water out from the gravel bars totally unsafe for children.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my approval for the proposed legislation to create the Buffalo National River. I hope you will make these remarks a part of the permanent record on the hearing for the bill.

Sincerely,

STEVENSON FLANIGAN, M.D.,
Professor of Neurosurgery.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTHEAST,
Jeffersonville, Ind., May 26, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: I am informed that on May 27, 1969, a hearing before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs will be conducted to consider evidence on Senate Bill 855, by Senators Fulbright and McClellan, for the creation of the Buffalo National River and it is my understanding that the matter will be brought before the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation under your chairmanship.

I support S. 855 and urge you to make every effort to secure its passage. I have had the opportunity to float the beautiful Buffalo River and honestly believe that it should be preserved as a National River.

As our population grows, the need for the preservation of natural areas grows even faster. If we do not set aside lands for these purposes now while they still exist we will not only deprive ourselves but also the generations to come, of the wonders of the great outdoors which are so much a part of our American heritage.

I respectfully request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing of S. 855.

Sincerely,

BILL J. FORSYTH,
Assistant Professor of Zoology.

STILLWATER, OKLA., *June 26, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing to endorse the passage of Senate Bill 855, and I should like this letter to be considered as testimony in its behalf.

The preservation of the Buffalo River in its natural state by the establishment of a national park is of great importance. I am a professional ecologist and an amateur nature lover, and hence the maintenance of such areas is doubly meaningful to me.

It is essential to have at hand natural areas where both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems can be studied. Such studies contribute to general knowledge as well as having application to the problems of pollution and modification, to which so many ecosystems are now subject. The Buffalo is a river type common in the south and southeast and much in need of study. Very few of its type remain in their natural or semi-natural state.

As a place for outdoor recreation it is unexcelled in its region, providing wilderness canoeing (it is possible to paddle for several hours in some parts of the river without seeing a dwelling or a road), picnicking, hiking, etc. In a much-abused and modified part of the country, the Buffalo River and its surroundings represent a place where there has been little abuse and modification, and man's hand has rested lightly on the landscape. These attributes should be preserved.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES K. McPHERSON,
Assistant Professor.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH,
Arkadelphia, Ark., May 30, 1969.

Re Senate bill 855.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Just a line to express my hearty approval of this legislation on the creation of the Buffalo National River.

I have just returned from a three-day canoe float trip down this scenic river, and viewed the magnificent beauty which God has painted along its shores. Let's preserve it!

I respectfully request that my letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Very truly yours,

FRED R. HARRISON.

WESTERN TEXTILE PRODUCTS CO.,
St. Louis, Mo., May 29, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: In regard to Senate Bill #855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River, I would like to go on record as strongly favoring passage of this bill.

For many years I have been floating this river, some of my most precious memories forever will be of float trips on this river and similar rivers in Missouri. These are natural resources that can not be duplicated in any way by man, and since there are so few resources with these unique characteristics, I am strongly in favor in preserving what we have.

I would like to think of myself as an enlightened businessman, desiring that our resources be used for the benefit of the majority of our people. However, people do not desire the same things, and I favor preserving some of our natural resources that are irreplaceable for the benefit of the people in our population that appreciate them, and are willing to take the time and effort to enjoy them.

I honestly think that the the greatest economic results the people of Arkansas and the greatest benefit to our population as a whole will be best served by preserving this unique and beautiful river.

I request that this letter be made a permanent part of the records for the hearing on Bill S. 855.

Most respectfully yours,

JAMES W. COE,
Vice President.

BRUCE B. BREWER CO., INC.,
Kansas City, Mo., June 3, 1969.

Hon. Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

HONORABLE SENATOR BIBLE: In your capacity as chairman of the subcommittee on parks and recreation, I urge you to give your full support to Senate Bill No. 855. Those of us who use and enjoy the beautiful Buffalo River would suffer a tragic loss if this unique wilderness area is not protected by effective legislation.

Respectfully yours,

WALT EGGERS,
Vice President.

JOHNSTON-LEE ALLERGY CLINIC, P. A.,
Little Rock, Ark., June 2, 1969.

Hon. Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am heavily in favor of Senate Bill 855 making the Buffalo River a National River. It is called to our attention that you are chairman of the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation and I believe this bill is sponsored by both of our Senators Fulbright and McClellan.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS G. JOHNSTON, M.D.

UNITED COMPUTING SYSTEMS, INC.,
 Kansas City, Mo., May 29, 1969.

Re S. 855.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
 Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: It has come to my attention that your subcommittee on Parks and Recreation is considering Senate Bill 855 which concerns the future of the Buffalo River area. I, personally, have spent some very satisfying days canoeing the Buffalo. In my estimation, this river and area needs to be preserved as a unique example of American Ozark landscape.

In our modern world, the few remaining retreats need to be zealously guarded. It is my earnest hope that the Buffalo National River can be created. I would further like to request that this letter be made a permanent part of the hearing on the Senate Bill No. 855.

Respectfully submitted,

J. PAXTON SCOTT,
 Manager, Technical Publications.

LAWRENCE NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST Co.,
 Lawrence, Kans., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
 Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: As an avid fisherman who prefers the free flowing streams to the lakes and large impoundments, I urge the support of Senate Bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River. I am a particular supporter for keeping the Buffalo River in Arkansas in its natural wild state as one of the few remaining clear water streams in the midwest.

I regard my visits to this stream very highly. My recollections of its natural beauty hold a high priority as one of the finest clear water streams in the midwest. I have seen quite a few of the waterways in this United States and have fished a portion of them.

For some of us, we never fish a lake and when the day comes, when there are no more free flowing streams left will give up fishing for golf. We would appreciate your support of Senate Bill 855 and wish to make these views on this matter a part of the record on the hearing of that bill. Thanking you,

Very truly yours,

HOWARD WISEMAN,
 Vice-President.

MIDWEST AUTO STORES,
 Sedalia, Mo., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
 Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I was on the Buffalo River at Gilbert, Arkansas last weekend. There were fishermen, boyscouts, canoers and vacationers using the gravel bar at Gilbert. On the same bar I saw a caterpillar and dump truck hauling away gravel; distroying this serene spot which these people had traveled hundred of miles to enjoy.

I realize that private property is wonderful thing in this country. However, surely something can be done to discourage and prevent ruination of a river such as the Buffalo. If this river is to be preserved, it is essential that action be taken on senate bill S. 855 immediately.

In the event that you are not personally acquainted with the Buffalo River, I am enclosing a postcard of one particular river scene.

Yours truly,

ROBERT A. HAUSAM,
Vice President.

MIDWEST AUTO STORES,
Sedalia, Mo., May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: After thirty years of procrastination and debate, I think that now is the opportune time to set aside the Buffalo River of North Arkansas as a national river. I would appreciate your registering my opinion as part of the permanent record of hearing S. 855.

Yours truly,

ROBERT A. HAUSAM,
Vice President.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN LITTLE ROCK,
Little Rock, Ark., May 22, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senator,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I will appreciate your making this letter a part of the permanent record of the hearing on Senate Bill 855 scheduled for early hearing before the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation under your chairmanship.

The proposed law, Senate Bill 855, sponsored by Senators Fulbright and McClellan for the creation of the Buffalo National River, is urgently needed to protect one of the most beautiful wilderness rivers left in America. The Buffalo River as a national preserved stream would keep for today's children and for posterity one of the most beautiful free flowing streams in America. The scenery is magnificent and the surrounding country lends itself unbelievably to the proposed use contemplated by Senate Bill 855.

To allow this natural beauty to be destroyed would be a travesty. I urge your favorable consideration of SB 855.

Yours very truly,

B. FINLEY VINSON,
President.

ARKANSAS AUTOMOBILE CLUB,
Little Rock, Ark., May 16, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: It has been brought to my attention that the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs will shortly be holding hearings on S. 855, which provides for the establishment of the Buffalo National River.

As an organization representing the motorists of Arkansas and also having some contact with tourists from other states, we feel very definitely that the Buffalo River should be preserved as a national river. It is a beautiful river with excellent scenery and also splendid recreational facilities including canoeing and swimming.

Being one of the diminishing number of natural rivers being left in this country, it seems to me we would be well advised to preserve this river and its natural beauty and we wish to go on record with your committee as favoring the proposal.

Sincerely,

FRANK M. POTTER,
Secretary-General Manager.

UNDERWOOD'S
Fayetteville, Ark., May 24, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to express my approval and support of Senate Bill 855 concerning the creation of the Buffalo National River.

This is truly one of the great unspoiled natural beauty spots we have in this country.

It has only been a few years ago that I made my first float on the Buffalo, but I remember my first impression was one of being the first white man to ever make the journey. I had the feeling that at any moment a tribe of indians would appear from the brush. It is truly that wild, primitive and beautiful.

I would like to see this beautiful river preserved for future generations of Americans to enjoy and the creation of the Buffalo National River would guarantee that.

I would appreciate your favorable support of this project.

Would you please make this letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855?

Cordially,

WILLIAM G. UNDERWOOD,
President.

SHREVEPORT, LA.
June 19, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: My wife and I are writing to ask you to consider favorably the passage of current legislation for the creation of the Buffalo National River, S. 855.

We feel that though dams and reservoirs are good things that some streams should be preserved in their natural state for posterity. The Buffalo is a truly beautiful river which has been and is enjoyed by many people.

We request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record of the hearing on S. 855.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

B. B. GIBBS.

LIBERTY, Mo., June 24, 1969.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Please accept this letter as a statement of my opinion regarding the establishment of the Buffalo National River in Northwest Arkansas. It is hereby requested that this letter be made a part of the record of the hearing involving this decision.

I most strongly recommend the adoption and approval of Senate Bill 855 establishing the Buffalo River as a National River, particularly in view of the rapidity with which our population is making our country increasingly urban. It seems wise to me to preserve such areas with natural beauty before they are obliterated by what we now call progress.

Yours very truly,

PHILLIP E. KING, M.D.

KANSAS CITY, May 26, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman of the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This letter is asking for the creation of the Buffalo National River. If I remember correctly it is Senate bill No. 855 which would create the National river under the National Park service.

I have been to this beautiful country through the years. Anyone who looks at a map of that part of Arkansas can tell there are already enough dams in that location without building more in the vicinity of the Buffalo.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) MARIE ERHARDT.

ATLANTIC RICHFIELD CO.,
Tyler, Tex., June 21, 1969.

SENATOR BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks,
New Senate Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I wish to cast my support for passage of Senate Bill 855, making the Buffalo River of northern Arkansas a National Scenic River. A drive along the once beautiful lower reaches of Texas' Guadalupe River reveals the probable alternative.

I wish this letter to be made a part of the record.

Yours truly,

H. HERBERT FELSTED.

JUNE 23, 1969.

SENATE COMMITTEE INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I wish to encourage you to support Senate Bill 855, establishing the Buffalo National River.

I feel very strongly that failure of this generation to preserve some of the scenic wonders of nature for the pleasure of succeeding generations amounts to a default of our responsibility to society. Gentlemen, I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to have floated the upper reaches of the Buffalo River in northwest Arkansas and the Eleven Point, Current, Piney, and several other clear, free-flowing streams in southern Missouri. I am also pleased that my teenage children share my love and appreciation for these floating experiences. It is my sincere hope that my great-great-grandchildren might also have an opportunity to share in our appreciation of this scenic wonder. I grew up on a farm in central Indiana and developed a love of the outdoors early. My profession has carried me to a desk job in the city. I avail myself of every opportunity to spend a weekend or holiday hunting, fishing, floating, or camping. It is the abundance of opportunities to do these things that attracted me to Missouri. Floating on such streams as the upper Buffalo is certainly a highlight of these experiences.

Please have my letter entered into the hearing record on S 855.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE P. DELLINGER,
Jefferson City, Mo.

BILL NEWLAND LURE CO. AND FISHING SERVICE,
Bull Shoals, Ark., June 18, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

HON. SIR: Please enter this letter as a record in the Senate hearings. I am strongly opposed to putting the Buffalo river and surrounding area in National River Park Status.

The Federal Government cannot manage what parks they now control. Arkansas has upward to 3 million acres of land controlled by the federal government, now, and rivers such as Big Piney, Little Piney, Bulberry and Strawberry already in government hands. Do the canoe clubs mention this? You bet not. If they did they would never get the Buffalo. They wish to control all streams. I am in the float trip business and doubt if the Interior Dept. shows this on their map. Why should we lose our homes and businesses to the canoe clubs and politicians?

Please stop this organized scheme to further harass American citizens.

Sincerely yours,

BILL NEWLAND.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., June 23, 1969.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: With reference to Senate Bill 855, to establish the Buffalo National River in Northwest Arkansas, I wish to express my interest in favor of this bill, and urge your committee and the Senate to do everything possible to pass this Bill and make it a reality.

I firmly believe that our country must preserve many of its beautiful and scenic areas, including a number of our free-flowing streams in Missouri and Arkansas, in order to provide future recreation areas for our generation, and succeeding generations. We cannot continue to procrastinate on this issue, or all our beautiful areas will become obliterated.

Please make this letter a part of your hearing record.

Respectfully yours,

NORMAN C. CIBULKA.

ST. JOSEPH MO., June 20, 1969.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I am writing in connection with the pending decisions concerning the Proposed Buffalo National River S855.

I am deeply convinced that to dam the Buffalo would be a costly and irreversible mistake. I am one of the fortunate people who have had an opportunity to experience the beauty and tranquility of this river.

In trying to describe the Buffalo's beauty to friends, I oftentimes find myself at a loss for words. It is a wonderful thought to know that on "Gods Great Earth" there are still places as peaceful and beautiful as this River.

Please consider the generations to come, not only your children, but the many decades of people to follow. Beauty such as this cannot be man-made; consequently, why not save what little natural beauty we have?

Please include this letter as part of the hearing record on S855.

Yours truly,

Dr. M. T. ALDRICH.

NORTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE,
Natchitoches, La., June 5, 1969.

U.S. Senator ALAN BIBLE
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR GENTLEMEN: This is one more plea to save our Buffalo River. I am one of the many individuals who has had the opportunity to enjoy that grand river and its rich woodlands, and I truly feel that its value is being vastly underestimated.

I live in south Louisiana where there are beautiful sights, and lovely parks, but beyond doubt there is nothing which can compare to the challenge and beauty of Arkansas's wild emerald river. I never believed that anything like it even existed—but it is like one of those exotic pictures one often sees opposite nature poetry or in magazines.

