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SNOW MOUNTAIN, LOPEZ CANYON, AND ALDO LEOPOLD WILDERNESS AREAS

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KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON

INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-SECOND CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

S. 2680

A BILL TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN LANDS IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AS WILDERNESS

S. 3027

A BILL TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN LANDS IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, AS WILDERNESS

S. 3256

A BILL TO DESIGNATE THE ALDO LEOPOLD WILDERNESS, GILA NATIONAL FOREST, NEW MEXICO

MAY 18, 1972



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SNOW MOUNTAIN, LOPEZ CANYON, AND ALDO LEOPOLD WILDERNESS AREAS

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1972

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Hon. Clinton P. Anderson (presiding).

Present: Senators Anderson (presiding), Buckley, Metcalf.

Also present: Jerry Verkler, staff director; Porter Ward, professional staff member; and Thomas Nelson, assistant minority counsel.

Senator ANDERSON. The subcommittee will come to order.

This is the time duly noticed and set for an open hearing by the Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands on S. 2680, S. 3027, and S. 3256, to designate certain lands as wilderness.

The enactment of these bills will designate lands located in the Mendocino National Forest, Calif.; in the Los Padres National Forest, Calif.; and the Gila National Forest in New Mexico, as national wilderness areas.

The proposed Mendocino National Forest lands comprise approximately 37,000 acres which shall be known as the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area. The land depicted in the Los Padres National Forest consisting of approximately 21,500 acres will be known as the Lopez Canyon National Wilderness Area. The Gila National Forest proposal consisting of approximately 1,808,095 acres will be known as the Aldo Leopold Wilderness.

I direct that the text of these bills and reports appear at this point in the record.

(The bills follow:)

[S. 2680, 92d Cong., first sess.]

A BILL To designate certain lands in the State of California as wilderness

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with subsection 3(b) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132(b)), certain lands in the Mendocino National Forest, California, which comprise approximately thirty-seven thousand acres as depicted on a map entitled "Snow Mountain DeFacto Wilderness Area", dated June 1971 are hereby designated as wilderness and shall be known as the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.

SEC. 2. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file a map and a legal description of the wilderness area with the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, and such description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided, however*, That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal description and map may be made.

SEC. 3. The wilderness area designated by this Act shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act

governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., May 17, 1972.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
United States Senate.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: As you requested, here is our report on S. 2680, a bill "To designate certain lands in the State of California as wilderness."

This Department recommends that S. 2680 not be enacted.

S. 2680 would designate approximately thirty-seven thousand acres located in the Mendocino National Forest, California, as the "Snow Mountain Wilderness Area" to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132(b)).

There has been interest for many years in classifying the Snow Mountain area to preserve its roadless condition and natural character. This interest intensified in the mid-1960's as access roads were constructed near the area and the use of motorized vehicles in the area increased.

This led to an intensive study—completed in 1969 by the personnel of the Mendocino National Forest—to develop management alternatives for the area and gauge their probable impacts on resources and the American people. Wilderness was one of the alternatives studied and considered. The public was asked to comment on the alternatives and a public meeting was held. Public input included written recommendations from about 500 individuals and 46 organizations and 41 oral presentations at the public meeting.

The Forest Supervisor of the Mendocino National Forest based his management decision of January 1970, on the study and the public views that he received. To fulfill the need for primitive-type recreation and protection of the natural condition, two special zones were designated. The 6,618-acre Snow Mountain Back-country Scenic Area is managed to restore, maintain, or improve conditions for primitive, dispersed recreation use; to maintain or improve water quality and yield and to maintain or enhance wildlife habitat. Motorized vehicles are prohibited. The 6,235-acre Middle Fork Stony Creek Scenic Area is managed to maintain outstanding scenic and primitive qualities of the gorge and stream, and related water quality and fish habitat values. Motorized vehicles are prohibited from the gorge area.

Six other zones were designated for modified management to protect and enhance aesthetics, watershed, and fish and wildlife values. These zones allow controlled vehicle use such as the long-established, cross-country trail bike use. The timber resource can be utilized under strict controls to prevent damage to other values. Needed developed recreation sites can be constructed in these zones.

We have attempted and, we believe, have succeeded in using a professional study, complemented with public participation and advice, to apportion the resources of the Snow Mountain area to the best benefit of the Nation's people. Wilderness designation was studied and considered but due to the resources and established uses which would have become unavailable and the proximity to other Wildernesses—1 with 110,000 acres within 40 airline miles and 6 others with 684,077 acres within 150 airline miles—it was not selected.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

J. PHIL CAMPBELL,
Under Secretary.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., May 17, 1972.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
United States Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request of May 12, 1972, for the views of the Office of Management and Budget on S. 2680, a bill "To designate certain lands in the State of California as wilderness."

The Office of Management and Budget concurs in the views of the Department of Agriculture in its report on S. 2680, and accordingly recommends against enactment of the bill.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. C. HYDE, JR.,
Acting Assistant Director for Legislative Reference.

[S. 3027, 92D CONG. FIRST SESS.]

A BILL To designate certain lands in San Luis Obispo County, California, as wilderness

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) subject to the provisions of subsection (b), the following lands located in San Luis Obispo County, California, and consisting of approximately 21,500 acres, are hereby designated as wilderness:

<i>Legal description of proposed Lopez Wilderness area</i>	<i>Approximate acreage</i>
Township 29 south, range 13 east, Mount Diablo base line and meridian:	
Sec. 31: Southeast quarter of southeast quarter; west half of southeast quarter-----	120
Sec. 32: Southwest quarter of southwest quarter-----	40
Township 30 south, range 13 east, Mount Diablo base line and meridian:	
Sec. 5: Lots 4 through 12 (being northwest quarter of northwest quarter and south half) south half of northwest quarter-----	440
Sec. 6: East half of east half-----	160
Sec. 7: Northeast quarter of northeast quarter-----	40
Sec. 8: All, except lots 13, 14-----	560
Sec. 9: Lots 3, 5 through 12 (being the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter and the south half)-----	360
Sec. 10: South half of the southeast quarter-----	80
Sec. 13: Southwest quarter of the northwest quarter; west half of the southwest quarter; southeast quarter of the southwest quarter; southwest quarter of the southeast quarter-----	200
Sec. 14: Southeast quarter of the northeast quarter; east half of the southeast quarter; southwest quarter of the southeast quarter; west half of the west half; southeast quarter of the southwest quarter--	360
Sec. 15: All-----	A10
Sec. 16: All, except north half of the northwest quarter-----	560
Sec. 17: All except portion lying westerly of East Cuesta Ridge Rd. and portions within 50 feet of center line of spur road to and installation on Mount Lowe-----	300
Sec. 21: Portion lying easterly of Existing East Cuesta Ridge Rd-----	540
Sec. 22: All-----	640
Sec. 23: All-----	640
Sec. 24: All-----	640
Sec. 25: All-----	640
Sec. 26: All-----	640
Sec. 27: All, except southwest quarter of southwest quarter-----	640
Sec. 28: Portions of lots 1, 2, 7, 8, and 9 lying easterly of East Cuesta Ridge Rd-----	180
Sec. 35: North half-----	320
Township 30 south, range 14 east, Mount Diablo base line and meridian:	
Sec. 19: All, except northeast quarter-----	480
Sec. 28: All lying southerly of Hi Mountain Rd-----	20
Sec. 29: West half-----	320
Sec. 30: All-----	640
Sec. 31: All, excepting San Luis Obispo County Assessor Parcel Numbered 70-461-1; 70-461-2; and 48-011-1 (irregular)-----	740
Sec. 32: All lying southerly of Hi Mountain Rd. (irregular)-----	800
Sec. 33: All lying southerly of Hi Mountain Rd. (irregular)-----	600
Sec. 34: All, excepting portion lying northeasterly of Hi Mountain Rd-----	450
Sec. 35: All that portion lying southerly of Hi Mountain Rd-----	160
Sec. 36: All that portion lying southerly of Hi Mountain Rd-----	50

Legal description of proposed Lopez Wilderness—Continued

	<i>Approximate acreage</i>
Township 31 south, range 14 east, Mount Diablo base line and meridian:	
Sec. 1: All excepting portion 50 feet from centerline of spur road to and installation on Hi Mountain-----	450
Sec. 2: All (irregular)-----	580
Sec. 3: All (irregular)-----	580
Sec. 4: All (irregular)-----	540
Sec. 5: Lots 1 through 8-----	240
Sec. 9: North half of the northeast quarter; southeast quarter of the northeast quarter-----	160
Sec. 10: All excepting portion lying southerly of County Rd. (irregular)-----	
Sec. 11: All-----	640
Sec. 12: All-----	640
Sec. 13: All (irregular)-----	500
Sec. 14: Northwest quarter; east half; northwest quarter of southwest quarter-----	520
Sec. 15: East half of the northeast quarter-----	80
Township lot numbered 48 (All lying easterly of Lopez Canyon Rd.)--	160
Township lot numbered 49 (All lying easterly of Lopez Canyon Rd.)--	160
Township 31 south, range 15 east, Mount Diablo base line and meridian:	
Sec. 5: Lots 3 and 4-----	80
Sec. 6: All (which includes an irregularly surveyed township lot numbered 42)-----	560
Bureau of Land Management Land:	
Sec. 7: All (irregular)-----	425
Sec. 8: South half of the northwest quarter; southwest quarter of the northeast quarter; north half of the southwest quarter; southwest quarter of the southwest quarter; northwest quarter of the southeast quarter-----	280
Sec. 17: All except northeast quarter of the northeast quarter; and except south half of the southwest quarter-----	520
Sec. 18: All, except south half of the southwest quarter and, southeast quarter of southwest quarter-----	520

(b) Any non-Federal lands included within the area described under subsection (a) of this section shall not be considered as wilderness until such lands have been acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(c) The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, exchange, or condemnation any or all non-Federal lands located within the exterior boundaries of the area described under subsection (a). Such lands, on and after their acquisition shall be administered as wilderness lands in accordance with section 2 of this Act.

(d) Lands designated as wilderness by this Act, including lands acquired pursuant to subsection (c), shall be known as the "Lopez Canyon National Wilderness Area".

SEC. 2. The wilderness area established by this Act shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 3. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file a map of the wilderness area established by this Act with the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, and such description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal description and map may be made.

SEC. 4. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., May 17, 1972.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: As you requested, here is our report on S. 3027, a bill "To designate certain lands in San Luis Obispo County, California, as wilderness."

This Department recommends that S. 3027 not be enacted.

S. 3027 would designate approximately 21,500 acres located in San Luis Obispo County, California, as the "Lopez Canyon National Wilderness Area," to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act. (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132(b)). Non-Federal lands within the area would not be considered wilderness until acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture. Such lands could be acquired by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, exchange, or condemnation.

The Wilderness Act defines Wilderness, in part, as an area "... where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man . . .", "... without permanent improvements . . .," and "... with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable . . ." The Lopez Canyon Wilderness proposal is not such an area.

Some of the non-conforming features of the area with respect to qualification as a wilderness under the Wilderness Act are 2.5 miles of conventional road, 4.0 miles of 4-wheel-drive vehicle road, and a 70 KV power transmission line traversing the area.

The Lopez Canyon area is an important municipal watershed which is subject to large fires. Continued management and protection of the municipal watershed lands are important to several nearby communities. This is partially dependent upon fuel management measures and access to the area by helicopter. The area now has 3.2 miles of tractor-constructed fuel breaks and 33 constructed helicopter landing spots.

Studies are being continued by the Forest Service to determine the best resource allocation decisions for the area. These include a proposal for a 12,000 acre Scenic Area on which we are now getting public comment.

For these reasons, we strongly suggest that the Lopez Canyon Area does not meet the high standards of the Wilderness Act and of other units of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

J. PHIL CAMPBELL,
Under Secretary.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., May 17, 1972.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request of April 12, 1972, for the views of the Office of Management and Budget on S. 3027, a bill "To designate certain lands in San Luis Obispo County, California, as wilderness."

The Office of Management and Budget concurs in the views of the Department of Agriculture in its report on S. 3027, and accordingly recommends against enactment of the bill.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. C. HYDE, JR.,
Acting Assistant Director for Legislative Reference.

[S. 3256, 92d Cong. second sess.]

A BILL To designate the Aldo Leopold Wilderness, Gila National Forest, New Mexico

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with subsection 3(b) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 891; 16 U.S.C. 1132(b)), the area classified as the Aldo Leopold Primitive Area, with the proposed additions thereto and deletions therefrom, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness", which is on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief, Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, is hereby designated as the Aldo Leopold Wilderness within and as part of the Gila Nation Forest, comprising an area of approximately one hundred eight-eight thousand and ninety-five acres.

SEC. 2. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file a map and a legal description of the Aldo Leopold Wilderness with the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and such description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided, however,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal description and map may be made.

SEC. 3. The Aldo Leopold Wilderness shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 4. The previous classification of the Aldo Leopold Primitive Area is hereby abolished.

Senator ANDERSON. We have more than 20 witnesses to hear today. Many of them have come a long way, and we want to hear them all. However, in order to accomplish this, we are asking that witnesses confine their oral presentations to no more than 5 minutes, and then submit their statement for the record. The statement will appear as if read.

Where several of you represent the same group or association, I may call you up in a panel. And here I hope that speakers will avoid repetition as much as possible.

Anyone who wishes to present their statement for the record will be welcome to do so.

Senator Cranston, you are the leadoff witness, so go right ahead.

STATEMENT OF HON. ALAN CRANSTON, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Senator CRANSTON. Thank you very much.

I deeply appreciate the opportunity to testify this morning on the merits of two proposed new wilderness areas in California: S. 2680, to designate certain lands within Mendocino National Forest as the Snow Mountain National Wilderness Area; and S. 3027, to designate certain lands in the Los Padres National Forest as the Lopez Canyon National Wilderness Area.

I wish to express my sincerest appreciation, Mr. Chairman, for your willingness to schedule hearings on these two bills, for I am aware of the large number of wilderness proposals which this committee has yet to consider.

While Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon are strikingly different in appearance, location, terrain, and in the unique flora and fauna native to each, I think it is appropriate to consider the two proposals together. The similarities are at least as significant as their differences.

For example, both areas are within the California region of the

national forest system. Both are now "de facto" wilderness areas. Both are very near major population centers in the Nation's most populous State. Both enjoy broad-based and enthusiastic public support—as you will find evident this morning by the large number of Californians who have journeyed 3,000 miles to urge the Congress to enact these bills. Finally, both proposals are vigorously opposed by the Forest Service, notwithstanding the fact that the Forest Service has acknowledged the wilderness values of each as well as the necessity of protecting at least portions of the areas described in my bills.

This last point suggests the need to examine the concept of wilderness in general, and, specifically, how the Forest Service applies that concept to the candidacy of Lopez Canyon and Snow Mountain for inclusion in the national wilderness preservation system.

We are all indebted to the Forest Service for pioneering the concept of wilderness. It is a uniquely American concept. Only in the United States have large sections of wilderness been permanently preserved for their scenic and spiritual values. Several decades ago, a few far-sighted men in the Forest Service, notably Aldo Leopold, conceived and implemented the idea of preserving our wilderness resource for future generations, and stimulated the public debate that resulted in the Wilderness Act of 1964.

The dominant purpose of the Wilderness Act is to insure an enduring resource of wilderness for the Nation. It is against this principle that we must measure the Forest Service opposition to a wilderness designation for Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon.

Snow Mountain is a peak of 7,056 feet affording a unique opportunity for solitude and a spectacular view of the upper Sacramento Valley. It is the last remnant of the Mendocino National Forest that is still roadless and undeveloped.

My bill would designate as wilderness some 37,000 acres surrounding Snow Mountain. It includes portions of Lake, Colusa and Glenn Counties. The boards of supervisors of all three counties have formally endorsed a wilderness designation for the 37,000-acre Snow Mountain area.

Mendocino National Forest consists of a total of 1,082,642 acres.

The designation of 37,000 acres as the Snow Mountain Wilderness, plus the 73,997 acres that comprise the already-designated Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness would still leave 971,645 acres of non-wilderness in the Mendocino National Forest, as compared to 110,997 for wilderness.

The Snow Mountain area, with its wide variety of vegetation—ranging from chaparral and brush to mixed conifers, red fir, white fir, and ponderosa pine—and its abundant wildlife—including deer, squirrel, bobcats, golden eagles, quail, bear, and mountain lions—is an outstanding example of the primitive, rugged beauty of the Coast Range.

The Mendocino National Forest in recent years has been the scene of a great deal of logging and roadbuilding. Incursions by motorized vehicles into the Snow Mountain vicinity have increased and have been acknowledged as a serious hazard to the sensitive ecology of the area by the Forest Service. A wilderness designation is virtually the only way of preserving and protecting as an enduring resource this last untouched portion of the Mendocino National Forest.

Just 80 miles north of San Francisco, Snow Mountain offers the closest opportunity for a wilderness experience for the 5 million residents of the bay area, a figure which is expected to triple by the year 2020. Snow Mountain is also within easy reach of the people of Sacramento and the Vaccaville-Davis-Woodland population center. The pressures of a growing population dictate the need to protect this pristine area from overuse and misuse, while, at the same time, setting aside a wilderness within easy reach of the people.

Lopez Canyon is located within the Los Padres National Forest in San Luis Obispo County, along the central coast of California. It is basically a wild, rough highland with outcroppings of picturesque rocks and, except for three fir, fern-covered valleys, the area is mostly covered with pine and oak and chaparral.

The late Dr. Robert F. Hoover, a former professor of botany at California State Polytechnic College noted that the Lopez Canyon area contains the only stand of knobcone pine between Monterey and the San Bernardino Mountains, one of the most extensive stands of bigcone pine in existence, extensive stands of two species of manzanita, especially fine groves of canyon oak, tank oak, maple and sycamore, and at least 12 species of ferns—more than half the entire number known to exist in the county.

Dr. Hoover once described the delicate character of the canyon:

In the upper end of the canyon, and probably in some of the tributaries, magnificent natural gardens including Woodwardia ferns, Aralia, maidenhair ferns, leopard lillies and wild orchids can be found. Accessibility of the area to large numbers of people could only lead to the destruction of this priceless and irreplaceable heritage.

The western border of the 21,500-acre area proposed in S. 3027 is only 12 miles from the heart of the city of San Luis Obispo. While there has been some controversy surrounding a wilderness designation for Lopez Canyon, Congressman Burt Talcott conducted a well-publicized local public hearing on April 7, and was quoted in the local paper as observing that 90 percent of those attending favored the wilderness designation.

The Forest Service advised me in a letter dated April 26, 1972, that it opposed a wilderness designation for Snow Mountain because "it has been determined that the greatest public benefits, including other forms of outdoor recreation, would be attained by providing expanded multiple-use benefits."

In that same letter, California Regional Forester Leisz advised that the Forest Service opposed a wilderness classification for Lopez Canyon because "the evidence of man's past and present activities makes it unlikely that this area conforms to the criteria set forth in the Wilderness Act of 1964."

I am not persuaded by these objections, and I was recently pleased to note that State officials are also not persuaded. In a March 1, 1972, report entitled "State of California, Environmental Goals and Policy," Gov. Ronald Reagan identified Lopez Canyon and Snow Mountain Wilderness Areas as "areas of critical concern to the State of California."

I agree with Governor Reagan and with the local citizens who will be testifying later this morning. As a Californian, I want to see preserved for future generations the irreplaceable wilderness resource of our State. As an elected representative of the people of California,

I have a responsibility to use every means at my disposal to preserve forever the last vestiges of what was once a nation of stunningly magnificent forested mountains, snow-capped peaks, wild rivers, shady fern-covered valley floors, and abundant open, wild spaces.

If Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon are not soon given the protection of a wilderness designation, their unique and unspoiled qualities will be lost forever. Without a wilderness designation, the "hand of man" that so disturbs the Forest Service in Lopez Canyon will only grow more obvious. The ruinous tracks of motorcycles and four-wheel drive vehicles will only travel further up the slopes of Snow Mountain. There will be no barrier to the construction of additional roads and nothing to prevent commercial development of timber harvesting. In short, the encroachment of modern civilization has become so threatening to the wilderness that failure to provide the legal protection of a wilderness designation would be tantamount to ordering their destruction.

Growing stronger every day are the pressures of a rapidly increasing population, of dwindling open spaces, of increasing demand for outdoor recreation of all kinds, and of a highly industrialized economy which, in less than 100 years, has consumed a vast portion of the world's natural resources. It is incumbent upon every public official to resist these pressures in order to preserve what is left of our wilderness heritage.

If we fail to provide an enduring wilderness resource of sufficient size to accommodate our growing population, we will rob the yet unborn citizens of America of their wilderness birthright.

If we succeed, Mr. Chairman, our children and our grandchildren will understand far better than we the words of Aldo Leopold:

The richest values of wilderness lie not in the days of Daniel Boone, nor even in the present, but rather in the future.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you.

Senator ANDERSON. Do you have a map there for our use?

Senator CRANSTON. Yes. That is not a map of this area. That is the Aldo Leopold area. We have a map that shows the island of Snow Mountain up here in the midst of the forest, that yellow area there. The other area—San Francisco here, Sacramento here. Los Padres Canyon would be right along here, close to the coastal city of San Luis Obispo. Snow Mountain is in the forest up here. Here is the bay area and here is Sacramento. We can put that in the record so you can have that available for study.

Senator ANDERSON. Yes; we will take it for the file. Do you have other examples of areas like this?

Senator CRANSTON. None in that forest where Snow Mountain is, and none in the other area. Not in either forest in any proximity.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, thank you very much for testifying.

Senator CRANSTON. Thank you, and thank you, Senator Buckley.

Senator Tunney had a statement that I would like to ask placed in the record also.

Senator ANDERSON. All right.

(The statement of Senator Tunney follows:)

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN V. TUNNEY, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Chairman, I would like to wholeheartedly urge the enactment of legislation designating as wilderness areas Lopez Canyon De Facto Wilderness in the Los Padres National Forest and Snow Mountain De Facto Wilderness in the Mendocino National Forest.

The hearings on these proposals demonstrate the wisdom in the Original Wilderness Act of explicitly ensuring that the Congress should ultimately decide the number and configuration of wilderness areas.

Many times we have seen the Congress considering proposals submitted by federal agencies who have demonstrated hostility toward the basic intent of the law which Congress has charged them with administering. We have seen this happen in the implementation of the Wilderness Act.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to urge that this Committee consider conducting complete oversight hearings on the implementation and interpretation of the Wilderness Act by the Forest Service and the National Park Service.

The Forest Service has decided to oppose the designation of Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon as wilderness areas. This is an unfortunate decision. However, the rationale behind this decision is even more unfortunate.

The Forest Service has interpreted the Wilderness Act in a manner so pure that it would seem to be designed to avoid the designation of any further wilderness areas.

The proposed Snow Mountain Wilderness is located in the Northern Coast Range west of Willows, California. Three area counties, Lake, Colusa and Glenn support the wilderness proposal which includes all of Snow Mountain, the Middle Fork of Stony Creek Watershed and much of St. John Mountain.