I am a great believer in progress. I realize the values that the engineers propose will come about because of the dams, and I know it is a tremendous project which can help many people. But, even more so I believe that saving the Buffalo River is also a step toward progress. This river has been a source of recreation and enjoyment to people of numberless decades and will provide the same rich offerings for perhaps hundreds of years to come.

I refer to the river as our river because it is for everyone, anywhere who has the time and opportunity to enjoy its free flowing beauty. The people of these surrounding southern states especially take pride in this stream because it is the only free flowing river we can really reach. And Gentlemen, there is nothing quite like it. The river's rapids are a unique challenge to even the most experienced canoeist and its waters are filled with bass and brim. The surrounding country is a spectacular display of tremendous rock formations, enchanting falls and springs, bright wildflowers, and lush forests. It is a place of inspiration and adventure, a wonderland of beauty and peace completely removed from screaming highways, rushing people, and cramped in spaces.

This past Easter I was part of a canoe party which explored the upper Buffalo during four days of the Easter vacation. The trip was a fantastic experience. And strangely enough, it had the most wonderful effect on our whole group. The fellowship was so very wonderful—with people who we had never really known before. The atmosphere was so very happy, and no one had a care or worry—the river almost seemed to cast a spell. We came back a refreshed group rested up and inspired to meet the challenge of a pressure packed society and our routine of daily living.

I believe America needs to take care of the body and minds of her people as well as provide them with that form of progress which insures economic successes. We don't have to intensely follow the trends of today which involve pushing through woodlands, breaking through mountains, controlling rivers. We need to also turn our efforts towards preserving our natural plots of paradise to insure our fellow men that there will always be a place set aside for him to wonder and dream and build up his love and courage to help him meet the demands of everyday life, to help him push on to greater heights.

The Buffalo River has so much to offer us. It's not expensive, it doesn't require maintenance, it need not be worked by awesome machinery, it is natural. And like any rare gem, it does need protection. Please do everything possible to save it.

Respectfully,

H. FERN MARTIN,
Opelousas, La.

MAY 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This is just a short note to indicate my concern about the proposed legislation for the Buffalo River.

I recently had the pleasure of taking a canoe trip on the Buffalo with my wife and friends. I work as a psychiatrist in an inner-city area in Chicago and desperately needed an opportunity to get away from the pressures of my work. I was amazed at the beauty of the scenery and at how rapidly it was possible to relax and to forget about the trials and tribulations I've been encountering. Having canoed and camped all over the middle west, I'm grateful for the fact that there are still rivers like the Buffalo available. Unfortunately dams, pollution, etc., are reducing the number much too rapidly. I think it is imperative that rivers like this be permitted to remain in their natural state. I have seen nothing comparable in my years of interest in canoeing and camping.

I would appreciate it if my note could be made a permanent part of the record of the hearing on Senate Bill 855 by Senators Fulbright and McClellan for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

Sincerely,

HARVEY M. FREED, M.D.,
Chicago, Ill.

COLUMBIA, Mo., June 3, 1969.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I strongly urge you and your subcommittee to act favorably on S. 855 creating the Buffalo National River as proposed by the National Park Service. You must take what may be your last opportunity to save this beautiful and classic stream for public enjoyment in its natural state. We must be sure that we preserve it from over use and over development that would destroy its natural attractions.

Sincerely,

CLAYTON FINDLAY,
Colonel, USAF.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This is to express our approval to Senate Bill 855 by Senators Fulbright and McClellan for the establishment of the Buffalo National River.

We have roamed all over the area and have been along every foot of the river from Ponca to its mouth, and on sections of it above Ponca. With its assemblage

of plant life, high bluffs, extensive gravel bars, clear water, and beautiful side canyons, we think it should be preserved in a manner to keep it free flowing and available to those who wish to enjoy it.

The side canyons are especially interesting as the flora is relic Appalachian and unique west of the Mississippi, being present only in the area of the upper Buffalo, upper Mulberry, and Ouachita Mountain area.

The Buffalo River Area is surrounded in all directions by man made lakes; therefore its preservation would give a wide choice of recreation.

It is important that areas for scientific study of fauna and flora be set aside.

Sincerely yours,

JOE M. CLARK.
MAXINE CLARK.

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARK., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: I am writing to express my support and endorsement of Senate Bill 855 introduced by our Senators Fulbright and McClellan, for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

My reasons for doing this are so many, so varied that space and time impose restrictions, however I shall say that from earliest childhood I have enjoyed the serenity that outings in this primitive area have afforded me. I should like for this same experience to be preserved for posterity. I hope that passage of S.B. 855 will do this.

I should like to request that my opinion on this matter be made a part of the record on the hearing on S.B. 855.

No acknowledgement of receipt of this letter necessary.

Sincerely yours,

R. C. FLIPPIN.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE,
Pine Bluff, Ark., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This is in reference to Senate Bill 855, by Senators Fulbright and McClellan, for the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas.

Both my wife and I are interested in passage of this bill. We have floated, fished, and camped on many rivers in Arkansas, and it is our opinion that the Buffalo is the one river in our state which should definitely be preserved in its present state for future generations to enjoy. It is for this reason that we support and approve this proposed legislation.

It is requested that this correspondence be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

Very respectfully,

JOHN R. JACKSON, JR.

FORMICA CORP.,
Nashville, Tenn., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to urge you to do everything within your power to assure that pending legislation for the creation of the Buffalo National River is passed.

As a member of the Bluff City Canoe Club I have floated this river, and it is without a doubt the most beautiful I have seen in this part of the country, and I certainly would like to know that the beauty of it will not be marred in future years as it will be without some protection.

Please make this letter a permanent part of the hearing record on measure S. 855.

Sincerely,

MARY SCOTT DENLEY,
Secretary.

McKENZIE, WILLIAMS, MERRICK, BEAMER & STUBBS,
Kansas City, Mo., May 29, 1969.

Re Senate Bill 855.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior
 and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We understand your subcommittee has been considering in hearing Senate Bill 855 which would create the Buffalo National River as proposed by the National Park Service. We would wholeheartedly support this movement and recommend that your subcommittee act on this bill favorably.

We have traveled throughout the country camping, hiking and canoeing, and are familiar with many of the rivers and beauty spots of the country. The Buffalo River ranks first in the Midwest Region as an area to be preserved. It has great history, both from the standpoint of its people and natural surroundings.

We further believe that the development of the Buffalo National River will help the area economically as the interest in this type of development and the interest in people getting into areas of this type is growing constantly.

We would ask that this letter be made a part of your committee's hearing record.

Yours very truly,

KEITH K. COUCH.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., *June 4, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing regarding Senate Bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River. Please accept this as a permanent part of the record on the hearing of Senate Bill 855.

The Buffalo River over its entire length offers so much in natural scenic interest and beauty along with recreational opportunities that I am most sincere in my hopes that this great asset to our country can be preserved in its original form and I honestly believe that the only chance for survival is to make it a part of our National River System.

Yours very truly,

E. W. HAWKINS.

VENICE, CALIF., *June 6, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR: We write as concerns Senate Bill 855, for the creation of a Buffalo National River in Arkansas, and for the May 27, 1969, hearing in Washington, before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, which hearing will consider evidence on the bill.

We are personally familiar with the entire length of the Buffalo River, and with much of the country surrounding this stream. The river and its watershed are gems of creation, relatively untouched by man. They are rich, and unique, in their beauty, and in the recreational and aesthetic values inherent in our rapidly disappearing wilderness waterways. The Buffalo, its valley, and its watershed must be protected. We are strongly in favor of the creation of a Buffalo National River with absolute minimum developments. No development should infringe upon the wilderness quality of the park.

We would greatly appreciate the inclusion of this small statement of our sincerely held opinion as part of the permanent S. 855 hearing record.

RONALD L. GUENTHER AND FAMILY.

ARKADELPHIA, ARK., *May 27, 1969.*

Subject: Bill S. 855.
 Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I certainly approve of the proposed legislation for the Buffalo River and think the Buffalo River should be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Your consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

ROBERT T. JONES.

THOMPSON MITCHELL DOUGLAS NEILL & GUERRI,
St. Louis, Mo., June 5, 1969.

PARKS AND RECREATION SUBCOMMITTEE,
Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I am writing this letter as a private citizen on behalf of Senate Bill Number 855 to establish the Buffalo River in Northern Arkansas as a National River, so that it might be preserved for the benefit of this and future generations. I ask that my statement be made part of the record.

In 1965 I had the pleasure of floating the portion of this magnificent stream from Gilbert to State Park. It was an unforgettable experience and produced my interest in the preservation of this stream.

I am sure that in the course of your hearings you have heard many superlatives describing the physical characteristics of this river and region and these are accurate representations. But this river is also a spiritual phenomenon. It affords an opportunity for man to satisfy his inner need to discover harmony with the universe and what Thoreau described as "contact" with reality. Such opportunities are becoming increasingly rare in modern life, not only in urban areas, but also in our rural areas where the developers are already formulating their plans to subdivide the countryside. The inevitable concomitant of the innumerable Corps of Engineers' impoundments in our region—the speedboat-water skiing syndrome—offers no such balm to the spirit, but rather represents only another extension of an uncontrolled, over-developed, super-technological environment which threatens to choke and destroy our humanity.

The Buffalo River still flows free, beckoning those in need to come, to seek renewal in its magical and healing combination of sky, sun, water, trees, and life. This river is a "treasure" without peer in the Missouri-Arkansas Ozarks. Surely there are few greater priorities than the preservation of this stream from a despoliation that would represent a crime against man and nature.

I urge you to help save the soul of America. Save the Buffalo.

Sincerely,

GARY T. NELMS.

POCAHONTAS, ARK., *June 3, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Please approve legislation for the creation of Buffalo National River.

Please make this letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate bill 855.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

TOM AND BETTY COOK.

HUGHES, ARK., *June 6, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

HON. SENATOR BIBLE: My husband and I and a great many of our friends wholeheartedly approve of the proposed Buffalo National River in Arkansas. A national river such as this would preserve the river in its natural state and it would continue to provide the abundant recreation of camping, hiking, canoeing, fishing, and spelunking in this area.

Failure to make the Buffalo River a national river could eventually lead to a lake on this river and to drowning acres of beautiful scenery.

Northern Arkansas besides being very beautiful, has a unique way of life. A national river would allow visitors in our state as well as our own inhabitants to get better acquainted with this beauty and peacefulness.

Please support Senate Bill 855 for the Buffalo National River, and make this letter part of the permanent record on the hearing for the bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,

LORRAINE EWING.

BAILEY, TRIMBLE & HOLT,
Little Rock, Ark., June 4, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senator,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please accept this letter as my expression of approval of Senate Bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River. I request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on this bill.

My wife and daughter and I have floated on parts of the Buffalo and camped by it many times. We love the river and it is our great hope that it may be preserved in its natural state for the enjoyment of others now and in the future. Such areas of unspoiled natural beauty are all too scarce, and sacrifice of the Buffalo would be an irrevocable mistake. We urge passage of this legislation now.

Very truly yours,

WALLS TRIMBLE.

WEST MEMPHIS, ARK., May 27, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: It is my understanding that your subcommittee is considering a recommendation concerning the Buffalo River in Arkansas as a national river as proposed by the National Park Service.

The Buffalo River would make an excellent national river. During the last two years I have floated over 400 miles on the streams in this area of the country. It has been easy to come to the conclusion that the Arkansas Buffalo ranks tops and is certainly one of a kind. It would be a crime for this river to be ruined for future generations. To those that know the rivers, it can easily be seen that they are being ruined one by one.

Senator Bible, I do hope that you will be able to recommend the creation of Buffalo National River.

It will be appreciated if you will have this letter made a part of the permanent record on this matter.

Very truly yours,

MARVIN L. DEMUTH.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., May 25, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: My husband and I want to support SB 855, to create the Buffalo National River. It is a wonderful free-flowing river, sometimes swift and full, sometimes lazy, always surprising. A canoe trip along it reveals high bluffs, deep pools with big fish, gravel bars for picnicking or camping, unspoiled forests, occasional caves, and gives one a great sense of the American wilderness. The prettiest parts, the upper stretches, can be travelled only like the Indians did, silently and with oars or paddles. No noisy motors and gasoline fumes here. Please help us to keep it wild and untamed.

Yours truly,

Mrs. ARTHUR FRY.

WESTERN TEXTILE PRODUCTS Co.,
St. Louis, Mo., June 1, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Senate Bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River has my hearty endorsement.

Please make my approval of this bill a permanent part of the record of the hearing on this bill.

Sincerely,

F. N. KOHLER.

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARK., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: To me the Parks and Recreation program, and most particularly conservation of any type, is a very important factor in the American way of life. It cannot be stressed too much!

The Buffalo River is a beautiful body of water and the enclosing banks and surrounding areas are lovely. I heartily approve the proposed legislature for the Buffalo River; namely, Senate Bill 855.

It is requested that you please make this a permanent part of the record for Senate Bill 855.

Sincerely,

FAYLA D. MIDDLETON.
Mrs. M. D. Middleton.

JUNE 3, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I understand that your subcommittee on parks and recreation will be considering the evidence on Senate Bill #855, introduced by Senators Fulbright and McClellan, for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

Having enjoyed the beauty and the sport that the Buffalo River offers in its natural state, I strongly urge your approving this proposed legislation and request that this letter be made a permanent part of the hearing on S855. To the extent that the Buffalo River is one of the very last perfectly natural resources left for the citizens to enjoy, I hope that it can be preserved in its present state.

Yours truly,

JOHN A. KOST.

VAIL AND BEALL,
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS,
Fort Smith, Ark., June 3, 1969.

Re Creation of the Buffalo National River—S. 855.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please make this letter a part of the record on the hearing on the Senate Bill 855. I am in favor of the creation of the Buffalo National River for the following reasons.

This is one of the last free flowing streams of any size in the Arkansas Ozarks and should be preserved as such for those people who prefer this type of recreation area as opposed to the many lakes which we have here in Arkansas. The fact that the Corps of Engineers has temporarily decided not to dam the river does not mean that it will remain in its relatively undeveloped status. As you know, most people feel that "undeveloped" area is wasted and if the Federal Government does not acquire the land and control development—within a few years the entire valley would become a mass of private recreation areas and developments with no thought of conservation or preservation of the river in its natural state.

I realize that the people who now live in the valley do not want to give up their homes and as I understand it, many of the people could be given a life estate in the property if the Government acquired it. As for the speculators who have bought land on the Buffalo, they can reinvest their proceeds from the sale of their land somewhere else tax free.

Personally I would rather see the river remain as it was some fifteen years ago when I first visited it, however, with our constantly expanding population and increasing leisure time, I feel the best alternative is for the Government to acquire sufficient land along the river and preserve and control it as a recreation area. The land is relatively inexpensive and would be a good investment of taxpayer's dollars in addition to creating considerable economic activity in an area where there is very little hope for an economy based on anything other than recreation.

Sincerely,

B. W. BEALL.

CHOCTAW, OKLA., June 9, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
 Chairman of the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
 Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.

If possible make this letter a part of the permanent record of the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

As a conservationist of nature's resources for future generations, I request that the Senate Subcommittee affirm the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. In this nation there are but a few free-flowing streams with the beauty of the Buffalo River. Let us save more scenic streams and rivers from heavy industry, pollution and other creations of man. Our national and local parks and preserves are crowded now by people seeking to enjoy the beauty of nature—Why not create another national river for our nation?

Thank you,

C. K. WEST.

LAW OFFICES OF SPITZBERG, MITCHELL & HAYS,
 Little Rock, Ark., May 28, 1969.

Re Senate Bill 855.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
 Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: I am incensed by the false impressions given to the members of the United States Senate as reported in this morning's Arkansas Gazette. It appears that you have been advised by certain residents of Searcy and Newton Counties that from their perspective, the Buffalo River country is not scenic, has no wild life and is not suitable for recreation. They are wrong.

As a city dweller, like a majority of the residents of Arkansas, I have frequently visited the Buffalo River country, and from my perspective it is breathtakingly beautiful and an overwhelming display of nature unspoiled by man.

The opponents of the National River seem to feel that damming any river produces great wealth for the surrounding communities. Please make a part of the Senate record a map of Arkansas. It will reflect that a resident of any Arkansas city having a population of 5,000 or more persons (except for Harrison) must drive past at least one, and in some cases three large lakes to reach the Buffalo. The Buffalo is surrounded by six lakes and reservoirs with several more under construction along the Arkansas River.

We simply don't need another lake in that part of Arkansas. The people of mid-America, however, desperately need other types of recreation and all of the people of the United States need to have preserved the scenic areas along the Buffalo River.

I urge your committee to favorably report out Senate Bill 855 and that this letter be made a part of the permanent record on the hearing.

Very truly yours,

JOHN P. GILL.

PRUITT, ARK.,
 April 10, 1969.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
 U.S. Senate,
 Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: We are writing you in regard to the Buffalo River issue. We are strongly opposed to the proposed National Park, and National River system plan. The inclusion of the Buffalo River into the scenic river system would not be a credit to the scenic river system. First a tradition of political courtesy must be maintained. You simply do not force a project on a jurisdiction which has so clearly manifested its opposition to it.

Newton County of the sovereign state of Arkansas voted at the general election, 2372 against a national park and river, and 215 for a national river. If the Senators are elected by political vote, shouldn't our vote at the general election have the same bearing on our wishes?

The people in political life must heed this loud voice from the ballot box, and give this issue a long hard look, or without realizing it they will be establishing a very dangerous trend.

My wife and I believe in parks and recreation, but only in the proper places. We already have more parks and government land than is used in Arkansas. This alone forces me to oppose any movement that would only add museum pieces to the State of Arkansas. We land owners are being portrayed as the destroyers of the common good but the so-called saviors of our natural resources. Yet the very saviors are not telling the Buffalo River story as it is, but on the other hand they haven't enough knowledge on the Buffalo River to know any difference.

We will now look at the special group people with money. They are self-appointed protectors of our natural resources; this man wants to practice conservation on somebody else's land, not his own, as he lives in a highrise apartment and it simply doesn't bother him.

May I add that the so-called studies of the Buffalo River is nothing short of a major travesty. Please enter our letter in the record.

Mr. and Mrs. HARRY HIBBS.

JOHN D. ASKEW ENTERPRISES,
Fayetteville, Ark., June 6, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

SIR: I wish to express my approval of the proposed legislation for the Buffalo River and request that it be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

Mrs. JOHN D. ASKEW.

SOSLAND ENVELOPE CO.,
Kansas City, Mo., June 5, 1969.

Hon. Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The beautiful Buffalo River must be preserved. In many years of enjoying our Ozarks streams the Buffalo is the unparalleled best.

May I urge you in your capacity as chairman of the subcommittee on parks and recreation to give your full support to Senate Bill No. 855.

Respectfully yours,

HENRY I. MARDER.

VALLEY Y RANCH,
Jasper, Ark., June 5, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,
New Senate Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This letter is to thank you for your courtesy and kindness at the recent committee hearing on the Proposed National Buffalo River Bill.

I was most impressed by your patience and consideration of not only myself but also those who appeared at this hearing.

We greatly appreciate your holding the record open until after the fourth of July to give us and others the time needed to submit additional material.

There is a boys' home being established on the Buffalo River and we find, since returning, that opposition from several surrounding states is building up rapidly over the concern of the future for this boys' camp. No doubt your committee will be hearing from this opposition as we understand that there are something over 3,000 active supporters throughout the United States to this non-sectarian boys' home.

We again extend our invitation to you and the committee to be our guests and would be honored and most pleased to have you visit us at any time.

Respectfully,

P. W. YARBOROUGH.

BARTLESVILLE, OKLA.,
June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to write a word in favor of S. 855 for making a National River out of the Buffalo River in Arkansas.

I have floated on the Buffalo River many times with family and friends and would like to see it preserved for future generations, free from commercialization or being dammed.

I have been on rivers in Maine, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, and the Buffalo River is tops in sport and scenery.

Your consideration of this bill will be much appreciated.

Yours respectfully,

PHILIP B. LORENZ.

LAW OFFICES OF CUNNINGHAM & CUNNINGHAM,
Natchitoches, La., June 3, 1969.

Hon. Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
New Senate Building,
Washington, D.C.

Senator ALLEN ELLENDER,
New Senate Building,
Washington, D.C.

Representative SPEEDY O. LONG,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I wish to express my feelings on Bill No. 855 relating to the Buffalo River in Arkansas.

Having recently floated the Buffalo and having been very favorably impressed with its locale and scenic attractions, I hope you will report in favor of the bill and make the Buffalo River a part of the establishment of the Buffalo National River.

Yours very truly,

W. PEYTON CUNNINGHAM, JR.

VIVIAN, LA., June 2, 1969

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman of Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I have just returned from the Buffalo River State Park area in Arkansas. I find it unsurpassed for its simple unspoiled beauty and majesty.

Please vote to retain it in its natural state.

Respectfully yours,

MICHAEL ROGERS.

DURHAM, N.C., May 29, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This plea for the preservation of the beautiful Buffalo River area may seem strange to you, coming from a North Carolinian. But you see I have a daughter and son-in-law living in Little Rock and because of their thoughtfulness I have spent many satisfying and inspiring moments there. This is one of our truly beautiful wilderness areas. And as Thoreau has said, "In wilderness is the preservation of the world."

Please do all you can to get Bill 855 through the Senate. I believe all really intelligent constituents in Ark. will appreciate your support and many citizens outside the state.

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely,

SUSAN GOWER SMITH.

MAY 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: I understand, in the near future, the Senate Bill 855 will be up for consideration and voting. It is my hope that you and your committee will study this bill very carefully.

It is my belief that the Buffalo River should be made into a national river for everyone to enjoy for years to come. It is my fear if it is not made into a national river, it will perish, in one way or another.

I spend almost all my free time in the outdoors, and receive many benefits that are too numerous to mention here. Some of the results I have seen where man has ruined our natural resources sickens me. It seems that the only thing that these people appreciate is a park or an installation that is protected by federal law.

There will come the day, as you know, when we are living on a barren land and man will look back and wonder what in the world happened to our natural resources. But then, it will be too late.

I honestly believe if you could see this beautiful river you would agree that the only course to follow is to make it a national river, preserved and protected.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

D. LARRY JONES.

SALINAS, CALIF.,
May 29, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We are deeply concerned in the creation of the Buffalo National River as set forth in Senate Bill 855. The beautiful Buffalo is the last free-flowing stream left of the many fine major Arkansas Ozark waterways. The famous photographer, John D. Bulger in his series "Wild Rivers of North America" chose the Buffalo as one of "the wilderness waterways so important to a great variety of animals, including MAN."

Exploitation of the Buffalo is imminent and once the wilderness quality is destroyed this generation and those to come will have lost another unique part of the fast-disappearing natural beauty of this country. We can ill-afford to not preserve the Buffalo as a National River, a resource of inherent value to the people of the United States, whether one ever physically enjoys its beauties, or not.

We ask that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing of S. 855.

Sincerely,

VIRGINIA R. BACHER.

PARK RIDGE, ILL., May 30, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: It seems to me of utmost importance to pass the presently considered legislation for preserving the Buffalo River as a National River.

The tragic pollution and destruction of so many lovely rivers and streams in my own area gives those of us who are outdoor lovers and conservationists little to anticipate beyond the desperate hope that beautiful and as yet unspoiled areas in nearby states may be preserved, not only for ourselves, but far more importantly, for our children and all future generations.

I cannot urge you strongly enough to please act favorably in the preservation of this precious resource.

May I request that this letter be made a permanent part of Senate Bill 855.

Sincerely yours,

RODNEY M. RUTH.

ROGERS, ARK., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: The Flower Garden Club of Rogers, Arkansas has voted an unanimous approval of Senate Bill 855, concerning the Buffalo National River.

We request that our approval be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

Many citizens of this area have worked unceasingly to retain the Buffalo River in it's beautiful natural state.

Thank you for prompt attention.

Sincerely,

PAULINE MELBOURN,
Secretary, The Flower Garden Club.

INDEPENDENCE, MO.,
June 26, 1969.

Subject: New S-855 to Establish a Buffalo National River in Arkansas

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
U.S. Senate Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am firmly convinced that we must have definite and positive action on your sub-committee's approval of this new bill on subject matter. I sincerely believe that if a National Park was established in this beautiful area it would be of greater overall benefit to the entire Midwest area than a far more costly dam on the river. I have been personally concerned in the conservation of the natural beauty of this area since I purchased 280 acres 24 years ago at the head of Whiteley's Canyon and Creek.

I hope that your committee will recommend that definite and positive action be taken on subject matter at this session of the Senate.

The establishment of a Buffalo River National Park is the only way that commercial projects in the area could be properly controlled and the many private homes in the area protected.

I will restate my suggestion made to Senator Jackson under date of June 24, 1967. My opinion was the construction of several smaller dams on the upper portion of the Buffalo River that would create several reservoirs from which water could be released as needed so as to keep the level proper for float fishing as well as the canoe. Far more people will be able to enjoy the Buffalo River as it once was when I purchased my acreage.

I firmly believe that the instability in the water level on the Buffalo River has been brought about by two events that have taken place in the ozarks and many other areas such as new people moving in from other states and clearing much timber from the lovely mountains of the Buffalo River drainage basin. In addition, much timber has been cut by local sawmills without any thought of conservation. These two events have certainly speeded up the water runoff to what it was when it was really a wilderness area. I recently sold some timber on my acreage and on my next trip I found many young trees were destroyed by this timber contractor in cutting the larger trees.

Senator, in my various letters on the subject matter I have tried to be realistic and logical in the various suggestions and recommendations. The end result we are hoping for is the conservation of this area for the enjoyment of all persons and not for the enrichment of a few commercial project promoters.

I hope to retire to our Arkansas home this next spring and wish to extend to you a personal invitation to visit our area in the spring or fall season for a real treat.

Yours very truly,

WALTER B. WEBB,

LONOKE, ARK., May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: As a citizen of the state of Arkansas I am very anxious to see the famous Buffalo River in Northern Arkansas be developed as a "National River."

Please make this letter a part of the record of the hearing on S. 855.

Very truly yours,

ANDREW H. HULSEY.

FORT SMITH, ARK., May 22, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: May I add my voice to those that are coming to you concerning Senate Bill 855, by Senators Fulbright and McClellan. I understand that this matter will be before a subcommittee of which you are Chairman.

My husband and I wholeheartedly approve this bill and desire its passage, for the sake of our children and others to come who must have the unique joy found on this beautiful Buffalo River.

We hereby request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

Sincerely,

CAROLYN BYNUM.

OVERLAND PARK, KANS., May 23, 1969.

U.S. SENATOR ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Your approval of the proposed legislation for the Buffalo River as National River is desired. Passage of this bill would allow the Buffalo to continue to a favored river for canoeing.

A request is made that this letter become part of the record of this bill.

Sincerely,

SIB BOSLEY.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., May 27, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing to ask your support for the Senate Bill 855 proposed to create the Buffalo National River. My family joins me in supporting this proposed legislation.

As a family we have enjoyed camping and canoeing experiences in most of our national parks and feel the Buffalo River of Arkansas is an unsurpassed outstanding area of scenic wonder. The natural beauty of this area is still largely undisturbed by man and needs to be protected for the future. This area is available for canoeing and camping the year around and would be a major vacation region for the entire mid-west.

The Ozark Region needs economic development, and improvements by the National Park Service would offer a great stimulus to the tourist economy of the area.

Please see that this letter of support is made part of the record on the hearings of S. 855.

Very sincerely,

LOIS J. IMHOFF.

UPPER ELEVEN POINT RIVER ASSOCIATION,
POCAHONTAS, ARK., May 20, 1969.

Re Senate Bill 855.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Our organization strongly urges that you do all possible to secure the passage of the above bill for the creation of the Buffalo National River. The Buffalo River is one of the few remaining free-flowing streams in Arkansas and we feel it is of the utmost importance to preserve it for posterity.

The opponents of this bill are interested in one thing only, and that is the destruction of the river by the building of high dams.

We ask that you make this letter a part of the permanent record on the hearing on S. 855.

Respectfully yours,

HELEN D. BLY,
Secretary.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., May 23, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We are in favor of keeping the Buffalo River in Arkansas as a free-flowing stream and the designated area along its banks as a Wilderness Area as provided in S. 855. We are hopeful that your Committee will recommend passage of this bill for which so many conservation-minded citizens and groups have labored long and hard.

Kindly include this letter as a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Very truly yours,

DOROTHY ERICKSON,
C. S. ERICKSON,
Members, the Ozark Society.

ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW,
Maplewood, Mo., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I understand that you will be conducting a hearing to consider the creation of a Buffalo National River. I respectfully urge the Committee to report favorably on this matter. The Buffalo River is one of the most uniquely scenic and beautiful areas in the continental United States. It would be tragic if we were unable to find a way to preserve this national treasure for the benefit of ourselves and the entire nation. Certainly there must be persons concerned with the preservation of the natural beauty of our native land so that this would not be destroyed in our own time. I would appreciate that this letter be made a permanent part of the record of the hearing on senate bill 855.

Very truly yours,

ISAAC E. YOUNG.