Here is a wilderness rich in native flora and fauna. Vegetation types include grasslands, mountain meadows, many chaparral types, canyon oaks, oak woodland, mixed conifers, high elevation red and white fir and others. Rare and unusual plant species are found on 7,056 foot Snow Mountain and throughout the area. The Middle Fork of Stony Creek supports a fine native trout fishery.

This land was first set aside by President Theodore Roosevelt as the Stony Creek Forest Reserve in 1907. Current Forest Service plans would allow a Highway to slice through the area as well as timber harvesting, brush conversion and motorization in much of what is wild today.

Congressman Robert Leggett, recognizing the need to preserve this area has introduced the Snow Mountain Wilderness proposal which was co-sponsored by 15 other House members.

Senator Alan Cranston and I have introduced an identical bill.

Snow Mountain is ideal for wilderness classification because of its rugged character, opportunities for solitude, very low values for timber harvest or other economic uses, and its sensitive watersheds which require minimum disturbance to insure against damage.

The second proposal which you are considering here today is proposed Lopez Canyon Wilderness.

This area is dominated by Lopez Creek and its tributaries in the Mountains near San Luis Obispo. The proposed Lopez Canyon Wilderness would comprise some 21,500 acres. This canyon is well wooded in the upper reaches with pines, madrone, sycamore and oak, the lower reaches with dogwood, cottonwood, willow and laurel. Fine waterfalls tumble down the canyon floor for Lopez is perennially flowing.

Some minor intrusions, such as old four wheel fire roads and helicopter landing sites are found within the area, but these do not disqualify it as wilderness. This is an important and valuable wilderness oasis, just 12 miles from the rapidly growing urban center of San Luis Obispo.

Senator ANDERSON. Our next witness is Congressman Leggett.

STATEMENT OF HON. ROBERT A. LEGGETT, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. LEGGETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Congressman Leggett from the Central Valley of California and I represent currently all of the area involved in the Snow Mountain Wilderness project.

I would like to submit our statement with attachments to it, and we have additional copies that we can provide to the committee and we would ask that the statement be incorporated with the attachments in the record. I will supplement it, if that is satisfactory with you.

Senator ANDERSON. Yes; we will put that in the record.

What about the other taxpayers in the area, are they happy about this or opposed to it?

Mr. LEGGETT. You are going to receive some pro and con on the Snow Mountain project. I have attached to my statement a copy of the resolutions from the county of Lake, the county of Colusa, and a resolution of the board of supervisors of the county of Glenn, where they support the inclusion of the entire 37,000 acres of the top of this Snow Mountain as a wilderness area.

I would like to say that I have worked very closely with the National Forest Service in this area. They have done generally an excellent job of management of the forest; we have worked very closely and they are very much concerned with conservation. Particularly on the Snow Mountain project, they have given that particular area very close study and after considerable public hearings over a year ago, they concluded that the project should be given multiple use treatment, some 27,000 acres, rather than including the full 37,000 acres into a wilderness area.

Senator ANDERSON. Is that involved with recreation?

Mr. LEGGETT. Recreation for trail bikes, part of it wilderness and part of it for timber.

Our review of the situation is really that there is such a small amount of timber in this area and it is one of the few areas left in the southern part of northern California, that we should go ahead and tip the balance in favor of conservation and save this area. The area is probably not 15 miles in diameter in the circular area that encompasses Snow Mountain. There is probably a million and a half dollars, tops, of timber in the area, and there is a contract outstanding for part of the area for timber.

We have had an agreement with the Commander Industries that have the contract, that are here this morning and will testify, I understand, that they will not timber the area under the contract until decisions are made by the Forest Service and/or this committee, and I would think this timber in this area should be spared.

The Forest Service should go ahead and make an agreement with Commander Industries giving them the right to timber on the areas so they don't lose any of their benefit of bargain, and I would say, if they make a few hundred thousand dollars on the sale of this timber it would be truly extraordinary. It doesn't appear to have that much profit. So really, for the purpose of making a few hundred thousand, we would really be forsaking the last wilderness possible area in the southern part of northern California.

To give the committee further insight into the project, I know sometimes pictures speak better than a thousand words, we do have some pictures to submit. They would be hard to put in your record because I don't think you print this multicolor, but we would like to submit them. Some of these pictures are taken in wintertime, some show the beautiful flowers that are there that the trees, of course, help to protect, and these were taken by ardent conservationists that go into this area.

The area is now open to horse trails and horsemen can penetrate it. This is Stone Gorge, as you can see at the appropriate time of the year there is a mass of water that comes cascading right down the center of this area. We have some of the best fishing in this area at certain times of the year, that we have in northern California.

That is a view of Snow Mountain in the summertime, it looks a little bare. It is not the most heavily treed area in northern California and one of the reasons it is available for wilderness protection at this time is the fact that it is not a lush area of big standing pines and redwoods. It is a sparse area but it is an area that has been saved until this time and it is clearly wilderness under the definition of 2(c) of the Wilderness Act. We think that the area should be protected.

I would say that I have had no requests from any of the trailblazer bike riders to avoid this designation, although I understand they have testified earlier.

One of the conservationists presented this book to me which shows some of the pictures of the mountain. They have some very interesting pine trees, I am not really great on trees, and other kinds of trees up there. It shows the project in the summertime and the way the snow collects there in the winter, and again, this book would be difficult to put in your record and I ask that you look at it and we will withdraw it at the appropriate time.

Senator ANDERSON. All right. We will accept it for the file.

Mr. LEGGETT. I would also at this time like to introduce into the record the statement of my colleague, Jerome R. Waldie, one of the co-authors of the legislation.

I would also like to introduce a statement from Hon. James C. Corman from the State of California.

I would point out, in the legislation which I have coauthored in the House with 14 coauthors, including Mr. Waldie, Miller, Rees, others, and I would ask that bill either be referred to in the record or included in your record.

Senator ANDERSON. Without objection that will be done.

Mr. LEGGETT. I would also like to point out what happens to areas like this when wilderness protection is not afforded. I submit this for the record. The red lines indicate the roads in the area, the blue lines indicate the 37,000 acres under consideration. That was in 1951. We had some timber contracts in and around the exterior and this purports to be the road system in 1971. So you can see what happens when you don't give it the wilderness protection, it does become permeated with roads and spoils the natural splendor that a lot of future generations will never be affiliated with unless this committee takes action.

Senator BUCKLEY. What is that line there?

Mr. LEGGETT. That would indicate the wilderness protection is spoiled. As I understand it, a jeep got in there and went over and made a few tracks.

Senator ANDERSON. Have you visited this area?

Mr. LEGGETT. I have flown over it in a helicopter and I have been all over it and I am generally familiar with the area. It is one of the few marvels of northern California.

This purports to be three or four editorials from the Daily Journal which covers both sides of the argument of Commander Industries and the local people who are virtually unanimous in support of the wilderness protection for the area.

I would refer to the exhibits that I have attached to my formal testimony and I just go through them very quickly.

The first, if you look at the end of my testimony, it purports to be a map which has been drawn by the Governor's office of the State of California, and it shows the potential wilderness type areas in California. As you can see, just north of San Francisco Bay, this very imposing island of Snow Mountain, very small and unprotected in the middle of this 937,000 acre forest. This 37,000 acres is the only range in the 937,000 acres in this forest for which we are asking protection. The rest of it is entirely subject to timber contracts and the excellent management that the Forest Service has been giving to this general area.

Senator ANDERSON. Who developed the area, is it under contract?

Mr. LEGGETT. It is developed by the Forest Service and, of course, they award contracts in the national forests. The national forest is not sacrosanct from contracting and there are a number of contracts in the forest.

The only contracts that affect this particular project is the existing contract which was made a couple of years ago to Commander Industries where we have currently an understanding with the Forest Service and Commander Industries that this will not be logged until this committee acts, or we act in the House, or the Forest Service acts on its own volition.

Senator ANDERSON. Did the House pass the bill?

Mr. LEGGETT. The House has the bill and we are so busy on other things over there that we have not come to the point of hearings on legislation. Certainly, I want to thank you for allowing us to hear this legislation at this early date over here, at the instance of Senator Cranston.

I would indicate also the Wilderness Society is supporting this and in my materials are endorsements from the Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club and resolutions from boards of supervisors I have talked about.

I don't want to clutter the record too much, and if you don't want them I won't offer them, but I do have here about 15 letters from people all over the West indicating their concern all the way from school students to university people, people from Wyoming and the Midwest, indicating that they think this is a proper area to be salvaged for future generations, and I would offer these letters at this time as a block in support of our project, unless you think I am cluttering up your record. I want to say that we have a mass of other letters that we are not offering at this time and I would ask that they be included in our record at this time.

(The letters referred to were retained in the committee file.)

Mr. LEGGETT. I believe that is the extent of our testimony. I want to thank you very much for your attention.

Senator BUCKLEY. Congressman, may I ask a question?

Mr. LEGGETT. Yes.

Senator BUCKLEY. I notice section 3 of the Wilderness Act provides certain procedures for the designation of wilderness areas, including consultation with local authorities and the scheduling of public hearings in the locality. I understand these procedures have not been followed in each case, is that correct?

Mr. LEGGETT. They have held hearings looking toward either wilderness protection or multiple use protection, but they were not designated precisely or limited to wilderness under 3(d) of the act.

The Forest Service, of course, has certain pressures on them from lumbering interests and I have pressures on me from lumbering interests. We all have conflicting claims and I balanced these conflicting interests in my mind. I might point out there are letters in the pack of letters which I submitted from employees of the Forest Service indicating that while they take one action formally in the name of the Government their private view is that this area deserves protection.

I would say, to answer your question specifically, we have not held specific hearings looking toward the development of this area as wilderness for that specific purpose.

Senator BUCKLEY. Is there any reason why such hearings should not be conducted?

Mr. LEGGETT. I think the hearings that have been held that resulted in the multiple use of the suggestion of the Forest Service, are really adequate for the purpose. We got a mass of local comment and formal official comment and I think the areas do qualify. I don't think there is any serious question about their qualification.

This is a sparse area, 15,000 people in Lake County, 15,000 in Colusa County, 12,000 people in Glenn County. You could have hearings up there and really the people you would have at the hearing would be substantially the people in this room. I really think I have more input in this room with the Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society, the Commander Industries and the political officers being present that you would have on any field hearings. With out demonstrative evidence I think we could get a pretty good feel for the layout of the ground.

Senator BUCKLEY. Could the record of the hearings be made available?

Mr. LEGGETT. I am sure they intend to make those hearings available and also they will submit—well, I won't want to prejudge what they will submit. They have their case.

I will say this, I don't think we are really too far apart. The Forest Service yielded from the pressures of a few cycling groups that indicated they would like to drive cycles up this mountain and they have yielded to some interests of the timber people. Of course, they have this big 937,000 acres to manage and they determined that this million dollars' worth of timber should be timbered off here.

Our view is that the Government has the assets there of \$1 million worth of timber which is in the form of trees growing or in the form of cash. The small profit that would enure to the benefit of Commander Industries has to be less than one-half of 1 percent of their total overall interest in the West.

Certainly, we don't want to put the lumber industry out of business, I have one of their mills in my district and we don't want to affect their employment. At most this would be perhaps employment for a year, but we would be spoiling this area. I would consider it spoiled for future generations.

I think when you weigh one against the other it is a very small quid that you get for quo.

Senator BUCKLEY. Thank you.

Senator ANDERSON. Do you say the Forest Service is opposed to this?