EL DORADO, ARK., May 22, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I believe the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas would be a boon to the State of Arkansas and potentially serve a useful purpose in our nation in the years to come.

Please lend your support to Senate Bill 855 and make this letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. HILERY E. HANNA.

SHAWNEE MISSION, KANS., *May 23, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I hope your committee will approve senate bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

I have been down the full length of the river by canoe. It is certainly one of the most beautiful and unspoiled areas still remaining in the Mid-west. It is still very much the way it was when the white man first came and has not been spoiled by the hand of man.

There are many natural attractions which are unique and it would be a shame to see them destroyed by commercial development.

Senate bill 855 is an excellent way to preserve this area for the whole country to enjoy. Again, let me ask that your committee act favorably on the bill. Please make this letter part of the permanent record on the hearings on senate bill 855.

Sincerely,

CREIGHTON N. HART.

CLARION, IOWA, *May 24, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We are writing to express our approval of Senate Bill 855, which has to do with the creation of the Buffalo National River. We have enjoyed canoeing on this river every spring for many years and would like it to remain in its present wild state. It is so beautiful and should be set aside for future generations to enjoy.

I would like to request that our approval of Senate Bill 855 be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on May 27 before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. We feel so strongly that this is necessary for the preservation of wild areas in our country and would like to urge you and others in control of such legislation, to consider this of utmost importance also.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. ROBERT KAY.

GETTY OIL Co.,
Houston, Tex., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As a member of the Ozark Society, I am interested in the creation of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas, which is being sponsored by Senators Fulbright and McClellan as Senate Bill 855. It is impossible for me to be at the hearing on May 27, but I would like to make it known that I am vitally interested in this project and am for the passage of this bill. I would like to request that my vote of approval be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

Yours very truly,

JED B. MAEBIUS.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., *May 22, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We are hopeful that Senate Bill 855, for creation of the Buffalo National River, will receive favorable action by your Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation.

Those of us who live in this area have worked a long time to assure that this beautiful river will remain in its natural state. Not only is it a source of pleasure and inspiration to people in the surrounding area; people from other areas who enjoy unspoiled natural beauty are attracted to visit it, thereby enriching the economy of the local residents. We feel that our children's children should be permitted to enjoy the river as we have done.

We trust that this letter will be made a part of the record on your committee's hearing on S. 855. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Mr. and Mrs. JOHN A. LAVALLARD.

ROGERS, ARK., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am very much interested in seeing the passage of Senate Bill 855 providing for the creation of the Buffalo National River. Will you please give it your favorable consideration?

I request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on this hearing.

Respectfully yours,

MTS. HELEN L. LEWIS.

ROGERS, ARK., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: On May 27 there is to be a hearing before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to consider the Senate Bill 855. I am ardently in favor of this bill for several reasons.

The Buffalo River is a most unusual area for Nature Study. In the area can be found many species of plantlife that are found nowhere else this far north or west. There are Indian relics and dwelling caves as well as scenic and wilderness beauty. The river is a well known recreation and camping place for this area and it would become a nationwide attraction for those who love the out-of-doors and the sports of fishing, hunting, swimming and boating.

I certainly hope that you will consider this Bill and give it your support so that this river and area may be saved for future generations.

Request this be made permanent part of the record on hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

DORIS LARIMORE.

SHAWNEE MISSION, KANS., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to express my opinion in favor of Senate bill 855 which would create the Buffalo National River.

The Buffalo is one of the few rivers in the country that is still in its natural state for much of its course. Along this course there are many scenic bluffs and springs scattered along a generally beautiful valley. The river itself offers to canoeists water that is thought by many to be the best in the Ozarks region. The surrounding territory offers pleasant hiking.

I think that S. 855 offers an opportunity to protect the Buffalo River for public use without commercial overdevelopment that could ruin some of its most attractive features.

Please make this letter a part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

JAMES W. EBERT, V.M.D.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., May 24, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Although for the past twenty-four years I have lived in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, which is located in the delta lands of the Arkansas River, I was born and reared in the Ozarks on the Elevenpoint River. The Elevenpoint and the Buffalo, as far as I know, are the only undammed rivers left in Arkansas.

Both of these rivers are picturesque in their wild state and in my opinion are a tremendous asset to the people of Arkansas and are a favorite vacationland and sportsman's paradise to the many people in Memphis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, Oklahoma City, and Tulsa, who regularly visit the Ozarks area of Arkansas.

As you gather from this letter, I am very much in favor of Senate Bill 855, which legislation would declare the Buffalo a national river. Please make this letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

Yours very truly

W. D. WELLS.

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 24, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Parks and Recreation Subcommittee, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I urge you to act favorably on S. 855, a bill to establish a Buffalo National River in Arkansas. In April I participated in a four-day canoe trip down the Buffalo River, and found it so rewarding that I hope to return in the future. Had it not been for the wild and free-flowing nature of the Buffalo River, my friends and I would never have travelled to Arkansas. The establishment of the Buffalo National River would assure that many people in the future will be able to enjoy this River in its unspoiled state.

I would be grateful if you would include these comments in the hearing record of the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee on S. 855. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT J. SCHAEFER.

SKOKIE, ILL., May 24, 1969.

U.S. Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing this letter to urge you to take favorable action on the bill, S. 855 now before your Subcommittee, and also to urge you to support personally the moves necessary to bring the Buffalo National River into being.

Arkansas has a large number of lakes, both large and small. It has only one Buffalo river. Damming that river would provide one more relatively small man-made impoundment and despoil forever one of the last of God's beautiful little rivers in the whole middle west. Let's preserve the Buffalo so that the next generation will have a chance to see what our wonderful middle west once looked like, before man—with the help of the U.S. Engineers—started improving on God's handiwork.

I have been on the Buffalo and know what it once was—even now it is less beautiful, compared to only 10 or 20 years ago. However, declaring it a National River will come the closest for all time to preserving its beauty. Damming it will simply destroy it. In 1965 the Congress was wise enough to declare the Current & Jacks Fork river area in southern Missouri a National Scenic Riverway, and last year additional steps were taken to preserve a little of our natural rivers beauty. Acting this year on the Buffalo National River proposal will further that wise move to save some small segments that still remain of the beauty that once was ours, in these, our, United States.

Make the Buffalo a national riverway and save the money the U.S. Engineers would spend on a dam that would do less for Arkansas than the riverway would provide through recreation and relaxation.

Please make this letter a part of the record on any hearings you may have on the bill S. 855.

Yours truly,

GEORGE KENAGA.

CAMDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS,
Camden, Ark., May 20, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR: I am concerned about the future of Buffalo River. I am anxious that it remain a free-flowing stream. I like the move to make it a part of the National River System. I am for SB 855 sponsored by Fulbright and McClellan.

Please use your influence to let the hearing become a part of the permanent record.

Sincerely,

Mrs. SAM COLEMAN.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., May 21, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senator,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This letter is in support of Senate Bill 855, by Senators Fulbright and McClellan, for the creation of the Buffalo National River. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, I solicit your help in the passage of this bill and respectfully request that my letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing of S. 855.

For over fifty years it has been my good fortune and pleasure to spend most of my recreational time floating, fishing and relaxing on the wonderful streams and rivers of the Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma portions of the Ozark mountain range. There are few streams that even approach the beauty and magnitude of the Buffalo. I am a native, born and raised in Springfield, Mo., and thought I knew spectacular scenery but on my first float on the Buffalo, from Gilbert to the Buffalo State Park, I was stunned with its beauty, isolation and natural state of preservation. It must be saved for the enjoyment of future generations. To my knowledge it is the only real wild and rugged river left in the Ozarks.

I am not opposed to man-made lakes, supported and worked for many now visited by millions each season in this Ozark area. These rivers, before dammed, were well populated, had farms along the banks, land was cleared and roads and bridges were evident throughout their length. But this is not true of the Buffalo. It is, today, almost without exception, the same terrain it was when he first early settlers moved in with their ox-carts and homesteads staked out.

Last summer I floated the Buffalo with my two-teen age granddaughters. We spent three days and two nights on the river, fishing, swimming, camping and admiring this beautiful river valley. This summer we will go again, a promise made by the campfire and under a star-decked canopy. It is my hope that their grandchildren will also be able to share these experiences.

Sincerely,

JAMES C. JOHNSON.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 21, 1969.

Re Senate Bill 855, Buffalo National River.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: As a dedicated floater and enthusiastic user of the Buffalo River, it is my fervent desire that the Buffalo should be preserved in its natural state. To this end, I would like to be on record as whole heartedly in favor of Senate Bill 855.

I would like my letter to be made a permanent part of the record of the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

Sincerely,

CORNELIUS ROACH.

AMERICAN FINISHING Co.,
Memphis, Tenn., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I heartily approve the proposed legislation for the Buffalo River and request that it be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

I sincerely hope you will heartily support this proposal for a Buffalo National River.

Yours truly,

C. F. GOODMAN.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., MAY 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
 Chairman, the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on
 Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: It is my understanding that your subcommittee is to hold a hearing on Senate Bill 855 next Tuesday. For many, many years I have, at every possible opportunity, fished and floated the incredibly beautiful, clear, free-flowing streams of Arkansas, southern Missouri, and eastern Oklahoma.

I have also watched, with sorrow and despair, the gradual, but ever-continuing destruction of these streams by the construction of dam after dam, the overwhelming majority of which by the Corps of Engineers.

A number of the dams erected by the Corps of Engineers have been worthwhile and desirable, and have served useful purposes of benefit to the entire public. With this I have no quarrel.

However, the Corps' appetite is insatiable. Time after time it has sought to ruin a river with a dam, and has, for the time being, been thwarted by aroused landowners, sportsmen, and conservationists. In all such cases the Corps backs off, bides its time, and strikes again when it thinks it can succeed.

This has been its tactic with respect to the most beautiful stream in the Ozarks, with the possible exception of the Current River in Missouri. You are doubtless aware of what has happened in connection with the Buffalo in past years. There is only one way to safeguard this God-given, beautiful, natural resource for our children and theirs, and that is to bring about the enactment into law of Senate Bill 855.

Will you please make this letter a part of your official record urging favorable consideration on the part of your subcommittee, and, of course, on the part of the parent committee on interior and insular affairs.

Sincerely and respectfully yours,

R. B. HOLTZENDORFF.

MAY 20, 1969.

Hon. J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT,
 U.S. Senate,
 Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR FULBRIGHT: We feel that the majority of the Citizens of Arkansas are greatly concerned about the forthcoming legislation calling for the Buffalo River in North Arkansas to be designated a National River under the National Parks System. We all want this!

At the scheduled Senate hearing on May 27th, we plead with you and other leaders in Congress, and with the Department of the Interior, to keep the Buffalo River, with all its scenic beauty, a natural free-flowing river—one of this country's last significant natural rivers.

Generations to come will bless the memory of our congressional leaders and the people of Arkansas who are instrumental in their efforts to preserve the beautiful Buffalo and its environs for the enjoyment of all Americans now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Mrs. WILLIAM E. CLARK,
 Chairman, Conservation Committee, Little Rock Garden Club, (Member,
 Garden Club of America).

Mrs. DAVID D. TERRY,
 Mrs. A. G. RITTER,
 Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs.

ROGERS, ARK.

Hon. SENATOR ALAN BIBLE,
 Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: We have been informed that your committee will be considering Senate Bill No. 855 presented by the Arkansas Senators Fulbright and McClelland, concerning the Buffalo River.

Please make it a portion of your permanent record that we are for preservation of the Buffalo River in its natural state.

As incoming president of the Garden Club of Rogers, a member of the Ozark Society and Arkansas Audubon Society, I feel that it is imperative to speak out against damming the river.

I realize the responsibility of your committee, but for the future beauty of this lovely area and the generations of folk to come, we urge you to preserve the river in its natural state.

Our Garden Club membership consists of 27 members, but I am writing mainly in behalf of my husband and myself.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. Wm. H. Clark.

MEMPHIS, TENN., May 19, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: May I add my voice to the many others who plead that the Arkansas Buffalo River be included in the National Scenic Rivers Bill.

The Buffalo is a beautiful, unspoiled, natural river and it should be preserved for the enjoyment of future generations.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) HELEN R. DOUTY.

BROKEN ARROW, OKLA., May 20, 1969.

Re Senate bill 855.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Mrs. Butler and I feel very strongly that Senate Bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River in the State of Arkansas be acted upon favorably.

The Buffalo River in the Arkansas Ozarks is the very last of its kind, and we wish to see it preserved not only for ourselves but for future generations of people both native to the Ozarks and other parts of the nation who will have the opportunity to enjoy a beautiful free-flowing Ozark stream free from the exploiters and polluters who have ruined just about every other body of water in this nation.

Please make our letter a permanent part of the record for the hearing on S. 855.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS S. BUTLER.

RIPON, WIS., May 17, 1969.

Re S. 855 the Buffalo National River.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am one of those Wisconsin canoeists who has traveled to Arkansas to float their Buffalo River. I paddled my canoe all the way from Ponca to the White River. It was a wonderful experience and I was greatly impressed by the high bluffs, the natural scenery and the solitude I discovered there.

The Buffalo is unique. Few rivers could equal its character. Thousands of mid-westerners would be attracted if the river could be protected from dams and over-commercialization.

It seems to me the best way to preserve the quality of the area is through federal action. I have reviewed the National Park Service plan and am in complete accord with it. The program will preserve all of the natural and aesthetics values of the Buffalo, provide for the recreational enjoyment of the area and improve the economy of Arkansas.

I strongly urge Congress to enact legislation declaring a Buffalo National River.

Not being able to attend the May 27 hearing before the Senate Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, I am writing this letter to express my views for the record.

Respectfully yours,

JOE MILLS.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 21, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This is in reference to a hearing to be held on May 27, 1969, before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs which is to be conducted in order to consider evidence on Senate Bill 855, sponsored by Senators Fulbright and McClellan of Arkansas for the creation of the Buffalo National River. As I understand it, this matter will be brought before the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation which is under your chairmanship.

I strongly urge that favorable consideration be given to Senate Bill 855 and that this bill will be eventually passed and enacted into law in order that the Buffalo River may become a national river and preserved. The Buffalo River in Arkansas in its present condition is a beautiful, free-flowing stream with magnificent scenery. The only hope of preserving this river in its present state is that it will become a national river and protected by the provisions in Senate Bill 855.

Unless you have been on the Buffalo River in Arkansas, it is probably difficult to imagine its natural beauty which, in my opinion, is at least unexcelled in the entire United States. Unless Senate Bill 855 is passed creating the Buffalo National River, private development around the river will forever destroy the natural beauty. Such scenery is becoming rare and I think it is incumbent upon all of us to preserve for future generations this natural beauty for their enjoyment. It appears to me that Senate Bill 855 is necessary legislation which would best accomplish the purpose of preserving the Buffalo River as a national river.