Mr. LEGGETT. I will let them speak for themselves. They have reviewed the matter and they have come up with conclusions that only part of it should be in wilderness and part of it should be in trails and part of it should be a scenic road over the top of this mountain.

In our view we already have in this area some 3,000 or 4,000 miles of roads and we need another 20 miles worth of roads like a hole in the head, and if people want a scenic experience by car, there are all kinds of ways they can obtain that experience through driving in the Mendocino National Forest which has that 900,000 acres and they don't have to drive right through the center of the last remaining virgin area in this very large national forest.

Senator ANDERSON. You don't sound too enthusiastic about it.

Mr. LEGGETT. Not for the Forest Service's position of the road. I think it is unnecessary. I think it is expensive and even though you have \$1 million worth of trees here, by the time the contractor goes in there and spends a lot of money for roads, when they do it by helicopter or by other means of cutting, their profit on this amount of timber is very, very, lean. I think this committee should take action and save this for future generations.

Senator BUCKLEY. No further questions.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, thank you very much.

Mr. LEGGETT. I would like to introduce also at this time, again I am very hesitant to clutter your record, but perhaps we could submit this and counsel for the committee could select appropriate parts of this report. This is called the "Mendocino Coast, a Vanishing Resource," edited by Gary D. Fay and Keith W. McBride of the Redwood Coast Legal Research Group, and the local Assemblyman, John Dunlap, asked that his statement be submitted also for your record at this time with appropriate portions of this record that perhaps your counsel might select. We would submit the document that is 130 pages long and has some pictures that would be difficult to reproduce, but I would submit that document again for your record at this time, such portions as you might want to select, but we would like to include all of Mr. Dunlap's five-page statement.

(The report by Mr. Fay and Mr. McBride were retained in the committee file. The statement by Mr. Dunlap will be included with Congressman Leggett's material which will be printed in the appendix.)

Mr. LEGGETT. That is all of my testimony, Mr. Chairman, I know you have other witnesses on your agenda.

Senator ANDERSON. Thank you, Mr. Leggett.

(The prepared statement of Congressman Leggett follows. The attachments are in the appendix.)

STATEMENT OF HON. ROBERT L. LEGGETT, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee: I appreciate the opportunity to testify before you today on behalf of S. 2680, introduced by Senator Cranston, which would establish Snow Mountain as a Wilderness Area pursuant to the Wilderness Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-577).

The Snow Mountain Wilderness would encompass a 37,000 acre tract in the Mendocino National Forest, bordering on Glenn, Lake and Colusa Counties in Northern California. I introduced an identical bill, H.R. 9803 on July 14, 1971, and reintroduced this legislation on March 9, 1972, with 15 co-sponsors.

I have been following the development of this wilderness proposal for a number of years and can assure this Subcommittee that formal wilderness designation enjoys overwhelming support in my Congressional District.

It is my firm belief that those undeveloped lands which are such as to qualify as a wilderness under Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act should be given that legislative protection as far as is practicable. I have been to Snow Mountain and can state without equivocation that this mountain is one of the most beautiful of the untrammeled areas left on our West Coast.

The fact that the Snow Mountain area fits the Wilderness definition has not been challenged. A 1969 management plan by the United States Forest Service recognized the wilderness characteristics. This plan consisted of eight separate management zones totaling 27,317 acres, with approximately 10,000 acres designated as wilderness by directive. I must stress at this time, however, that the original management plan, including the wilderness section is merely an administrative decision by the Forest Service. This plan can be modified or reversed at any time. It is most important, therefore, that the expanded 37,000 acre proposal be given legislative protection.

Snow Mountain is the closest available Wilderness area north of the San Francisco Bay area, and considering the rapidly diminishing wild islands left anywhere near our metropolitan areas, the protection of each should be a legislative matter of the first priority. While the original area considered in the 1969 management study was 27,317 acres, it has been determined that the 37,000 acre tract as proposed by the instant legislation is the most logical delimitation of contiguous lands currently qualifying for wilderness protection.

Lest this Subcommittee feels that 37,000 acres is an excessive plot, I would point out that the Mendocino National Forest comprises over 950,000 acres, much of which has been developed by road and other construction. There are comparatively few wilderness or primitive areas in California as the map I refer to shows. You will note that the Bay Area environs are quite distant from any established wilderness. Snow Mountain is not only well suited as a wilderness, but also is well located in relation to the metropolitan regions.

One of the contentious issues involved in this matter is the value of timber properties for which forestation contracts have been let. At one point the Forest Service estimated a value of \$1,490,000 for timber within the entire scenic area, excluding the crest of Snow Mountain and the Middle Fork of Stony Creek which is located on the northern boundary of the area. Another estimate of \$1,219,000 was cited as the value for the original study area—presumably the 27,000 acre portion of Snow Mountain. However, only one timber contract has been issued thus far, and this is for but a small portion of the proposed wilderness. The Forest Service has not released figures on the estimated value of this contract. Thus, on one hand the Forest Service provides high value figures on total possible timber yield, yet does not provide figures for the actual expected harvesting areas. I would suspect that should these figures be made available, they would show rather low dollar values for the expected yield.

The cutting contract area lies for the most part outside the original 27,317 acre proposal, but well within the present 37,000 acre wilderness. No estimate is available on the valuation of the timber in the additional 10,000 acres. Therefore, I submit that the Forest Service timber valuation estimates are meaningless for the purpose of determining the economic impact of the legislation.

I have corresponded with officers of Commander Industries of Red Bluff, California, the company holding the cutting contract under the existing timber sale. The company has agreed to hold timbering and road-building operations in abeyance pending action on this legislation. I feel that Commander Industries should be commended for this public spirited decision and wish to bring it to the attention of this Subcommittee.

In conclusion, I wish to stress to this Subcommittee that the fate of Snow Mountain is in precarious balance. It is as yet undeveloped and remains much as it has for past centuries. Yet, if action is not soon taken it will fall to the chain saw and the asphalt road. Wilderness is one of our most precious commodities. It cannot be manufactured, and once lost cannot be regained. We cannot recycle a ravaged tract to reclaim a wilderness. We can only save what little we have left. This is the true index of our commitment to conservation, and the opportunity to save Snow Mountain should not be lost. Thank you.

Senator ANDERSON. We next have Jack Deinema of the Forest Service.

STATEMENT OF J. W. DEINEMA, ASSOCIATE DEPUTY CHIEF, U.S. FOREST SERVICE, ACCOMPANIED BY THEODORE W. KOSKELLA, DEPUTY REGIONAL FORESTER, SOUTHERN REGION

Mr. DEINEMA. Mr. Chairman, appropriately enough I was the regional forester for the California region less than 2 years ago when most of these designations were made that Congressman Leggett was talking about. Therefore, I have a fairly intimate knowledge of those particular areas and I was really interested to hear the Congressman's statement.

With your permission I would like to treat Snow Mountain as the first area under discussion.

Senator ANDERSON. Yes.

Mr. DEINEMA. It is really a pleasure to have the opportunity to present the views of the Department of Agriculture on this proposed legislation. S. 2680 would designate approximately 37,000 acres located in the Mendocino National Forest, Calif., as the "Snow Mountain Wilderness Area," to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the Wilderness Act.

There has been interest for many years in classifying the Snow Mountain area to preserve its roadless condition and natural character. This interest intensified in the mid-1960's as access roads were constructed near the area and the use of motorized vehicles in the area increased.

This led to an intensive study—completed in 1969 by the personnel of the Mendocino National Forest—to develop management alternatives for the area and gage their probable impacts on the resources and the American people. Wilderness was one of the alternatives studied and considered. The public was asked to comment on the alternatives and a public meeting was held. Public input included written recommendations from about 500 individuals and 46 organizations and 41 oral presentations at the public meeting.

The forest supervisor of the Mendocino National Forest based his management recommendations of January 1970, on the study and the public views that he received. To fulfill the need for primitive-type recreation and protection of the natural condition, two special zones were designated by the regional forester in July of 1970. The 6,618-acre Snow Mountain Backcountry Scenic Area is managed to restore, maintain, or improve conditions for primitive, dispersed recreation use; to maintain or improve water quality and yield; and to maintain or enhance wildlife habitat. Motorized vehicles are prohibited. The 6,235-acre Middle Fork of Stony Creek Scenic Area is managed to maintain outstanding scenic and primitive qualities of the gorge and stream, and related water quality and fish habitat values. Motorized vehicles are prohibited from the gorge area.

Six other zones were designated for modified management to protect and enhance esthetics, watershed, and fish and wildlife values. Vehicle use in the area is restricted and controlled so as to allow vehicle use on specified routes such as the long-established bike use on designated trails. The timber resource can be utilized under strict controls

to prevent damage to other values. Needed developed recreation sites can be constructed in these zones.

We have attempted and, we believe, have succeeded in using a professional study, complemented with public participation and advice, to apportion, protect, and manage the resources of the Snow Mountain area to the best benefit of the Nation's people. Wilderness designation was studied and considered but due to the resources and established uses which would have become unavailable and the proximity to other wildernesses—one with 110,000 acres within 40 airline miles and six others with 684,077 acres within 150 airline miles—it was not selected.

Therefore, this Department recommends that S. 2680 not be enacted.

This completes my prepared statement. I will be glad to try to answer any questions.

Senator ANDERSON. Can you give us a date on that public hearing?

Mr. DEINEMA. It was on December 11, 1969.

Public input included written recommendations.

(The information referred to follows:)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
FOREST SERVICE,
Washington, D.C., June 5, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: During the May 18 hearings before your Subcommittee on S. 2680, we were asked to furnish the date the public meeting was held to consider the management alternatives for the Snow Mountain area.

The meeting was held in Lockport on December 11, 1969.

May we help further?

Sincerely,

ADRIAN M. GILBERT,
Acting Deputy Chief, Programs and Legislation.

Senator ANDERSON. You don't think the bill should be passed?

Mr. DEINEMA. We do not think the bill should be enacted, no, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. The Forest Service recommends that all the way through?

Mr. DEINEMA. That's correct, sir, on this particular bill. We feel we have another type of management that is more appropriate for this area.

Senator ANDERSON. What is that?

Mr. DEINEMA. Two areas designated as scenic areas in which we do not allow vehicle use and six other areas protected for soil qualities but allowing some other type of use. Some trail bike and jeep use, and possibly timber use, if it can be done without damaging the soil and the watershed will be allowed.

Senator ANDERSON. But you are proposing to oppose the bill. What clearance do you have from the Department? To favor a bill you have to have clearance all the way through; when you oppose it what do you have?

Mr. DEINEMA. That's correct, we have clearance all the way through from the Secretary's office to oppose this bill.

Senator ANDERSON. Has it been filed?

Mr. DEINEMA. Yes, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. It is very interesting to see you oppose each other on this land use.

Mr. DEINEMA. Well, it is the way the Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, and some of the others would like to have us manage the forest.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, the Sierra Club doesn't manage the forest, does it?

Mr. DEINEMA. No, sir, it is just a difference of opinion that is all. I understand they are proposing a different type of management for this particular area. Maybe what you are referring to, Mr. Chairman, would be that some of the Forest Service people, as Congressman Leggett said, have testified and written letters saying they were in favor of it.

Senator ANDERSON. And, of course, they have not given official testimony.

Mr. DEINEMA. No, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. Has the Secretary cleared this?

Mr. DEINEMA. We have the administration's clearance, which I presume includes the Secretary of Interior.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, does it include him or not?

Mr. DEINEMA. We do have administration clearance to oppose this bill and we have filed it through the Secretary of Agriculture's office.

Senator ANDERSON. Senator Buckley.

Senator BUCKLEY. I note there is no witness here on behalf of the State of California. Do you happen to know what the position of the State is on this matter?