Please make this letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate Bill 855 which is scheduled for May 27, 1969.

Yours truly,

DON F. HAMILTON.

MERKLEIN, FERON & PAGE, INC.
Shreveport, La., May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: As a member of the Caddo Parish School Board and council member of the Norwela Council Boy Scouts of America, I have a great deal of interest in youth activities.

Over the past several years I have had the opportunity to be with groups of youth on the Buffalo River in northern Arkansas. As you well know, this river is one of the last remaining wilderness rivers in the United States. It would be a crime to destroy this river by letting the Corp of Engineers dam the river or letting the river area become so commercialized that it would destroy its wilderness value.

Please make this letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate bill 855.

When you would like to get away from it all, join us on a float trip down Buffalo River; and you will come back refreshed and ready to tackle any of the problems that may be facing you in the Senate.

Sincerely yours,

ERNEST A. MERKLEIN, JR.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., May 20, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Would like to express my approval of your proposed legislation for the Buffalo River. This is such a beautiful River and almost everyone in this area would like for it to remain in its natural state. I would like to see it made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Thanking you,

Sincerely,

Mrs. B. G. COLLIER.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., May 29, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: As ardent supporters of the proposal to create Buffalo River in this area as a National River, this is written for your consideration at the May 27 hearing of Senate Bill 855 introduced by Senators "Bill" Fulbright and John McClellan.

We both have lived in this part of the country virtually all our lives, and believe we are deeply familiar and sincerely concerned with the situation that would make the Buffalo River either a National River or see it destroyed by building another dam.

While we recognize that the lakes created by dams already constructed have done a tremendous lot for the region, we believe that the advantages of making this stream a National River would add as much to the economic welfare of this section . . . or even more . . . as another lake. This River is unique in its beauty and untouched character, and we are convinced that its preservation is a major factor in retaining an usual part of our natural resources and beautiful heritage.

Most sincerely yours,

SUZANNE CHALFANT LIGHTON,
BETTY LIGHTON.

P.S.—I should like to ask that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S.B. 855.

ROC-ARCO WATER COMPANY,
Little Rock Ark., May 21, 1969.

Subject: Senate bill 855.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.:

Please pass this bill to make the Buffalo a National River. It is the most beautiful river and scenery of the Ozarks. My son and I, and friends have floated nearly the whole length of the river. There are dozens of scenic spots that would make wonderful parks, camp sites for many kinds of recreation. These places with clear, clean water, high scenic rock bluffs, big sand and gravel bars, with beautiful trees and shade, and quiet solitude, are what the people are looking for on vacations and recreation.

If there were only some good roads built to these scenic, out of the way places, with a few camping facilities, I believe people would come by the thousands. It is my belief that this area should be fixed so the American people can see and enjoy this beautiful country and river, and please, let's don't dam it and cover it up.

I request that this be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855, on May 27.

Very truly yours,

A. B. FARQUHARSON & FAMILY,
WILMETTE, ILL., May 24, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: As a boy and young man I have floated and fished the Buffalo River in northern Arkansas on many occasions. I now have an eight year old son and a six year old daughter who hopefully will enjoy that same opportunity to float and fish the Buffalo River.

Please take a float on the Buffalo, also hike up Richland Creek, let the countryside convince you to act favorably on Senate bill 855 and the Buffalo National River as proposed by the National Park Service.

Kindly include this letter as a part of the permanent record on the hearing on Senate bill 855.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

BEN M. GLAZER.

ST. LOUIS, May 21, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I have enjoyed several float trips on the Buffalo River in Arkansas.

I have made similar trips on various rivers in this country and Canada. In my opinion no river which I have seen compares in beauty with the Buffalo.

Will you please enclose the above in the permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Respectfully,

LEO M. SHANLEY, D.D.S.

ROGERS, ARK.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: The Iowa Club of N. W. Arkansas supports the evidence of the Ozark Society and wishes to go on the permanent record in support of the proposed legislature Senate Bill 855 for the Buffalo River.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wm. D. Johns, Secretary.

FORT SMITH, ARK., May 8, 1969.

HON. J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR FULBRIGHT: Arkansas papers yesterday reported a hearing will be held in Washington on legislation for a Buffalo National River. It was not indicated whether this was a Senate or House Committee hearing. In either case, or both, I should like to submit for the record my strong advocacy of this legislation.

I have known the Buffalo River country since a first visit in 1927, and during my incumbency as Superintendent of Hot Springs National Park, was among the first to explore in detail its present condition and assets as a potential for establishment as an area of the National Park System. It was immediately evident to me in 1960 field observations that the decline in population of the region, and recovery of long-abused marginal farmlands in the watershed, that this superb region was, more than any time since its first settlement, the kind of place that would lend itself to the treatment now proposed by the National Park Service, and by the legislation the Arkansas delegation is now sponsoring in both Houses.

Recently, Dr. Compton presented a program here in which his pictures and account reflect inroads of land use and developments in the Buffalo region, which, if allowed to continue without the restraint of an authorized program for preservation and compatible use, can render it unfit for the proposed status within a very few years.

I have heard that Rep. Wayne Aspinall, Chairman of the House Interior, has informally expressed the opinion that we have "Parks running out our ears", and that he is cool toward action to establish new areas in this Congress. Certainly, the fiscal crisis today makes it necessary to restrain funding of such additional areas, but there can be little argument against the urgent need to assure that an area of such merit as a Buffalo National River will ultimately be achieved. If authorization is passed in this Congress, hopefully in the first session, it would make clear to proponent and opponent alike that when fiscal climate permits, the project will proceed. This knowledge would serve both as restraint against further despoliation, and perhaps encourage interim acquisition of critical parcels by agencies such as Nature Conservancy, to hold them pending ability of the Government to proceed with establishment. Thanks for all you can do to press this matter.

Sincerely yours,

H. RAYMOND GREGG.

ANDERSON & CRUMPLER,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
Magnolia, Ark., May 20, 1969.

Re Senate bill No. 855.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: It is my understanding that on May 27th a hearing before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs will be conducted to consider evidence on the above Bill for the creation of Buffalo National River, and that thereafter the matter will be brought before the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation of which you are Chairman.

I have had the pleasure and good fortune to make two float trips on this beautiful stream. I am vitally interested in this Bill and urge you to do everything in your power to bring about its passage. My feeling is that we owe it to posterity to preserve this River in its present untarnished condition.

It is requested that this letter be made a permanent part of the record with respect to the hearing on this Bill.

Yours very truly,

E. M. ANDERSON.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., May 25, 1969.

Re Senate bill 855.

HON. SENATOR ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The lovely house pictured on the front of this note paper has, fortunately, been acquired by an organized historical society and is being preserved for our descendants. If only it were possible for such a group to purchase and preserve the beautiful Buffalo River! It is not possible and, therefore, legislation is necessary.

I urge approval of Senate Bill 855, and ask that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing of S. 855.

Sincerely yours,

MRS. MARY B. SALADINO.

FORT SMITH, ARK., May 20, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am most interested in seeing the beautiful Buffalo River of Arkansas made a National River.

I feel that such action will not only be a great asset for Arkansas, but for the entire nation. I have known and loved the Buffalo most of my life, and strongly feel that a stream of such great and varied scenic value should be preserved in its natural state for all time.

Please make this recommendation a part of the record on the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

Sincerely,

W. FOUNT McGEHEE.

SILOAM SPRINGS, ARK., May 20, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: Mrs. Eells and I have been devoted admirers of scenic Arkansas since 1919, and since 1961 have been home owners and established residents.

We became aware of the Buffalo River a good many years ago and have been devoted to the stream for its beauty for a similar period. To see it is to be charmed by it.

It seems proper to us to bring about a Buffalo National River. We have had acquaintance with Neil Compton through our relationship in The Ozark Society.

We join with him in approving the proposed legislative request for the Buffalo River. We hope this letter may be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. DON V. EELLS.

MEMPHIS, TENN., May 25, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office
Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I urge that the Committee act favorably on Bill 855 to establish the Buffalo National River.

Time is running out for the preservation of the nation's natural scenic areas. The special beauty of the Buffalo River should be protected for all to enjoy.

Sincerely,

JULIAN T. DARLINGTON.

P.S.—I request that this letter be made a part of the record on the hearing of S. 855.

UNIVERSITY CITY, Mo., May 25, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: As one of the remaining fine float rivers of Arkansas, the Buffalo deserves National River status as proposed in Senate Bill 855. I have had the opportunity to canoe on this river and to observe its clear, blue water, its sheer canyons, and its surrounding forested hills; in my opinion it equals or excels the Current-Jack's Fork and Eleven Point National Rivers in Missouri.

Even with the existing dams and lakes on the White River and its tributaries, there is, and will continue to be, pressure to develop the Buffalo in the same way unless it receives adequate protection. I think that protection in the form of National River designation should be provided for the Buffalo, not only because of its unique beauty, but because it is one of the few rivers in the region still sufficiently undeveloped to qualify. Please include this letter as part of the hearings on S. 855.

Sincerely,

Dr. CARL M. ROVAINEN.

ARKADELPHIA, ARK., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I have read with interest the proposed SB 855 sponsored by Senators Fulbright and McClellan to make the Buffalo River a National River. I would like to go on record as favoring this bill as the best solution.

The best thing would be to leave it alone, as a natural free flowing stream, but the "Lake Boys" will not be satisfied until it and most of the others are dammed, so I would like to be counted with the Natural River people.

Very truly yours,

AL HERRINGTON.

SHREVEPORT, LA., May 26, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I want to express my approval of Bill 855 to create the Buffalo National River.

This beautiful stream which has offered so much to so many of both beauty and pleasure must be preserved.

How can people retain a sense of value if natural resources continue to be destroyed.

I ask that my approval of this bill to preserve the Buffalo River be made a permanent part of the record.

Thank You.

Yours very truly,

ELIZABETH Z. FRIEDENBERG.

MEMPHIS, TENN., May 26, 1969.

SENATOR ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to add my support to the proposed legislation for the creation of the Buffalo National River, and I would like my affirmative support of this proposal to become a part of the permanent record on the hearing.

The Buffalo River is too unusual and too beautiful to allow it to become unprotected. The rights of future generations of Americans deserve protection so that this part of our country can be preserved for them.

Yours very truly,

C. B. METZ.

U.S. Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., May 23, 1969.

DEAR SIR: I am writing to ask you and your subcommittee to please act favorably on S. 855 and The Buffalo National River as proposed by the National Park Service.

My family and I travel from Alabama to enjoy the beautiful Buffalo River in Arkansas. This river is one of the most scenic natural rivers left in this country and should be preserved in its natural state. Please allow this beautiful river to be saved for public enjoyment in its natural state by acting in favor of Senate Bill 855. I would like this request to be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. JAMES C. BARTON.

Re Senate bill 855.

MOUNT IDA, ARK., May 26, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Because I am in favor of the creation of Buffalo National River (Arkansas) I write to give you my expression of approval of the legislation, Senate bill 855. May this be a part of the record used in the hearing, if that may be of any help.

Yours truly,

Mrs. H. B. PEVEHOUSE.

[Telegram]

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.:

ARKADELPHIA, ARK., May 28, 1969.

With increase population, increase amount of leisure time ever increasing demands on our countrys natural and recreational resources the uniqueness of the Buffalo River area the executive committee Quachita Caddo Audubon Society wants to go on record as favoring S-855 the Buffalo National River. We feel the proposed national river could make that area much more attractive and enjoyable than could another impoundment and that our nation is under obligation to preserve for future generations areas of great natural beauty. We request this message be made a permanent part of the commission records.

DUDLEY BORN, *President.*

ARKADELPHIA, ARK., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As a private citizen interested in conservation I wish to express my approval for Senate Bill 855 which proposes a Buffalo River National Park. This will preserve an area for the future of our country and future generations. With the ever increasing time for recreation we need more and more such area set aside.

This will give the country an area midway between the Appalachians and Rocky Mountains. The beauty of the stream, the waterfalls, the high cliffs and all it provides will be a welcome to our future. There is a distinct beauty to the Rockies, but this area has a beauty all its own.

There is always a minority which feels it has its rights stepped upon but this move will be for millions of Americans now and in the future.

Please make this request of support for Senate Bill 855 a permanent part of the record on the hearing.

Sincerely,

DUDLEY C. BORN.

WICHITA FALLS, TEX., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Although I have not resided in Arkansas for several years, I have managed to stay fairly well informed on the Buffalo River situation. My home is on the White River near Cotter, Arkansas, and I have been acquainted with all of the rivers in that area since I was old enough to remember.

The Buffalo River is truly one of the few remaining streams of its type in the country, and it should definitely be preserved as long as possible. Only last month I drove over a thousand miles to spend two days fishing and camping with friends on the Buffalo. In recent years my Father and I have entertained friends from all over the country, and each one comments on the beauty of this river.

I am in favor of Senate Bill 855 and request that this letter be made a permanent record on this hearing.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM M. THOMPSON.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 24, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please make this letter a part of the record of the May 27 hearing on Senate Bill 855.

I wish to express my support of the Buffalo National River as proposed by the National Park Service. I feel very strongly that time is running out on efforts to preserve the few free-flowing natural streams we have left in this country, and especially here in the Midwest. The Buffalo is a heritage that, once lost, we can never pass on to our children. The preservation of this stream will also offer a diversification of recreational opportunities to people in this part of the country which will not be possible if the natural beauty of the Buffalo is not protected from over-use and over-development, or even possible impoundment.

I trust your subcommittee will accept this challenge and opportunity and give a favorable recommendation to Senate Bill 855.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) VERNITA J. ALLEN.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 25, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: My husband and I heartily approve of the proposed legislation, Senator Bill 855, by Senators Fulbright and McClellan of Arkansas, for the creation of the Buffalo National River. Please enter this letter as part of the permanent record of the hearing on S. 855.

We have vacationed, camped, canoed and swam in the Buffalo River ever since moving to Arkansas and consider it to be the most beautiful river we have ever seen. We hope this bill will pass so that not only our five children but many others from all over the country can continue to enjoy it for years to come.

Not only is this a delightful place for recreation for all ages, but the creation of the National River will provide much needed income to a very poverty stricken area of our state.

Sincerely yours,

ROSALIND S. ABERNATHY, M.D.

PETITION

U.S. Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Parks and Recreation Subcommittee, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We are concerned about Bill number S. 855. The Buffalo River will be a greater asset to the nation preserved in its natural beauty. Please take this into consideration.