Mr. DEINEMA. No, sir, I do not. I heard Congressman Leggett say he had a letter from Governor Reagan, but I am not aware of it.

Senator BUCKLEY. This represents something less than 4 percent of the total area of the forest, is that correct?

Mr. DEINEMA. That is correct, of the entire Mendocino National Forest.

Senator BUCKLEY. Is there any reason why those roads cannot be accommodated in the balance of the forest?

Mr. DEINEMA. No, except they are well established in this particular section. Users expressed viewpoints at the public meeting in California at that time and they were adamant that they wanted to continue to use this one area.

Senator BUCKLEY. The Wilderness Act does permit the continued use of past practices, doesn't it?

Mr. DEINEMA. No, sir, this is not our interpretation.

Senator BUCKLEY. Thank you very much.

Senator ANDERSON. You referred to an area within 40 airline miles of this area. How much by road would it be?

Mr. DEINEMA. Approximately 100 miles by road, sir. That is a guess.

Senator ANDERSON. Who chaired it, the Department of Agriculture or Interior?

Mr. DEINEMA. The Department of Agriculture. The hearing record is probably in California. We could obtain what it consists of and have it forwarded to you.

Senator ANDERSON. It is unusual to have the Forest Service on one side and the Department of Agriculture on the other.

Mr. DEINEMA. Sir, I didn't know the Department of Interior favored this particular bill; I thought we were side by side.

Senator ANDERSON. What side are you on?

Mr. DEINEMA. I am with the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, sir, speaking as the administration's witness.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, I imagine most of us here are very friendly with the Forest Service and also the Department of Interior.

Mr. DEINEMA. I am going to speak in favor of a wilderness area in a very few minutes, the Aldo Leopold area.

Senator ANDERSON. I see.

Mr. DEINEMA. Would you wish to have me proceed with the Lopez Canyon before I go to Aldo Leopold, Mr. Chairman?

Senator ANDERSON. All right, go ahead.

Mr. DEINEMA. The next bill I will comment on is S. 3027 which would designate approximately 21,500 acres located in San Luis Obispo County, Calif., as the "Lopez Canyon National Wilderness Area," to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act.

The Wilderness Act defines wilderness, in part, as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, without permanent improvements, and with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. The Lopez Canyon Wilderness proposal is not such an area.

Some of the nonconforming features of the area with respect to qualification as wilderness under the Wilderness Act are 2.5 miles of a conventional road, 4 miles of four-wheel-drive vehicle road, and a 70-kilowatt. power transmission line traversing the area.

The Lopez Canyon area is an important municipal watershed which is subject to large fires. Continued management and protection of the municipal watershed lands are important to several nearby communities. This is partially dependent upon fuel management measures and access to the area by helicopter. The area now has 3.2 miles of tractor-constructed fuel breaks and 33 constructed helicopter landing spots.

Studies are being continued by the Forest Service to determine the best resource allocation decision for the area. These include a proposal for a scenic area on which we are now getting public comment.

For these reasons, we strongly suggest the Lopez Canyon Area does not meet the high standards of the wilderness Act and of other units to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Therefore, this Department recommends that S. 3027 not be enacted.

This completes my prepared statement. I will be glad to answer any questions.

Senator ANDERSON. Do the local sportsmen favor this or oppose it?

Mr. DEINEMA. I cannot tell you how they feel about the proposed area. We have not had a public reaction of this because we have not had public meetings or input as to how we intend to manage the area. That is now being conducted.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, what about this trail that is motorized? Doesn't a motorized cycle make a pretty loud noise?

Mr. DEINEMA. In this area there are undoubtedly motorcycles and other types of vehicles using this 2.5 miles of the conventional road and 4 miles of the jeep road; yes, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. Senator Buckley.

Senator BUCKLEY. Mr. Deinema, you are speaking here of an area of 21,000 acres, I believe. I gather it is your opinion that the 2.5 miles of conventional road and the 4 miles of jeep road and the transmission line is substantially noticeable?

Mr. DEINEMA. Yes, that is correct.

Senator BUCKLEY. You mentioned that you are scheduling some hearings on the use to be made of this area?

Mr. DEINEMA. Public meetings, not formal public hearings, as such, sir. We would have public meetings and probably get input from individual groups, anybody that wanted to submit an opinion as to how we should manage this area. The record would be open.

Senator BUCKLEY. And it would be open to suggestions that it be converted to wilderness?

Mr. DEINEMA. Yes, sir. We can manage scenic areas in almost any fashion we feel advisable. We could have no motorized vehicles and manage it the same as a wilderness area.

Senator BUCKLEY. Do you have a map of the area so we can see where these transmission lines and roads are located?

Mr. DEINEMA. Yes, sir; it is fairly small, I am afraid. I will furnish it to you, and you can look at it.

Senator BUCKLEY. I think it would be helpful to get some kind of an idea.

Senator ANDERSON. All right, you may proceed with the Aldo Leopold area.

Mr. DEINEMA. For this particular testimony, I have asked Ted Koskella, who is the deputy regional forester of the southwestern region, whom I believe is acquainted with you, Senator Anderson, to accompany me and to help me point out some of the items on the map that we have. I believe this map and our position on this particular proposal will be a little clearer to track through.

Senator BUCKLEY. Before we leave Lopez Canyon, can I ask one more question?

Senator ANDERSON. Yes, indeed.

Senator BUCKLEY. If this area were converted to wilderness designation, under the law as you interpret it, would it be necessary to relocate the existing roads and power transmission lines, or would it be more or less allowed to stay?

Mr. DEINEMA. Our interpretation would be that it would not be allowed to stay. The powerline was a 50-year easement, and it does not expire until the year 2000.

Senator BUCKLEY. Thank you.

Senator ANDERSON. All right, we are ready for the Aldo Leopold testimony.

Mr. DEINEMA. We are pleased to have the opportunity to speak in support of this bill to designate the Aldo Leopold Wilderness on the Gila National Forest in New Mexico.

The proposal for designation of the Aldo Leopold Wilderness results from our study of the Black Range primitive area, in accord with the procedures set forth in section 3(b) of the Wilderness Act. Our proposal was transmitted to the Congress on February 8, 1972, with the recommendation to classify 188,095 acres as wilderness. This includes 150,940 acres of the Black Range primitive area and 37,155 additional contiguous acres. We also recommend that primitive area status be lifted from 30,726 acres. Our proposal is included in its

entirety in S. 3256, and we strongly recommend that the bill be enacted. Section 4 of S. 3256 should be amended to refer to the Black Range primitive area rather than the Aldo Leopold primitive area.

The proposed wilderness is located astride the crest of the Black Range of southwestern New Mexico. The area is located 35 miles northeast of Silver City, N. Mex., and 50 miles west of Truth or Consequences.

Rising from hot dry desert and semidesert the Black Range stands as a prominent land feature from nearly all directions. The proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness contains the most rugged, wild portions of this mountain range. The mark of man and evidence of his activities are relatively obscure. Over a wide range in elevation, a network of deep canyons, ridges, timbered benches, and many high vista points offer the visitor expansive views and opportunities for solitude. The area is characterized by the superlative beauty of its wild and undisturbed landscape.

Water is an important resource of the proposed wilderness. The area supplies a stable amount of high quality water for use by downstream farmers, ranchers, and the general public. Forage values are significant over most of the area for both wildlife and domestic livestock. About 1,000 head of cattle are permitted to use the area. Domestic livestock grazing will be continued. The area provides habitat for mule deer, whitetailed deer, elk, turkey, mountain lion, bear, bobcat, and coyote. A great variety of smaller game, mammals, and birds live within the area. Gila trout, an endangered species of fish, live in the headwater of Diamond Creek at the northern end of the area.

Commercial timber stands occupy 58 percent of the area. The other portions of the area contain pinyon-juniper-oak woodland, brush areas, scattered patches of aspen at higher elevations, and small patches of chaparral at lower elevations. Classification of the area as wilderness will have only a minor effect on national forest timber harvest, because under current primitive area classification the commercial timber stands have been withheld from inclusion in the Forests' timber producing base.

The U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Bureau of Mines have examined the proposed wilderness to determine mineral values. They found no minable mineral deposits in the primitive area although minable mineral deposits do occur in nearby areas. It is considered unlikely that fossil fuels exist in the primitive area.

Public hearings on the original Forest Service wilderness proposal were held in Silver City, N. Mex., on December 4, 1970, and another at Truth or Consequences, N. Mex., on December 5, 1970.

Senator ANDERSON. Were these the first of the bills?

Mr. DEINEMA. These were the first on this particular wilderness area proposal; yes, sir.

An analysis of public response to the Forest Service wilderness proposal resulted in the addition of 6,212 acres to the original 181,883-acre proposal. Public opinion on the proposal varied with some individuals or groups opposing wilderness classification and other groups favoring a larger area than our present proposal. The public response to our proposal is summarized in the Secretary's report and specific recommendations by agencies and organizations are included in the appendix to the report.

Our proposal includes a number of additions of land contiguous to the primitive area and a number of exclusions from the Black Range primitive area. The various areas involved in these recommendations are shown on page 20 of the Secretary's report and on the display map.

At this point I would like to discuss the various areas involved in our proposal, as well as those areas recommended by others. These areas will be pointed out on the display map before you, by Mr. Koskella.

Area P totals 150,940 acres, and is that portion of the present Black Range primitive area that is considered fully suitable for wilderness.

Now, I will discuss the additions.

Early studies and public comment indicated that the P area should be extended to include contiguous areas which have the topographic character, vegetative cover, and remoteness which make them suitable for management as part of the proposed wilderness. These contiguous areas are identified as areas A through I. They contain 31,236 acres and were included in our initial proposal as being fully suitable for classification as wilderness. Area P and contiguous areas A through I represent our initial judgment as to the most practical and manageable boundary around as much quality wilderness as possible.

As a result of strong public support for the addition of several other contiguous areas, we added areas J, K, L, and M to our proposal after the field hearings.

Area J contains 800 acres with 293 acres south of Hoyt Creek. At the field hearings, we proposed the area south of Hoyt Creek as part of exclusion 4 and 5. The proposed wilderness boundary after the addition of area J would be located on land features of less prominence than the originally proposed boundary, however, the area is considered suitable for wilderness.

Area K contains 2,125 acres. This addition includes portions of Whiskey Spring and Moccasin John Canyons along with Moccasin John Mountain.

Areas L and M contain 1,645 and 1,642 acres, respectively. They are portions of a larger area proposed by conservation groups. Area L surrounds Flagpole Mountain. Area M includes Magner Peak and the upper drainages of Cave Creek.

Now, for the exclusions: A total of 30,726 acres of Black Range primitive area were considered not suitable for wilderness classification and are proposed for exclusion and declassification. The proposed exclusions are designated as No. 1-9 on the display map before you, and we will discuss them individually.

Area 1 contains 62 acres. It comprises the Hillsboro Peak Administrative Site and contiguous management improvements, including a fire lookout tower.

Area 2 contains 78 acres. It is occupied by the McKnight road which crosses in and out of the primitive area at several points.

Area 3 with 5,465 acres, and area 4 with 21,586 acres, account for a large portion of the excluded acreage. They are similar in that they both display much evidence of man's activities in the form of several primitive roads. These roads are difficult to protect from motor vehicle access due to gentle terrain. Both areas include many range improvements such as fences, stock tanks, and corrals. Both areas include tracts of private land of 6 acres in area 3 and 453 acres in area 4.

Two of these private tracts of land in area 4 have improvements such as houses, barns, and a motorized well. Area 4 shows additional signs of man's activities in the form of old timber harvesting and 520 acres of juniper control range improvement work. There are four additional water wells within area 4, three with motorized pumps.