Therefore, we wish to go on record favoring S. 855 and the establishment of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. Make this a permanent part of the record.

(The above petition was signed by 15 residents of Arkadelphia, Ark.)

JASPER, ARK., June 27, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Parks and Recreation Facilities,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This letter concerns the status of the Buffalo River. This is my home where I have spent my life. It is definitely not the wish of the people who live here and own the land to have it confiscated by the *big power*. (gov.) We have voted on this and expressed our opinion. What else can we do? Are we going to be pushed as sheep going to the slaughter house?

Looks like our country is going in the wrong direction when the poor little land owner can be pushed and pushed with no recourse whatever.

The local people have a great pride in our river and have preserved it religiously over the years but you do not seem to take our word. The studies made by out-of-area persons are biased and full of untruths. Anyone living here will verify this. As with any study, they set out to prove their point.

Vacationers are welcome to come to our area as they have been for so long. We do hope they will continue to help us keep our pretty stream uncontaminated.

Please remember in your next hearing that we are still supposed to have a democratic form of government. There are still people here who do not want to be pushed out of their homeland.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C. O. NORTON.

KANSAS CITY, MO., May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please do everything you can to see that Senate bill 855 is passed in order to create the Buffalo National River.

My husband and I have floated in our canoe this most beautiful of rivers from Boxley to where the Buffalo flows into the White River. We have floated and camped on the different segments of the 148 miles at all times of year in all kinds of weather for nearly ten years.

I could write volumes about why this free-flowing stream should be preserved in its natural grandeur, but I'm sure all the statistics and facts are being examined by the Subcommittee under your chairmanship.

I simply want to urge you to approve and work for the proposed legislation. May I also request that my letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing scheduled for May 27.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. JOE ACUFF.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 4, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: For the record of the May 27 hearing by your Subcommittee please include my expression of hope that your committee will favor the creation of the Buffalo National River as proposed by the National Park Service.

My wife and I personally have enjoyed canoeing the entire length from Boxley to the White River several times and have been on several hiking trips in the in the areas close by.

In personal conscience, having direct knowledge of the Buffalo River, I believe its preservation will be a major contribution towards helping maintain that essential balance between man and nature.

Sincerely,

JOE C. ACUFF.

LEVERETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,

Fayetteville, Ark., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We approve very strongly of the legislation pending for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

We support the following very strongly: a clean Buffalo River, a clean Buffalo Park, all federal laws to protect park animals.

We wish you to vote your approval of this proposed legislation for the Buffalo River. We also request that it be made a part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

The FOURTH GRADE,
(Was signed by the students).

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We would like to state that we believe it most desirable to make the Buffalo River in Arkansas a part of the National Park system by designating it a national river. We feel very strongly that it should be left in its natural state for future generations to enjoy.

We approve the creation of the Buffalo National River as set forth in Senate bill 855 and would like this letter to be made part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. GLENN A. COLE.

OREGON, ILL., May 25, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to add my voice to those who favor the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. My wife and I spent four days canoeing on this river and found it to be the most exciting stream we have ever experienced. The sheer heights of the cliffs are staggering and beautiful. We made the trip this April when the dogwood was beginning to bloom. This river should definitely be preserved.

I would like my comments to be made a part of the record when hearings are held by your Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

BYRON HUTCHINS.

MIAMI, FLA., May 26, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I understand a hearing is to be held tomorrow to consider evidence on Senate bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

I have lived and worked in Arkansas so I know of the scenic beauty of this river which should be preserved.

Please add this letter to the permanent record on the hearing on Senate bill 855.

Very truly,

ROSALIE L. WOLFE.

MEMPHIS, TENN., May 25, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We are requesting that your Subcommittee give approval to Senate bill 855.

This is the bill by Senators Fulbright and McClellan creating the Buffalo National River.

The Buffalo is one of the few streams in our section which has not been dammed and/or desecrated and polluted by commercial development. But without the protection of bill 855 one or both of these disasters will soon destroy forever its natural beauty.

Please make our letter a part of the permanent record of the hearing.

Yours truly,

Mr. and Mrs. JAMES F. MCNIELL.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 21, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I have noted in the press that your Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation will be holding hearings on and considering action on Senate bill 855, which concerns the Buffalo River.

Having floated this river a number of times and enjoyed its scenery on many occasions I wish to be recorded as being very much in favor of the proposed bill. I represent no organization except my family and have a deep regard for the democratic process where an individual can be heard.

Yours sincerely,

L. P. CARLSON.

HARRISON, ARK., May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Please add to your permanent record my affirmative vote for the establishment of a Buffalo River National Park as being considered under Senate bill S. 855.

In my opinion, this is the best means of furthering the economic development of this part of the Ozarks, as well as adding to the sorely needed additional recreational facilities of the country as a whole.

To preserve the river in its natural state as far as possible would provide for a diversity of recreational opportunities and thus broaden the State's growing appeal as a delightful vacation area.

Sincerely yours,

MISS FLORENCE LINDSTEAD.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I wish to express deep interest and approval of the proposed legislation for the Buffalo River.

This is bill 855 to be presented by Senator Fulbright and Senator McClellan for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

I request that this be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

DONA D. CHEADLE.

TULSA, OKLA., May 25, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: My husband and I enjoy floating and fishing the clear-water streams and rivers of Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri. In today's fast-moving world it is almost a necessity to us to get completely away and back to nature in its original, unpolluted form to unwind and get our thoughts straight. The Buffalo River is the most beautiful area that we have found. Actually there are few really natural areas left in our country, and it seems that when we find one, someone dams it and it is destroyed forever.

My husband and I value so much the few free-flowing streams that are left in our area, and the Buffalo River is such a beautiful refuge, that we strongly urge your support of Senate bill 855, making it a national river.

Please make this letter a permanent part of your records.

We appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. DUDLEY C. MURPHY, Jr.

TULSA, OKLA., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I understand that current legislation is pending for the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. Our country must take this opportunity to preserve the beautiful Buffalo River through the National Park system.

During my life, I have lived and traveled in many parts of the United States and seldom have I found any river country to match the undeveloped natural beauty of this wild and free-flowing clear stream.

Many of the rivers and streams in Eastern Oklahoma and in Arkansas are muddy and unattractive. Many of the streams in this area have much needed dams for creation of hydroelectric power, flood control and recreation.

We Americans are proud of our country and are willing to take the initiative in making good use of our land. We shape it and mold it into a better place to live. We need dams which have many advantages, we need industrial development, we also need to take advantage of the thousands of years that nature has spent creating the Buffalo River country which has cut lofty limestone cliffs and has spread abundant and various vegetation. To have a balanced country we must preserve a few of our most beautiful rivers while they are still in their natural state.

Senator Bible, I could go into much greater detail in expressing my overwhelming conviction that the United States must preserve the Buffalo River but I realize you are a very busy senator and that you need to focus your attention in many directions.

Please place my letter of approval of S. 855 in the permanent record of the hearings on this bill.

Yours very truly,

GERALD J. HENDRICKS.

BERKELEY, CALIF., June 16, 1969.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Please enter my statement as follows in the official public hearings record concerning proposals to establish the Buffalo National River.

I am in full support of such proposals and urge that Buffalo National River be established prior to the end of this current session of Congress.

This area, river and shoreline areas, will make an outstanding national river, preserving unused water and land features of national and international significance.

I strongly urge that the area as now proposed of some 95,730 acres be increased to about 135,000 acres in order to afford more depth to the area and to preserve a larger and more substantial wilderness area complex.

Very Sincerely,

JOHN R. SWANSON.

ROGERS FLOWER GARDEN CLUB,
Rogers, Ark., June, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I would like for it to go on record that the eighteen members of Rogers Flower Garden Club express their approval of the proposed legislation for the establishment of the Buffalo National River.

We are all very much in favor of keeping the natural beauty of this river intact. We all sincerely hope that it will remain as it is now, a garden of beauty.

Sincerely,

Mrs. HAROLD WARDLAW, *President.*

ARKANSAS FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.,
Arkansas, June 9, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Incorporated, for many years has been concerned about any legislation pertaining to the Buffalo River. As an active and interested member of our State Federation, I am requesting that the Buffalo River be preserved in its natural beauty and certainly we must preserve some area in our country for generations yet to come.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. WILLIAM E. TERHUNE.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

SWEET SPRINGS, MO., June 5, 1969.

DEAR SIR: I would like to add my voice to those who are asking for the creation of the Buffalo National River. Anything you can do will be very much appreciated.

I am a housewife who is very much interested in conservation.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. J. M. LYNCH.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

ROLLA, Mo., June 4, 1969.

DEAR SIR: I am writing to express my approval for Senate bill 855 which is set up to create the Buffalo River in Arkansas as a national river.

We residents of the Ozarks love our beautiful clear swift rivers which are such a delight to the nature lovers and sportsmen. The Buffalo River in Arkansas, along with the Current and Eleven Point Rivers in Missouri, is one of the most beautiful streams in the United States.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. EARL McCRACKEN.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

SHAWNEE MISSION,
Kansas, May 27, 1969.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am completely in favor of the creation of the Buffalo National River. Once this beautiful river is lost it can never again be recreated. I want very much for my children to have the chance to enjoy nature uncluttered. For them to have this chance, such rivers must be protected.

Very truly yours,

JOHN M. BRENNAN.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

ARKADELPHIA, ARK., May 26, 1969.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing to you in support of Senate bill 855 which if passed would create the Buffalo National River.

I would prefer that the Buffalo River remain in its present state, that is, with individual land ownership along its banks. However, in this posture the river would be very vulnerable and I am fearful it soon would be converted to an artificial lake. In Arkansas we are already blessed with an abundance of these impoundments.

The Buffalo River is almost unparalleled in the whole United States for its wild beauty and unique features. It is truly a wilderness area along much of its waterway.

I would like to request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record for Senate bill 855.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. MAX D. PARKER.

NORTHVILLE, MICH., June 5, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing concerning Senate bill 855. We have spent many happy days, over the past fifteen years at and on the Buffalo River, and urge you to support the creation of a national river on the Buffalo. Since we moved up to Detroit last fall we can see, even more vividly, the rapid take-over of rural areas for housing and of recreation areas for man-made activities. It is so important that we act *now* to preserve some of our natural areas for our "too many" descendants.

Yours truly,

ELSPETH M. REAGAN, M.D.

RICHARDSON, TEX., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing to express my support of S. 855, for the creation of a Buffalo National River.

Most sincerely,

Mrs. CHARLES A. GRACHER.

MEMPHIS, TENN., *May 30, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Many of us here in Tennessee and Arkansas are in favor of preserving the Buffalo River in its natural state. Therefore we urge your support of S. 855.

Please make this a permanent part of the record.

Sincerely,

JUSTIN D. TOWNER III, D.D.S.

WASHINGTON, D.C., *May 29, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please include in your record of hearings on Senate bill 855 this enthusiastic endorsement of legislation to create the Buffalo National River.

To know that we could someday take our children back to see this grand, wild, charming river and find it preserved and treasured would do much to boost our faith in the future that is in store for them.

We have kept in touch with the efforts of those who know the river and have been trying to save it for many years. Their unselfish persistence deserves recognition.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. ROBERT E. MALAKOFF.

TULSA, OKLA., *June 4, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am very much concerned about the conservation of our diminishing number of free-flowing streams in America.

I am particularly interested in the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas at this time. I am for Senate bill 855, and would like this note to become part of the permanent record of the hearing.

Respectfully,

GLENN S. RAMSAY.

RUSTON, LA., *May 23, 1969.*

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to say that I am strongly in favor of the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. There are no words to fully describe the beauty and enchantment of this river.

Last summer three friends and I took a seventy mile canoe trip down a section of the Buffalo River. I am only sixteen years old but have traveled throughout many parts of the west and the east and have never seen a more beautiful river. During our trip we saw deer, a wild boar and many kinds of birds. Believe me, it is really fun to catch smallmouth bass on a fishing rod out of clear running water. I cannot understand how anyone would want to destroy something as beautiful as this river, created by God himself.

Please make this letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate bill 855.

Why not visit the Buffalo River this summer? I am.

Yours truly,

FRANK BOGARD.

TULSA, OKLA., *June 7, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This letter is written to you in support of the National Park Service's proposed act creating the Buffalo National River. Please make this letter a part of the permanent record of the hearing on Senate bill 855. I under-

stand that this bill is now pending in the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

The mid-west seems to be a mite short on National Parks and for National Rivers, Senator, we could use a few more. I believe that we must save as much of this "promised land" of America as possible for our children. We owe them this land of ours, so rich in numerous other ways, still valuable in places of wilderness and unspoiled ecology. Need I mention the beauty of this land also? I worry about the world we might leave to our children if more of us don't stand up and be counted in support of unspoiled nature. I understand that the Buffalo River is now the only remaining wild river of major size left in the entire Ozarks. Fifteen million people today live within an hour drive of the Buffalo River. Heaven only knows how many more tomorrow will live in this vicinity! No doubt all of them at one time or another in their lives are going to say, "Oh wilderness . . .", or other words of similar meaning and head out of the "rat race"! I hope there will be at least this one wild, scenic, free-flowing river left for them nearby.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter.

Sincerely,

Mrs. FRANK D. LEWIS.

ROGERS, ARK., June 4, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: My husband, Floyd, and I would like you, and your committee to present Senate bill 855, for the preservation of the Buffalo River in the State of Arkansas.

Please make my letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate bill 855.

Dr. Neil Compton of Bentonville has shown pictures and narrated the Buffalo River to our Garden Club of Rogers. Club members made a trip to see the Buffalo River last year. The country is beautiful.

Sincerely,

Mrs. F. L. REDDEMAN.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS,
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS,
Fayetteville, Ark., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: This is to go on record as approving Senate bill 855, legislation in favor of Buffalo National River. I am for the Buffalo National River, Senate bill 855, which I understand will establish the area as a National Park.

May this be part of the record on the hearing if such is feasible.

Sincerely yours,

O. K. BOWER, *Associate Professor.*

GLADSTONE, MO., June 16, 1969.

Senator J. W. FULBRIGHT,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: My family, which includes children of the ages seven and fourteen, has just returned from a vacation spent on the Buffalo River, Arkansas, camping, swimming, canoeing and fishing. We found it a completely captivating and beautiful place. Few places have we been where the abundance and balance of wildlife seemed so evident. The air was simply ringing with a variety of bird song.

There was something there for everyone. The river was not so wild or deep that the children could not play in it in comparative safety. The sand bars alternating with pebble beaches was wonderful for sunning or rock collecting. The fishing was marvelous and there was just enough white water to make it exciting for the novice canoer. Last, but not least, the exquisite beauty of the area was evident in the wooded mountains, the sheer exposed cliffs and the rock formations.

People camping near us all seemed to be returning visitors and one family of five from Memphis, Tennessee, said they were returning for the fourth year and were planning to spend two weeks there.

I write this letter in hopes that it may add more teeth to your Wild Rivers bill and ask that my letter be included in the hearing record of May 27, 1969.

Thank you for your valuable time and interest.

Sincerely,

The DANIEL E. HEIN Family.

DOWNERS GROVE, ILL., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I understand there is currently pending legislation for the creation of the Buffalo River into a National River, S. 855, which will be brought before your Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation in the near future.

There are many people, I am sure, who will express to your Committee their most sincere approval of this proposed legislation and request the Committee to make it a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855. I should like to add my voice in support of this measure, for I do believe the Buffalo River should be thus preserved. It is an enchanting stream in the Arkansas Ozarks and ought to be preserved as a national river for future generations to enjoy.

Your favorable attention will be appreciated not only by members of the Ozark Society and other conservation-minded groups, but by all people who love the wonderful natural beauties of our land.

Yours very truly,

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR DICKY.

TULSA, OKLA., May 24, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We want to express our approval concerning the proposed legislation for the Buffalo River.

Please make this a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

It's so important to us and future generations to keep a few rivers intact.

Sincerely,

MR. AND MRS. RUDY FOSS.

TULSA, OKLA., May 21, 1969.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: I most urgently request your support of S. 855 and desire my letter to be a part of the record of the Committee hearing of May 27.

A float on the Buffalo River or a hike through its canyon and bluffs is truly a soul-satisfying experience and I'm sure you'll agree that in this day of mental illness and increasing use of tranquilizing drugs, we need to preserve the few remaining wild and lovely places for the restoration of mind and spirit.

I also urge you to consider the money which would come into the heartland area from tourists. Canoeists buy much gasoline for those long car shuttles and campers eat enormous amounts of food. I only weigh 127 pounds but I eat two eggs for breakfast when I'm out in the open!

Whatever you can do for the Buffalo River National Park will be most appreciated.

Sincerely,

ALICE E. RODGERS.

LIBERTY, Mo., May 23, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

SENATOR BIBLE: I want you Senator Bible and your Subcommittee to act favorably on S. 855, the bill proposed by the National Park Service to establish the Buffalo National River.

My three boys, my wife, and I have floated the Buffalo River many times. We have climbed the large bluffs and hiked through the fields looking for arrowheads. We have camped on the sandbars and enjoyed many leisure hours on this beautiful river and we sincerely ask this Committee to act positively in favor and be an important link in the process to preserve the Buffalo for posterity. All the people in our wonderful country would then have the opportunity to observe the beauty of nature from or near a scenic river that has not been disfigured by man.

Please help plan for the future and make the "Buffalo Bill" a reality.

Sincerely,

NORMAN C. PRESTON.

MAMMOTH SPRING, ARK.,
May 21, 1969.

Honorable ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I wish to express my approval of Senate bill 855, to make the Buffalo River in Arkansas a national river.

I request this letter to be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Please pass this bill.

Sincerely yours,

WOODROW TAYLOR.

OLNEY, ILL., May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

HON. SENATOR BIBLE: Please support S. 855 on making the Buffalo River a National River.

I've canoed this river. It must be saved. We can build dams other places, but there's only one Buffalo.

Please make this part of the record on the hearing for S. 855.

Sincerely,

VERA L. SHAW.

JONESBORO, ARK., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing in order to express my interest and approval of Senate bill 855, proposed for the creation of the Buffalo River National Park.

This certainly is a great step in the right direction in preserving some of our natural free-flowing rivers. We read every day of some stream or lake being ruined by industrial or human waste of one kind or another. If we are to pass some of this country's natural beauty on to the future generations we must act to preserve it now.

Please make this a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Thank you very much.

Yours truly,

EARL NOAH.

Syracuse, N.Y., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SEN: Please do all you can to pass proposed legislation, S. 855, to establish the Buffalo National River.

I have camped on its banks in Arkansas many times and have enjoyed it very much.

Please make my letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

E. C. JOHNSON.

Kansas City, Mo., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I hope for my son and his children, and the children of countless others that the Committee you chair will act favorably on S. 855 in order that the beauty and wilderness I have seen when floating the Buffalo in a canoe will be preserved.

Please make this a permanent part of the hearing record.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM Y. EUBANK, M.D.

EL DORADO, ARK., *May 24, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I wish to express my approval of the proposed legislation and wish to have my comments be made part of the permanent record concerning the hearing on S. 855 as it pertains to the Buffalo River in Arkansas.

The concept of a free flowing stream has always been in the minds of many people, but it almost came too late in their country.

These streams are an important part in nature, and when they have scenic value their importance is almost impossible to calculate. And the Buffalo River in Arkansas has recreational potential, and its' too bad there aren't a few more around, as it can be an outstanding feature enjoyed, by many. I think it very worthy of being saved.

Sincerely yours,

CARL R. AMASON.

RICHLAND, WASH., *May 22, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing you to let you know that I am in favor of a Buffalo National River as outlined in Senate Bill 855.

I am sure you have heard the arguments, pro and con, so I won't launch into all the reasons why I think some of our most scenic, undammed rivers should be kept that way.

I just want to let you know that there is one person at least, and hopefully more, that does not equate progress and standard of living with more people, more jobs, more industry, more power and more dams.

I request that my letter be made part of the record of the hearing on Senate Bill 855.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN M. THORP.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., *May 24, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The purpose of this letter is to express my approval of the establishment of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas as proposed by Senate Bill 855. I request, therefore, that you allow this letter to be made a permanent part of the record of the hearing on S. 855 to be held by your Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation on May 27, 1969.

I own no property in the Buffalo River area nor in any other way do I stand to gain financially from passage of this bill. My interest is that of a private citizen who has beheld the beauty of this river and wishes it to be preserved and enhanced as a unique part of our national treasury of natural beauty.

Sincerely,

CHARLES J. CREMEEN.

BARTLESVILLE, OKLA., *May 23, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I am writing concerning Senate Bill 855. I am in favor of this bill because I wish to see the Buffalo River saved for future generations to enjoy.

I have seen nearly 60 miles of this wonderful river while canoeing with Explorer Scout groups and have enjoyed every scenic view as we passed from bluff to bluff. My first feeling is let the river stay as it is, but I am realistic enough to know that this is impossible. I do not wish to see the magnificent bluffs and scenery covered by water, impounded behind a dam or dams. This river is too outstanding to be used in this manner when there are already a number of lakes in all directions around it.

I feel that making the Buffalo into a national river would come the closest to preserving it as it now is or was last June when I last canoed there.

Please make this letter a part of the permanent record on the hearings on Senate Bill 855.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

CLAUDE G. LONG.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *May 2, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I am in favor of the bill S. 855. The creation of the Buffalo National River will be an asset to the tourist and nature lovers of the United States. We have too few of our scenic rivers left in their wild and natural state. If the Buffalo is made a national river it will provide beauty and wholesome recreation for generations to come.

I strongly advocate the passage of this bill. Please make this letter a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

W. W. PHILLIPS.

INDEPENDENCE, MO., *May 25, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I am in favor of the Buffalo River becoming a national park and hope bill, #855, supporting this proposal will be favorably considered.

Yours truly,

D. E. DE TRAY.

ROGERS, ARK., *June 2, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to urge you and your Subcommittee to adopt Senate bill 855 for the preservation of the Buffalo River in its natural state.

Please make my request a permanent part of the record on the hearing of S. 855.

Sincerely,

MRS. ORVILLE DUNSON,
President, the Garden Club of Rogers.

HOE 'N GRO GARDEN CLUB,
West Memphis, Ark., June 3, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I am writing in behalf of the Hoe 'n Gro Garden Club, West Memphis, Arkansas. We would like this letter made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on Senate bill 855.

The members of this club have discussed pending legislation for the creation of the Buffalo National River and would like it made publicly known that we are unanimously in favor of the passage of legislation for the development of this national river.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. DOLORES BASTEL.

HATTIEVILLE, ARK., May 25, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: I hope it is not too late for me to express my favorite opinion on Senate bill 855, providing for the creation of the Buffalo National River. Too much of our country's natural scenery is being destroyed in favor of so called progress. Won't you do all you can to help preserve at least a part of this beautiful country for future generations to enjoy?

Please make my opinion a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

DOROTHY BILGISCHER.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 26, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Favorable consideration of Senate bill 855 is important as a step toward preserving this small part of the Ozark's which is one of the last free-flowing streams.

Your help in creating a Buffalo National River will be appreciated.

Please make this a part of the permanent record.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

MIKE MORIARTY.

GARDEN CLUB OF HOT SPRINGS,
Hot Springs National Park, Ark., June 1, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I am very much in favor of the proposed legislation for the Buffalo River.

I would like for my approval to be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Yours truly,

Mrs. GAIL TAYLOR, *President.*

ARKADELPHIA, ARK., May 20, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Because of the many wonderful days I have spent floating with a canoe on the Buffalo and other streams here in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri, I hope that your committee will respond favorably on S. 855, to establish Buffalo National River.

This is a unique opportunity to advance a recreational resource that is rapidly being commercialized out of existence by unwise land use. A growing population coupled to an increasing use of float streams means action on the Buffalo National River is long overdue according to my experience on the Buffalo over the past ten years.

Please place this letter on the record for your hearing on the Buffalo National River.

Sincerely yours,

WAYNE DELAVAN.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., May 26, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I am deeply interested in seeing Senate bill 855, for the creation of the Buffalo National River, pass so that this river and its beautiful surroundings can be saved in its wild state for those who come after us to enjoy. It is one of the very few wild rivers left for us to preserve.

Please make this letter a permanent part of the record.

Yours sincerely,

OSWALD E. FOLDVARY.

ROGERS, ARK.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please do all you can to preserve the Buffalo River, in northern Arkansas, by having it made a part of the National Park System.

Please make this card a part of the permanent record for Senate bill 855.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM SKAGGS.

MILWAUKEE, WIS., June 4, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I write to register my support for Senate bill 855, to create the Buffalo National River, and to request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record of the hearing on this bill before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

In April, 1965, my wife and I enjoyed four days and three nights canoe camping on the Buffalo River in Arkansas. We covered about forty miles of the river. The twenty-two members of our group agreed this river was unique in being almost in a natural condition for so many miles.

The proposal for a Buffalo National River was supported by Governor Orval E. Faubus in a letter he wrote to Lt. General William F. Cassidy, USA, Chief of Engineers, December 10, 1965. This letter is factual, thorough, and imaginative. It covers economic and flood-control considerations. In summary the Governor wrote, "There is no question that both esthetically and economically. . . a national river will be far better for the area, the State of Arkansas, and the nation, than would the construction of the proposed Gilbert Dam and Lake."

In case this letter is not already on record for study by your committee I shall be glad to have a xerox copy made for your record.

Your interest in this situation is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

JAMES H. MARCH,

Professor of Commerce (emeritus), University of Wisconsin.

BLUFF CITY CANOE CLUB,
Memphis, Tenn., May 27, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please accept this statement from the Bluff City Canoe Club of Memphis, Tennessee as full endorsement of Senate bill 855 for the creation of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. We hope that your Subcommittee and the Full Interior Committee will give this measure their full endorsement also.

The issue of the status of the Arkansas Buffalo has remained unsettled too long. The National Park Service made recommendations for its preservation as early as 1963, and again shows the desirability in its recent report. Bills were introduced in both Houses of Congress in the 90th Congress to establish

a national river, but action was not taken. In fairness to all concerned, definite action should now be taken.

The Arkansas Buffalo is one of the dwindling number of desirable free flowing streams remaining, but its desecration has begun. The passage of S. 855 can guarantee its preservation.

We request that our statement in support of S. 855 be made a permanent part of the record of the hearings conducted today by your Subcommittee.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

O. U. WALLING, *Vice President.*

CONWAY GARDEN CLUB,
Conway, Ark., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing on behalf of the Conway Garden Club, of which we have thirty-five members, endorsing the passage of current legislation for the creation of the Buffalo National River.

In our opinion, creating this movement would save and preserve one of the few free-flowing streams left in America and make it a permanent place of beauty and enjoyment for generations to come.

Please heed our request that this letter be made a permanent part of the record on the hearing on S. 855.

Sincerely,

Mrs. ED DUNAWAY.

BELLA VISTA COUNTRY CLUB,
Bella Vista, Ark., May 24, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

SENATOR: This letter is for the purpose of voicing my approval of proposed legislation for the Buffalo River, to be made a part of the record on the hearing S. 855.

"Buffalo National River" should be created. We are assuming that the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation under your chairmanship will see it done.

Sincerely,

E. J. GROBLEBE.

WARRENTON, MO., June 30, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: It has just been called to my attention that in the near future your committee will make a ruling to establish the Buffalo National River in Northwest Arkansas. Please have this statement made a part of the hearing record that we favor and hope that you will do all in your power to have the establishment of the Buffalo National River made a reality. We strongly support any type of legislation that will preserve our native forest, rivers and the elimination of pollution from our streams.

The natural resources of this country have been abused and destroyed long enough, it is now time that positive action be taken to preserve the ones we now have left so we will have them to enjoy ourselves and the coming generations in the future.

Would also like to mention that if you have anything to do with the legislation concerning the "Golden Eagle Passport" that was authorized by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965; Will you please see if this can be reinstated and made available to the thousands of people who enjoy the outdoors. This is one of the finest things our Government has made available, we have purchased a Golden Eagle Passport each year it has been available and we sure hate to see it discontinued.

Yours very truly,

JAMES K. SATTGAST.

NORTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE OF LOUISIANA,
Natchitoches, La., June 2, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. BIBLE: I am writing to request your support of Senate Bill #855. As you know, this bill is sponsored by Senators Fulbright and McClellan and concerns the establishment of the Buffalo National River.

I am presently head of the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation at Northwestern State College in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Each spring we sponsor field trips to the area for our students. During the spring we will usually send between 120 and 150 students to this area on canoe trips.

I feel that this is an unusually beautiful area and it would be a tremendous conservation effort if we were to be able to preserve it. It would be a tremendous loss to the future generations of Americans if this area were destroyed or commercialized.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. ALOST,
Head, Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

BLYTHEVILLE, ARK., June 3, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I understand you are chairman of the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. You are considering S. 855 dealing with preserving the beautiful Buffalo River in Arkansas.