The imprint of man's work in these proposed exclusions is substantially noticeable in contrast to the area proposed as wilderness. These exclusions draw the proposed wilderness back to strong identifiable topographic features and solve boundary protection problems existing along the North Star Road.

Exclusion of area 5, containing 1,934 acres, eliminates private land in Hoyt Creek and areas with evidence of logging in Turkey Run Creek to the north of the proposed wilderness. A road along portions of these creeks, located partially in the primitive area, would be excluded from the proposed wilderness. The adjusted boundary utilizes strong identifiable topographic features.

Exclusion of area 6 is proposed to eliminate an area with evidence of past logging activities. This 894-acre tract, located on Morgan Creek, also includes several range improvements and a short section of old road.

Areas 7 and 8 contain 272 and 439 acres respectively. Their exclusion is considered essential to locating the proposed wilderness boundary on identifiable land features. Although these areas are similar to the proposed wilderness, their exclusion eliminates 4½ miles of fence from the proposed wilderness, besides placing the boundary on well-defined topographic features.

Exclusion of area 9, which contains five national forest and three private acres, would eliminate the private land from within the proposed wilderness boundary, as well as deleting a short section of road. A superior boundary location can be made along natural terrain features.

Now, the additions proposed by others will be discussed.

The following areas were recommended by various groups and individuals during the hearings as expansions of our proposal. They are shown on pages 20 and 81 of the Secretary's report and on the overlay to the display map, which is marked in blue.

Areas J, S, R, and P contain a total of 19,538 acres and are not considered suitable for wilderness. All contain portions of improved roads presently in use and serving as access to private tracts, mining and prospecting sites, or existing range improvements. Portions of each area have possibilities of being highly mineralized and all have evidence of past mining or prospecting activities. The exterior boundary formed by the addition of these proposed areas would not constitute a natural boundary and would be difficult to identify.

Area K contains 4,110 acres. The imprint of man and his activities is noticeable throughout the area. Soil erosion resulting from past overgrazing, mineral exploration, woodcutting roads, telephone poles and an assortment of other improvements are evident. The area was settled approximately 50 years ago and several old dwellings and access roads remain. Mechanical means of range and watershed rehabilitation are needed to speed recovery of depleted surface resources.

Area I contains 2,750 acres. Over 80 percent of this area has been cut over by timber operations of varied ages. The most recent

logging was done in 1969. Roads extend up to the well within the proposed area.

Area M contains 5,105 acres. Portions of this area have been logged. Evidence of this activity exists even though there has been no recent logging. Roads within the area extend almost to the Forest Service proposed boundary providing motor vehicle access that would be difficult to control. This area was not considered suitable for wilderness.

Areas N, T, O, and Q, with minor exceptions, have already been discussed as part of our exclusions 3, 4, 5, and 6. Each area contains significant evidence of man's activity and use in the area and were judged not suitable for inclusion in the wilderness.

This concludes my prepared statement. I will be glad to try to answer any questions you may have.

Senator ANDERSON. Who was Aldo Leopold?

Mr. DEINEMA. One of the foremost originators of wilderness. He was with the Forest Service starting in 1907 and he originated the first wilderness in 1922.

Senator ANDERSON. Do you feel he would agree with all of the recommendations you made?

Mr. DEINEMA. I feel that he would but it would be hard to prove it.

Senator ANDERSON. You understand why I asked that question?

Mr. DEINEMA. Yes, sir, I do. I think he would be the very first to say we should have a wilderness system that we can be proud of and which can be protected against nonconforming uses. We in the Forest Service are doing our best to defend these principles.

Senator ANDERSON. I sincerely hope he would agree with some of the things now being proposed. He was a very fine man.

Mr. DEINEMA. Yes, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. And he has a very fine family.

Mr. DEINEMA. We have put out a folder, "Search for Solitude," that tells you something about the Forest Service wilderness program. We are very proud of our progress and hope to continue in the same vein.

Senator ANDERSON. You have many areas?

Mr. DEINEMA. Yes; almost all of the formally established wilderness areas are in the Forest Service. Overall we have come up with approximately a 20-percent increase over the primitive areas.

Senator ANDERSON. Were these areas added by the Forest Service studies and their recommendations, part of the original Black Range primitive area, or were the areas picked up outside of the primitive area?

Mr. DEINEMA. I believe they are both.

Mr. KOSKELLA. They are part of the Black Range primitive area, not of the Gila primitive area.

Senator ANDERSON. The areas you propose to cut out are part of the primitive area?

Mr. KOSKELLA. Yes, sir. This is the original boundary of the primitive area right here in black. This was the original Black Range primitive area. The area proposed for deletion is between the black line and this red line here. The areas outside of the proposal to be added, of course, are A, B, and all of this. These are proposed for additions.

Senator ANDERSON. The areas proposed to be put in by the conservation groups, I believe that is the area T and P, are they presently in the Black Range primitive area?

Mr. KOSKELLA. Yes, sir; they are.

Senator ANDERSON. You have proposed to cut them out because they have been substantially disturbed by man and did not qualify for wilderness, is that the contention of the Forest Service?

Mr. DEINEMA. Yes, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, thank you very much. As soon as we have the transcript ready we will have some comments on that. We may have some further questions on this.

Mr. DEINEMA. Yes, sir; we will be pleased to respond to anything you wish.

Senator ANDERSON. Our next witness is Mayor Kenneth Schwartz of the city of San Luis Obispo.

STATEMENT OF KENNETH SCHWARTZ, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF.

Mr. SCHWARTZ. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Senator Buckley. I am Kenneth Schwartz. I am mayor of San Luis Obispo, Calif., a city of 37,000 people. San Luis Obispo is situated approximately 5 miles due west of the proposed wilderness area, the Lopez Wilderness Area. This is closer to the proposed wilderness area than any other urban settlement in our county.

By way of further personal introduction permit me to tell you that I am an architect and professor of architecture at the California Polytechnic State University and I serve further in the school of architecture and environmental design, incidentally, the largest in the United States, if I can put in a plug.

I appear before you as the official representative of San Luis Obispo to indicate our wholehearted favor of S. 3027 for the establishment of the Lopez Wilderness. My appearance here is directly the result of unanimous action taken by the San Luis Obispo City Council in adopting Resolution 22630, January 17, 1972, in full support of S. 3027. I have brought with me and entered copies of that resolution for your record.

In taking this action our concerns and interests were these:

(1) Development pressures on our Nation's land resources everywhere expanding in the face of expanding population.

(2) The pressure is especially critical in California, where growth has been fantastic and where the deleterious ramifications of that growth are dramatic even to the untrained.

(3) This growth stage is now invading central coastal California. San Luis Obispo has doubled its size in the last 20 years. Last year our growth rate jumped to over 6 percent and all indications point to an accelerated growth rate.

(4) In our belief, the matter of land preservation is urgent. Positive preservation action must be taken now to save such areas as Lopez.

(5) San Luis Obispoans have been very concerned with their environment and have been strongly supporting conservation issues.

(6) Changing patterns in the work week and leisure time ration, definitely indicates to us the public need for more and varied types of

recreational areas. In our judgment Lopez is aptly suited for one type of increasingly popular public recreation, that is the highly educational encounter with the wilderness preserve.

I must not delude you that support for the measure is unanimous in my county. It is not. Concern has been expressed regarding possible loss of the watershed in the wilderness area by fire. We believe this danger is very minimal and should not be the deciding factor in your decision.

Rather, we feel that the wilderness designation would improve the quality of water flowing from the watershed into the supply that we referred to.

A public meeting on the Lopez wilderness proposal was conducted in April in our county by Congressman Burt Talcott. In our judgment the overwhelming support and testimony in that meeting was for the Lopez wilderness designation.

Gentlemen, I cannot impress upon you that this is truly a beautiful area. I personally know the area as a result of family and Boy Scout outings. Those who are far more expert than I have testified that the flora and fauna are unique. One of the few remaining nesting areas for the rare California condor exists in Lopez. Mr. Harry Miossi and Mr. Lee Wilson, who follow me in their testimony, will speak to these details.

The city of San Luis Obispo has a direct interest in this matter. We own 320 acres adjacent to the proposed wilderness which we intend to use for future recreational purpose. It would be our pledge to the people of this country that those portions of our land directly related will be used in a manner commensurate with the spirit of wilderness designation. The meaning of the word "wilderness" is the key to the action needed by the Congress. Any designation other than wilderness would be, in our judgment, an error. To postpone the conferring of the wilderness designation, again in our judgment, could prove tragic. We stand in need of foresight, admittedly a rare commodity. Nevertheless, past Congresses have shown foresight and provided for the American people the fine system of national parks and preserves. We need more of both.

I would implore you to confer the wilderness designation to the Lopez area.

Gentlemen, I might tell you that I have flown over 3,000 miles to make this appearance. Looking down upon this vast land of ours as the aircraft passed over southern California, Arizona, New Mexico, on to Kansas, Missouri, and onward to Virginia, I was both impressed, distressed, and depressed because there was scarcely a moment during that 4½-hour flight that I could not look out and see clearly the imprint of man and his technology. Gentlemen, we are not being fair to future Americans who will follow us. We must leave something more for them which can be a touchstone to the primitive conditions that existed in this rich land before we came. We must not continue to use all of our land so intensely. How can we be so rich and yet so poor? What is to be the legacy to the future that we leave? Our plea today to you people is for a mere 21,300 acres, plus or minus. Within view of the city of San Luis Obispo we have the magnificent Santa Lucia Range. It is irreparably scarred with fire brakes and roads installed with all good intentions by the Forest Service, with material and lasting effects. Gentlemen, we want no more of this.

In conclusion, our county wishes to commend Senators Cranston and Tunney for introducing the bill before you. It is our unanimous judgment, that is the San Luis Obispo County, that the Lopez area meets the criteria and is indeed worthy of wilderness classification. We sincerely urge your committee to recommend in favor of Lopez and use all of your considerable influence to guide and carry S. 3027 successfully to the Congress.

Gentlemen, thank you.

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. Buckley.

Senator BUCKLEY. Mr. Mayor, the Wilderness Act specifies that any area will have the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. In your judgment are the existing roads and the power transmission lines noticeable or unnoticeable?

Mr. SCHWARTZ. In my judgment they are there absolutely, but I do not think they are noticeable and I did not think they detracted from the spirit of wilderness area. I think they are minor. It is mentioned that there is a lease to run on the high-tension cable. It was originally set in 1943. Testimony before me indicated 1953, I believe it was. I think we will live with them for a period of time, hopefully they would go, and the area would once again grow over.

The roads, in my judgment, are not detrimental.

Senator BUCKLEY. You mentioned that there were hearings on this matter?

Mr. SCHWARTZ. Yes, sir.

Senator BUCKLEY. Are they available?

Mr. SCHWARTZ. No, sir; this was sort of a town meeting in our county. It was well attended, broadcast over the radio, and advertised. In my judgment, everyone in our county was out who had an interest in it. The testimony was overwhelmingly in favor.

Senator BUCKLEY. Thank you.

Senator ANDERSON. Thank you very much.