I urge you to please pass this bill through your committee. We do not want man to pour any concrete around that river, changing its natural beauty. Hope you can send the bill on to the Senate floor in this session. Thank you.

L. C. MARSH.

COLLINSVILLE, ILL., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Please be advised that I am in complete approval of proposed legislation to create a Buffalo National River as covered by Senate Bill 855 and may I urge you to use your considerable influence to bring about the passing of this bill.

Too many of our streams have already been turned into impoundments and I believe a few should be left in something like their original state for coming generations to enjoy, especially streams of the size and location of the Buffalo.

Your very truly,

H. P. HARRIS.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Senate bill 855, sponsored by Senator Fulbright and Senator McClellan, is to be brought up for consideration under chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation.

I most sincerely hope that this bill will be passed and the Buffalo National River will become a part of our National Park system.

It is a most beautiful area, unspoiled, near enough to the heartland of our country to be most available even for week-end vacations.

This area is not rich in any other resource but its beauty, and as a vacation spot will bring employment to the people of this area. Too, those who will sell their land for the National River will not be displaced, but may remain there where they will be better able to live peacefully.

Most sincerely,

Mrs. A. J. HASSEL.

PRUITT, ARK., May 19, 1969.

THE SENATE INTERIOR COMMITTEE,
3103 New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: It is with some great deal of difficulty I attempt to write to you in reference to the proposed Buffalo River national park. I have neither the time, money nor talent to produce the sort of forceful material which various pro-park forces have already presented to you and to the public, but my ideas of right and wrong are strong and lucid and I must endeavor to convey my thoughts to you, praying that your own wisdom will show you that there are two sides to each story and ours—no matter how poorly presented—deserves just consideration.

Let me begin with a few simple facts pertinent to the shaping of my views, and therefore perhaps of interest to you. 1. I am informed by Senator Fulbright that my land is not involved in the park. My statements therefore are at least not prejudiced by that particular personal interest. 2. I am 25 years old and I do not remember a time when the government was not holding a threat of a national park over the heads of all of us in this area. 3. I love the river—I like to fish and swim and float—and I'm always proud to welcome tourists to the area. I live here by choice. I can think of nowhere else where I could be as content. Surely, this is the most beautiful country the Lord ever created, and I would be the last to wish any damaging change upon it. 4. Even more than I love this land, I love its people. My friends and neighbors all around this country are fine, hard-working farming people who cling to an old-fashioned simple, rural way of life that makes for good friends and good neighbors the likes of which are hard to come by in this modern, fast-moving society of ours.

I know that there are many reasons I could offer you for leaving us along the Buffalo alone, and I know some of the people who will be in Washington on the day of the hearing will present each of these reasons far better than I could and that others, who will not be there in person, have already written you.

For me, the whole thing boils down to one simple and incontrovertible fact: You just cannot sacrifice a group of people—no matter how insignificant and small that group may seem to you—for some lofty ideal like conservation, no matter how great may seem that ideal.

I am appalled that my government—a government I have loved and respected—could even consider this move. We are afraid, gentlemen. Afraid of our own government! And what a shocking statement this is! And even worse, some of us have lived in that state of fear as far back as we can remember! We're willing to compromise—some of us would sell, and some of the rest of us would give easements if a park must be, but you don't even want that—you want to take everything—everything we have given our whole lives to—not just hard work, although that too—but our dreams and hopes for the future, the land we've sweated over so that our children and our children's children will have something they can be proud of owning. Many of my beloved friends and neighbors will have to leave their homes and start again somewhere else. In your great magnanimity, you plan to offer others the great privilege of staying on their land the rest of their life, provided they don't do anything with it that you don't like. Isn't that nice! I'm sorry if I'm a little dense but I just don't understand why? How dare you appoint yourself god and ruler of our land? We're real, live, breathing people down here. We love our land and we want to keep it. Is that so very hard to understand?

And now I have done what I promised myself in starting this I would not do—I have gotten just plumb mad and so now I must stop because when I cool off I'll realize that you are men of sound judgment and wisdom and you will not let anyone just walk over us without giving our side due consideration.

I pray the Lord will guide you in this hearing and in all the daily decisions you must make. Thank you for your kind attention to this.

Sincerely,

RUTH ANN MILLER.

PRUITT, ARK.,
May 28, 1969.

GENTLEMEN: I do not know the full results of the current hearing on the Buffalo National River bill as it is still in progress, but I am sure of this much—that bill is going to be before you soon and then you are going to be required to cast your vote. When you do, you cast a vote that directly effects me, therefore

I write you once more. You all know my views. Most of you have already heard from me three or four times so this is merely a potpourri with little attempt to join it together—just the facts from this viewpoint.

The good Senator Bible, who is in charge of that fair and impartial hearing of both sides of the matter, was quoted in today's Arkansas Gazette as making the statement, "I am sold on the preservation of great national river systems, and I believe we have to move quickly because the bulldozers are not far behind." Congrats, Senator, on your unbiased viewpoint. Did you listen to the opposition at all? Also, please clarify—what bulldozers?—whose bulldozers?—and just what are they going to do that you're so afraid of?—maybe clear a few pastures so the people of Newton County can make a little money and stay independent—or level little openings along the highway where the hillbilly can display the arts and crafts of these mountains and maybe have a lucrative tourist business? If you really believe "the bulldozers" are going to do any damage to the river, I'm laughing at you. I wouldn't take a mule over most of that country and the rest of it is already cleared and in farmland.

Our great governor, Winthrop Rockefeller, announced yesterday he was in favor of the park. It so happens that I have a letter of April 18 stating, "As I am sure you know, the Buffalo National Park Bill has been in Committee for some time and no hearings have been held on it in Washington since 1967. I am of the opinion, and I hope you will agree, that a stand on the bill would not be wise until it comes out of committee." Congrats on your timing Governor! I certainly hope whatever political advantage you gained by selling us out was worth it!

My good neighbor and friend, Hillary Jones was present at the hearing. The Gazette reports: "Jones questioned the support of the National River proposal by Fulbright and Hammerschmidt who has introduced a companion bill in the house. He said they had wild rivers in their home counties, but had worked to get them dammed. They did not oppose development of Beaver reservoir, Table rock, or bull shoals 'because it enriched their home territories.' Since the lawmakers oppose putting a dam on the Buffalo, the witness added, 'Now we question their motivation as well as their judgment. We would wonder if they were afraid that the economy of their home counties would be affected.'" Hurrah, Hurrah for Hillary! I've been too chicken to say it, but I sure thought it.

The Committee must have been highly disappointed not to get a definite commitment of certain state lands, including the Buffalo River State Park. But that would cause fire and brimstone at home, and that Rocky is ducking!

Mr. Tudor of Marshall told the committee, "Today, I have a son fighting in Viet Nam along with other sons of Searcy and Newton Counties. They fight to give people of that land the right to determine their own destiny. If he survives, he will return to the Buffalo River area. How can this government justify the action they are considering here today when they let thousands of boys die in foreign lands trying to give a foreign country what it denies its own people in Newton and Searcy counties." Poor, Mr. Tudor. You *are* misguided! This all-powerful government of ours does as it pleases without the need to *justify* any action. But then it's our fault after all, we let them get that powerful.

I cannot shake the memory of the expression of a German friend of mine who, in discussing the park proposal, said, "and *they* still condemn all of Germany for what Hitler did." It's the same thing here. Little guys have no say when those in power want something."

George B. Hartzog, the National Park Service director announced that some 120 homes and 13 businesses would be affected by the Park. I know that's small potatoes to you, but I live here and to me that's 120 hard-working honest families who have to give up dreams and hopes and hard work and sweat and go start over somewhere else or live the rest of their lives under the government's thumb with no rights of their own.

I enclose for your information an article concerning Kyle's boys home. I wrote you about this some two weeks ago, and send this follow-up to show you just how low the slime-of-the-earth Ozark society will stoop to take what they want. If the Ozark Society never sees the river again it's all right with me, but somewhere in this wide country there are 500 boys from broken homes who desperately need the kind of assistance Kyle's boys home planned to offer. Remember them when you vote on this bill.

For your past responses to my comments and inquiries, thank you,

Sincerely,

RUTH ANN MILLER.

[From the Harrison Daily Times, Harrison, Ark.]

IF AREA BECOMES A NATIONAL PARK—WALLS MAY COME TUMBLING DOWN AT
BOYS CAMP IN WILDERNESS ON BUFFALO

(By Pete Young)

COTTER, ARK. (AP).—The walls may come tumbling down at a wilderness home for boys when and if the Buffalo River and its shoreline are declared part of the National Park system.

Two stone homes, tons of sand and a pile of mortar and cement mark the location in Newton County where the Rev. Floyd Harris of Cotter hopes someday will be a home for delinquent and homeless youths.

It was a colossal dream Harris shared with his youngest son, Kyle. The two nurtured the idea toward reality when, in 1957, they purchased 40 acres of Ozark Mountains along the river while Harris was a minister in Shreveport, La.

The landholdings grew to 1,355 acres by 1966 with plans being formulated to "someday" begin actual construction.

In 1968, when living in Houston, Tex., 13-year-old Kyle accidentally drove his motorbike into the side of a garage wall at the parsonage and was killed.

"We waited six months (after Kyle's death) so we knew we weren't running away from it," Harris said, "and then we moved here (Cotter) to begin work on the home."

The nonprofit corporation was chartered in 1963 as the Buffalo River Boys Home. Harris revised the name to the Kyle's Boys Home.

Harris had a road cut into the isolated area and ran electrical lines in as well as building supplies and heavy duty equipment for a prolonged building program that eventually would provide homes for about 500 boys.

Funds for the project came from Kyle's insurance and college savings, from donations, lectures and the sale of family antiques at the Kyle's Boys Home store at Cotter.

Harris said he had about \$100,000 tied up in the project when a government official told him the area was included in a proposed national park and that he could not be compensated for any expenses incurred since 1967.

The information came after one home had been completed and another was nearing completion. There were ample supplies already purchased and stockpiled for further construction.

"We were told we would just be losing money if we continued to build," Harris said. "He (government official) said he hated for us to lose money when we gave up the property."

"We've got 450 sacks of cement just sitting there—we got it the week before he came—sand and stone piled up and we plan to just go on and build it," he said.

Bernard Campbell, director of the National Parks System in Arkansas, said he had talked with Harris but denied telling the minister he would not be compensated for any improvements made to the land after Jan. 1, 1967.

However, Campbell declined to say what would become of the proposed boys home if Harris continued to build on the site. Campbell also said he felt Harris was a "dedicated and sincere person."

Financial problems also are beginning to plague the proposed settlement. "No one can lend us any money under the circumstances," he said.

Harris played professional baseball from 1931-38. He was a baseball manager and coach in 1942 when he entered the Baptist ministry.

His religious work led him to work with juvenile delinquents as far back as 1948, Harris said.

Harris and Kyle, the youngest of four sons, began saving Buffalo nickels to help finance construction of the home. The youth also saved what turned into a valuable coin collection.

With Kyle's death the collection was sold.

Harris also has written a book, soon to be published, entitled, "Letters To A Son."

"I began writing letters to Kyle late at night when I could not sleep," Harris said. "I later tried to use some kind of theme helpful to parents that have had some of the grief that we have."

"I would never have agreed to have it published except to use the proceeds for the home," he said.

Fate of Kyle's Boys Home is not dependent upon whether it can be built on the Buffalo.

"Some friends in Texas have offered to purchase the land and build the entire home if we will return there," Harris said. "But this is where he wanted to build the home—in these mountains. They're an ideal place to raise young boys.

"We're selling everything we've got to remain here," he said, "so I don't want to quit now. I just as soon let it all go."

HASTY, ARK., *May 20, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: As we are unable to attend the hearing on Senate bill S. 855, we wish to convey a few of our opinions.

On a matter of such great importance to many people, we wonder why these hearings could not have been held in this area? Many of the people would like to be heard, but are financially unable to go to Washington. Why should we be forced to send representatives to Washington to defend our homes against our own government? We have been sitting on a powder keg for over two years. How much longer are we to be harassed?

The hearing on S. 855 is not until May 27, yet the TV and movie magnates are here making studies of our land. Is this the purpose of this land grab? We question the right of the government to take our land for such a purpose? We question the right of Senator Fulbright to attempt to take our property for public use without first establishing the need? Most especially since National Parks are running out of our ears and are being very poorly maintained.

Why should you be asked to pass judgment on a bill of this magnitude, when all the pertinent facts are not contained in the bill? For instance, how are the land owners to be compensated? Land values in this area are from \$400 to \$1,000 an acre. Enclosed is published listings.

We believe the No. 1 consideration should be to the land owners, who would be displaced, yet there is nothing in the bill to cover all the inconvenience, expenses in re-locating and etc. All these facts should be stated in Senate bill S. 855.

We believe it is time our Congress give thought and action to individuals rights.

As we do not have the names of your committee members, we ask if you would please make this letter available to all members.

We also ask that this letter be made a part of the congressional records.

Yours truly,

DURWARD L. FUNK.

(The listings referred to are in the files of the committee.)

RESOLUTION OF THE CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI

Be it resolved That the Conservation Federation of Missouri in Annual Convention assembled in Jefferson City, Missouri, this 13th day of April, 1969, expresses its continued support for the establishment of the Buffalo National River in Arkansas and its opposition to dams on the Buffalo River,

Be it further resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Park Service, Governor of Arkansas and the Missouri and Arkansas Delegations in Congress.

YWCA, FORBING CAMP, *June 13, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation,
Washington, D.C.:

We the undersigned Campers and Counselors of Camp I, 1969 Y.W.C.A. Camp of Shreveport, Louisiana, ask that you pass favorably on Senate Bill 855 making the Buffalo River in Arkansas a National River. Our camp director, Mrs. Bryand Davidson, spoke in our behalf at the opening hearing on this river in Washington in May. We ask that this petition be placed in the permanent record.

(The above petition carried 56 signatures.)

HASTY, ARK., June 27, 1969.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We the landowners in Newton County, Ark. request hearings concerning the Buffalo river and proposed area be heard soon as possible in the immediate area.

GEORGE VIOREL,
Buffalo River Landowners Association.

(Also signed by 132 residents.)

HASTY, ARK., June 26, 1969.

The Buffalo River Landowners Association strongly opposes the extension of the Ozark National Forest to cover the river and lands along the Buffalo River, Arkansas.

Therefore, we oppose the Pastoral River Plan submitted by Charles P. Thompson, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. We strongly urge the river remain as is, in private land ownership.

GEORGE VIOREL.

(Also signed by 235 other residents.)