(The resolution referred to follows:)

RESOLUTION No. 2263 (1972 SERIES)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO SUPPORTING U.S. SENATE BILL 3027 DESIGNATING LOPEZ CANYON AS A WILDERNESS AREA

Whereas, California Senators Alan Cranston and John Tunney have introduced legislation in the U.S. Senate (SB 3027) seeking the designation of 21,500 acres in Lopez Canyon as a Wilderness Area; and

Whereas, Lopez Canyon is located in the heart of San Luis Obispo County, just a few miles from the City of San Luis Obispo; and

Whereas, the establishment of a Wilderness Area in Lopez Canyon would provide opportunities for varied and wholesome forms of outdoor recreation and enjoyment for local residents and for the increasing number of state and national vacationists and other persons visiting this vicinity each year; and

Whereas, there is no other area in this vacationland and recreation center which has been set aside permanently for maintaining its primeval condition; and

Whereas, preservation of the Lopez Canyon watershed as a Wilderness Area will best assure normal water retention and runoff above Lopez Reservoir, a primary source of water for residents of San Obispo County; and

Whereas, this Council has been asked by the Sierra Club and other interested citizens to formally support SB 3027: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Council of the City of San Luis Obispo as follows:

1. The City of San Luis Obispo wholeheartedly supports and endorses SB 3027 by Senators Alan Cranston and John Tunney seeking the designation of 21,000 acres in Lopez Canyon as a Wilderness Area, and promises the continued support and cooperation of the City in achieving said designation, including the addition to the area of contiguous City-owned land if deemed desirable.

2. The City of San Luis Obispo urges Congressman Burt L. Talcott and all other California Congressmen to support this bill which provides a centrally located area for all Californians who desire to spend time in a wholesome and natural environment.

On motion of *Councilman Gurnee*, seconded by *Councilman Graham*, and on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmen Blake, Brown, Graham, Gurnee and Mayor Schwartz

Noes: None

Absent: None

the foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted this 17th day of January 1972.

KENNETH E. SCHWARTZ, *Mayor*.

Attest:

J. H. FITZPATRICK, *City Clerk*.

I, J. H. Fitzpatrick, the duly appointed, qualified and acting City Clerk of the city of San Luis Obispo, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2263 (1972 Series), passed and adopted on the 17th day of January, 1972, by the City Council of the City of San Luis Obispo.

Witness my hand and the seal of the City of San Luis Obispo this 16th day of May, 1972.

J. H. FITZPATRICK, *City Clerk*.

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. Michael McCloskey, Mr. Harold Miossi, Mr. Lee Wilson, and Mr. Jim Eaton will appear as a panel.

STATEMENTS OF MICHAEL McCLOSKEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SIERRA CLUB; HAROLD MIOSSI, SANTA LUCIA CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB; LEE WILSON, SANTA LUCIA CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB; AND JIM EATON, MOTHER LODE CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB

Senator ANDERSON. Go ahead.

Mr. McCLOSKEY. Mr. Chairman, Senator Buckley, I appreciate having the opportunity to appear before this committee to support S. 2680 and S. 3027 by Senator Alan Cranston to establish the Snow Mountain and the Lopez Canyon Wilderness as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. The Sierra Club strongly supports both pieces of legislation and urges their prompt enactment.

I particularly want to commend this committee for hearing those bills. Both of these areas are tracts of roadless and undeveloped land in national forests in California, one in the Mendocino National Forest and the other in the Los Padres National Forest. Both are delightful places and relatively close to population centers. As such, they are especially valuable remnants of wildness. However, they lack any designation of national significance and permanence to protect them. Thus, they are what we call de facto wilderness.

The citizens who are struggling to get protection for scraps of de facto wilderness, such as these two areas, are caught up in one of the most frustrating struggles imaginable. I would like to use the occasion of these hearings to review some of the frustrations that citizens have confronted in their effort to get a fair hearing with respect to de facto wilderness.

Throughout the past decade, the problem of de facto wilderness has been coming to a boil. The problem is now boiling over, and only Congress can ultimately solve the problem. Thus, we welcome the kind of congressional scrutiny you are now providing in this case. But let me sketch some of the background on the problem. It will show how difficult it is to get the serious attention of the Forest

Service and to get fair and adequate procedures established to deal with proposals to have de facto wilderness established.

The Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act of 1960, makes it clear that the establishment of wilderness is consistent with multiple use, and thus is a legitimate option under multiple-use planning. This point, of course, was further confirmed with the passage of the Wilderness Act. Wilderness is entitled to equal, fair, and full consideration as a management alternative in allocating tracts of national forest land to various uses. However, there is a history of steady and continuous prejudice against this use in land planning and allocation by the Forest Service. As a result, we have been given the runaround in a variety of ingenious ways. First, we were told, "the decisions have been made. You got here too late." Next, we were told, "We will look at it later. Don't bother us now." Then we were told, "You want everything in sight. We can't deal with your endless requests." After that, we learned the Service wanted more money in the budget to be able to log even faster. And finally, now the Service is going to settle the whole question with one incredibly hurried study.

The history of these responses is illuminating. The question first came to the fore in the late 1950's and early 1960's in the Far West, when timber sales in the national forests began to accelerate as private timber was exhausted. Management plans were prepared for each ranger district and allowable cuts were calculated. Though these cuts were supposed to be maximum possible levels of cutting, they came to be regarded by the timber industry as sales commitments.

The pressure to realize them became so great that the Forest Service decided to allocate every acre of land to some combination of uses. In all but a few cases, every acre that supported virgin timber that might be sold were put in the allowable cuts. The same was done with almost all other marketable resources. Whatever was left was regarded as suitable for recreation, including wilderness. Commercial interest got nearly everything that was marketable, and the public got the residue. No notice to the public was given that such fundamental decisions were being made. No hearings were held. This allocation of resources on 186 million acres of public land was characterized as a technical decision. But once made, it has come to have an inevitability and immutability about it akin to the laws of nature.

In theory, the land management plans were subject to periodic review and adjustment, and now public scrutiny is invited, but in practice the die has been cast. The concrete has hardened. Changing them is like trying to start creation all over again. Whenever conservationists would discover bulldozers ripping up their favorite area, they were told, "We are sorry. That area was put in the allowable cut 5 years ago. You should have come to see us earlier." But, of course, who but the timber industry knew that the pie was being carved up and passed out for all time? And so it was too late to save Waldo Lake in Oregon, or parts of the Alpine Lakes in Washington, or the Kern Plateau in California. "We didn't get invited to the great party when all the treats were passed out."

But of course conservationists haven't accepted these answers. They have carried on the struggle. Parts of some of these areas have survived, such as the Kern Plateau. The Forest Service has always planned to recommend a portion of its northern end—the Golden Trout area—for eventual inclusion in the wilderness system. And in

other cases, like the Minam in Oregon—which the House is hearing today—and the Lincol-Scapegoat in Montana—which the Senate has already passed—the Service finally came to support protection of some of the areas as wilderness. In fact, the Service has had a short list of such areas in mind since the Wilderness Act was passed. It has told the public that it would take these proposals to Congress after 1974, when the primitive area reviews were completed. In 1966, the Chief of the Service told his regions to have lists of such areas ready for review by him in June of 1970. Later this date was extended to June 1972.

So, in a sense, de facto wilderness was accorded some recognition as a category of land that would be studied in due course. The only trouble was that most of it was not going to be studied. Most of it was in the allowable cut and was committed to being destroyed before 1974 ever came around. In western Oregon, almost all of it in the low Cascades has been destroyed. Only three lowland drainages of any size have not been torn up with roads and logging shows. To wait until 1974 was to wait until there was hardly anything left to study. So despite the pressing business of completing the mandatory reviews under the Wilderness Act, the problem of de facto wilderness has surfaced because the Forest Service was forcing the issue. It simply would not leave some of the land allocation decisions for future generations to decide. It insisted at one moment in time on deciding the future of every single acre of land. Anyone who questioned the decisions they made was given an immense burden of proof for altering a new status quo.

As conservationists pressed their point through the last 1960's we were then told we were "asking too much." We were "asking for everything in sight." We denied it; 5 to 10 percent of the forests in most regions were all that had been protected as wilderness, and usually 90 percent or more of the timber had been allocated to logging. We were usually asking to have the amount protected enlarged only by a few percentage points.

We engaged in such a dialog with the regional forester in California in 1968. He asked how much we wanted studied. We gave him a list of 13 areas. We provided rough boundaries of areas we thought were deserving of study. Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon were among them.

Our letter was immediately given to the timber industry, whose trade publications accused us of seeking a giant land grab. In reality, we were not necessarily committed to wilderness as the solution in each of these areas, nor certainly to having all the acreage in each as wilderness. In his reply, the regional forester deferred any comment on seven areas and refused to consider two at all. Of the remaining four, studies and hearings were completed on three. In each case, hearings were held on short notice in out-of-the-way places convenient only for the timber industry. In all three cases, the regional forester ruled against any wilderness whatsoever. Timber was regarded as too valuable a commodity in parts of all three.

In the case of Snow Mountain, timber was identified as a value in a portion of it, and motorcycles were regarded as the best use of other parts. In the case of Lopez Canyon, we never got any further response. The Service simply contended the area was not qualified.

Thus, our effort to get a systematic procedure to fairly address the question fell to the ground.

However, by then the Washington office was feeling the need to be more explicit about the way in which de facto areas should be chosen to be put on the study lists. In 1969, the Service set forth the criteria for selection. These were factors of "suitability, availability, and need." An area was suitable if it were absolutely pristine and free of the marks of man, despite the fact that Congress has not yet such a high and difficult standard. In fact, most areas now in the system bear some scars, and Congress has chosen to let them all be scarred by more mining until 1984. An area was regarded as available if it were not in the allowable cut, and the standard of need was fulfilled if the area were not needed for some commercial purpose. Needless to say, these criteria were not likely to produce an overly long list.

The issue, however, was brought to a new head in 1970 by the timber industry's pressure for passage of the so-called National Timber Supply Act. This bill, would have earmarked receipts from timber sales in a special fund, was designed to enable the Forest Service to increase the allowable cuts. Supposedly this could be rationalized by outlays for more intensive silviculture. The Service said it could increase the cuts by as much as one-third with guaranteed financing. What it would have guaranteed, however, among other things, is that the allocation of land to timbering would never change. The pressure to find timber for sales would have become so overwhelming that all further withdrawals would be out of the question. The fate of most de facto wilderness would have been sealed.

Fortunately, the House of Representatives did not even want the bill to come up for debate. Nevertheless, the Service had been willing to confirm these grossly unbalanced allocations of land to logging. Now recent studies from the intermountain experiment station suggest that as much as 20 percent of the land in the allowable cut may not even be capable of growing successive crops of timber. Thus, for this reason alone, the allowable cut is clearly too high.

The debate over the timber supply bill, however, did underscore the need to get accurate data on the dimension of the debate over de facto wilderness. No one really knew how much there was, how much is in conflict, and what the comparative values are. So in January of 1971 the Council on Environmental Quality drafted a proposed Executive order for the President that would have required the Forest Service to inventory by the end of 1972 all areas in the national forests appearing to have the character of wilderness and to make recommendations on them to Congress by September 1974. In the meantime, it would have been required to protect them.

As soon as the timber industry learned of this order it was killed. However, the Service decided by August 11, 1971, that it had better expand its own scheduled studies. On that date the Chief issued a directive that "Each region will identify presently unroaded and unclassified national forest lands in units of not less than 5,000 acres— This initial review," the Chief said, "will not reflect resource allocation decisions. It will only reflect the actual unroaded and undeveloped situation." Based on those inventories, the Service would then develop a list of new study areas that would be chosen by early 1973 and that would be given interim protection while being studied in the decade

after 1974. This August 11 directive vastly expanded the scope of the former studies, which were to be complete in each region by June 30, 1972. This completion data was retained, but the scope of the initial reviews expanded tenfold or more.

While conservationists were glad at last to get a promise of complete inventories, there just seems to be no way adequate decisions and judgments can be made in such a short time—11 months. As cases in point, in California the Service failed to even list Lopez Canyon in its inventories. And the Service will not even give the Snow Mountain proposal further study. In such a short period, there is no way the public's involvement can have any real substance. Public meetings have been held at many locations all spring on this subject. But countless new areas have been identified. Both the public and the Service need to have an opportunity to look at the newly inventoried areas in the field.

One summer is needed to do a reconnaissance of the hundreds of areas inventoried, and another to do more detailed, in-depth examinations. But the Service has refused to provide even two summers' time to do this. In fact, all public involvement outside of Washington, D.C., will stop before the mountain snows even clear. Their much vaunted public involvement now amounts to appraising a "pig in a poke." For all practical purposes, millions of acres are being eliminated from further substantive consideration for their potential value as wilderness without any field study by the Service, and no real opportunity for the public to make any useful input. The door is opening and closing so quickly in this sudden death procedure for studying de facto wilderness that the public can hardly understand what is at stake.

Regardless of how much wilderness the public should ultimately decide it wants, it is clear from this review of the record that the public is not being given a good opportunity to decide what it wants. The Forest Service is preoccupied with confirming past commitments to the timber industry, with rushing reviews, and closing the public out of participating in key decisions. Because of our inability to procure full, fair, and adequate reviews from the Service, conservationists will be coming to Congress with increasing frequency on these matters to obtain a fair hearing.

Senator ANDERSON. Are you familiar with the Senate's work and the House's work in this?

Mr. McCLOSKEY. Yes, sir, I am quite familiar with what you have been doing.

Senator BUCKLEY. I believe the Senator asked whether you are suggesting that the House and Senate committees have not done their work in the protected areas?

Mr. McCLOSKEY. No, sir; they have been working on it as I understand it through the proposals submitted to the committee, and the Congress by the agencies. The agencies have been concentrating on the studies that were required as having to be done by 1947.

The problem with these de facto areas is that there were no studies maintained although they were permissible. So we had these problems of what would become of them while we were engaged in other studies.

I thought it would be helpful to review the record on this.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, the record looks like the Senate and the House doesn't do its job.

Mr. McCLOSKEY. Well, I think it would have been helpful if we could have some scrutiny of this problem earlier, but I think it is very helpful to have it now and we are thankful for this opportunity.

Senator ANDERSON. I think you are mixed up, this is not a hearing against the Forest Service, it is a hearing on this bill.

Senator BUCKLEY, do you have any questions?

Senator BUCKLEY. Yes, I have one question, Mr. Chairman. Mr. McCloskey, I think there is an inaccuracy on the first page of your statement. You said both of these tracts are roadless. It is my understanding that Lopez Canyon has about 5 miles of road. This involves a question as to whether or not it can be included under the terms of the Wilderness Act. Senator Jackson, in analyzing legislation earlier this month emphasized the provisions of section 4 saying there should be no commercial enterprise or any permanent road in any Wilderness Area designated by this act. This applies equally to all areas designated as wilderness, not just the original Forest Service provision in the act itself. So, presumably it applies to this de facto area.

How can you justify the inclusion of Lopez Canyon under this bill?

Mr. McCLOSKEY. Well, Senator, the roads that exist in Lopez Canyon are extremely limited in the first place, and low standard in the second place, and I believe if they are closed off they will divert back into acceptable conditions to be within a Wilderness Area in not too long a time. I use the term "road" here in the sense of not being roads that would disqualify them under the terms of the Wilderness Act. Actually they are remnants of very low standard primitive roads in many existing wilderness areas. There are extensive fire roads that Congress put in the Wilderness Act but this has been closed off and the Forest Service has done this many times in the proposals themselves before the Congress. So I think the same thing can be done here.

I have been in the Lopez Canyon area and this is an extremely low standard road. Other witnesses can tell you more about those roads.

Senator BUCKLEY. Has the State of California taken any position on the Lopez proposal?

Mr. McCLOSKEY. I don't have any information on that but perhaps the other witnesses do.

Senator BUCKLEY. I have no further questions.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, it is very late and we have some more witnesses on the Aldo Leopold bill. These people will summarize their statements and put them in the record, and I will ask, in order to save time, if the rest of the panel can also summarize and insert their statements in the record, they will be printed in full.

STATEMENT OF HAROLD MIOSSI, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIF.

Mr. MIOSSI. I am Harold Miossi and I am a resident of San Luis Obispo County. You have my statement which I fully intend to summarize. I am representing the Santa Lucia chapter of the Sierra Club and many citizens who are interested in securing passage of Senate bill 3027 to establish Lopez Canyon Wilderness Area.

Now, the area is essentially described in the bill. It is displayed on this map that is on the easel and it meets every criteria of wilderness

classification and as a part of my statement I have appended statements from experts in the flora and fauna of Lopez Canyon. All recognized biologists or empirical biologists, most from Cal State Polytechnic University and I would like those to be made part of the record.

Senator ANDERSON. They will be made a part of the record.

Mr. MIOSI. I also have some photographs that I would like the committee to see and these essentially show the primitive and unscarred and natural area of the Lopez Canyon. I have handed you exhibits 1 through 10, the first one showing the basic perimeter and aerial view, the road that you see in the area is an abandoned road, it is not part of the wilderness area.

Let me summarize those pictures and I do want you to see them, by saying that a stranger flying over the area for the first time would pick this area as totally unscarred by man. Totally not showing the impact of man.

Nos. 1 and 2 that you are looking at now are showing the Canyon proper. The road that you see in No. 1 is the east ridge road and that is the boundary, that is not within the wilderness area.

I want to basically say we very much thank the committee for listening to a citizen's appeal and it is distressing to us that the Forest Service has not included this as a 5,000-acre roadless area. We feel very much it is within the purview of Congress to determine what should be classified within the act, and we very much foster citizens' advanced proposals and that is basically why I am here.

In the second section of my report I talk about the citizen involvement. Of course, this has been very well-aided. Lopez was proposed for wilderness classification by citizens shortly after passage of the act. Since the introduction of the Senate bill 3027 we have secured unlimited endorsements from groups clearly without the purview of conservation groups such as the city council, the Historical Society, several hundred members, The League of Women Voters, the Republican Club and the Democratic Committee, the Township Sportsmen Association, and the Editorial of the Telegram Tribune, which is the largest daily in the county with circulation of 20,000 or 30,000.

The San Luis Obispo County Planning Division adopted an act which includes the statement that the county should work toward cooperating with the Forest Service to establish a Wilderness Area for Lopez Canyon. Congressman Clausen's meeting was allied too, and this brochure was printed 5 days before the hearing. Congressman Clausen sent notices to everyone on the mailing list.

Ninety percent of those attending favored wilderness classification.

Now, on page 2 of my statement I suggest some amendments to the boundaries. These are largely technical in nature and will delete, I believe, some of the very petty things that the Forest Service has referred to. Technical things like when we said all that land lies east of Ridge Road and we changed that to say excepting all lying east of the east boundary of the road, or a statement of that nature. So I suggested nine amendments which are technical. We put a lot of research on this bill.

I want to dwell on the question of the main issues that have been raised. They have to do with fire and erosion. Very quickly, the canyon is in an area of low fire hazard and little erosion. It is not a typical chaparral forest but a major vegetated cover that probably

has a static condition of equilibrium between litter accumulation on the one hand and decomposition that would eliminate the fire buildup.

The last fire in the area was in 1929, that is 34 years ago. There is a lot of local dispute as to whether the fire even got to within the canyon. Some trees that are 400 years old show no scars of fire because it is a damp canyon with a canopy of trees and damp undervegetation.

Secondly, there have been those who said it should not be classified because there should be protective firebreaks and access provided. We contend there is already adequate access by reason of what is there. We have some question about the effectiveness of firebreaks and firebreaks for stopping fires and Southern Californians can tell you some raging fires can cross breaks that are half a mile wide. So we contend that the actual impact of a firebreak in stopping a fire when a fire is of a mind to burn will not be adequate.

Now, I have the real serious problem and I would like to present exhibits numbering 11 through 17, which show how erosion and more serious damage results from construction of fuel and firebreaks. These are fuel breaks constructed about 4 or 5 miles north of Lopez Canyon proposal and what we call the west ridge. It is the same range of mountains. It is this type of installation that open up the country and there you see the total area has become practically a motorcycle and off-road vehicle concourse.

We contend that if you follow those pictures through, that there is more erosion and more danger of fire as a result of vehicle entry onto those, despite the best efforts of the Forest Service to prevent people from getting those vehicles. You will see there is an area built with a motorcycle going around it. The effect of the track and the evidence of the erosion that results shows that fuel breaks actually cause greater fire damage and greater erosion.

We don't think it is too much to ask for the inclusion of 21,300 acres plus or minus out of approximately 340,000 acres of publicly held land in San Obispo County. On this remaining land there is considerable vehicle activity and the Forest Service cooperates with the off road vehicle organizations and see the churning dust and erosion and stripped vegetation. This particular remaining piece of land should be set aside.

My third portion of my statement talks about private in-holdings. There are 680 acres of private land. The city of San Luis Obispo owned 245 acres and it indicated the willingness to have it included within the Wilderness Act. Mr. Guy Arnold, who lives at Polesville, owns another 240 acres and this happens to be a portion through which the transmission line passes and he has given me a letter saying he would be willing to execute some type of easement with the Federal Government to allow permanent wilderness classification on that land because he is so concerned about unrestricted vehicular entry and he is so concerned about the damage that results from the roads that the Forest Service has many times tried to put through.

A third owner of 157 acres is Robert McNeil and he has indicated he does not oppose wilderness classification and I interpret his position as being in favor of our proposal.

So we have done our homework and talked to the private owners and found them instead of opposed to it to be quite favorable. That

are quite favorable because they have seen what Forest Service mismanagement of the area has resulted.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, you have 5 minutes time, you are going way over the time.

Mr. MIOSSI. I didn't know there was a time limit, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. You are supposed to have 5 minutes apiece. Go ahead.

Mr. MIOSSI. In the powerline, it is our contention that the powerline was built in 1951 and 1942. Now, we are surprised to hear that the easement was granted in 1951. If it was granted in 1942, which is when it was installed, it would have only 20 years to run. As my exhibit shows, it is not highly visible in the area. The vegetation under it is not crushed, it is not visible from Canyon Mountain and it has been so difficult to show we took an aerial photograph specifically to show it, that is exhibit No. 17, and to show you the path of the line we had to delineate the road in crayon.

Regarding the x number of acres of private road, we believe the Forest Service refers to the road installed to construct the power line. That was constructed in 1942. It has not been maintained, it is highly visible as you walk down the trail and you will see from the photos it has a very low visible impact.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to appear, and we hope you will favorably pass Senate bill 3027.

Senator ANDERSON. Thank you very much.

(Mr. MioSSI's prepared statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF HAROLD MIOSSI, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIF.

My name is Harold MioSSI, and I am a resident of San Luis Obispo County, California, my family having been engaged in ranching in that county for nearly a hundred years. I am here to represent the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club—and many other citizens—in urging passage of Senate Bill No. 3027 to establish the Lopez Canyon National Wilderness Area in the Los Padres National Forest and on portions of Bureau of Land Management lands adjacent thereto.

The area proposed in this bill for classification as wilderness contains approximately 21,300 acres. It is dominated by Lopez Canyon through which Lopez Creek flows for the most part in a southeasterly direction; it is the only year-long surface flowing stream in the ranger district of the Los Padres National Forest. This rugged and steep canyon lies within only four air-miles of the City of San Luis Obispo—largest in the County—but by reason of being isolated, its wild and primitive qualities have been almost miraculously preserved. A Forest Service report describes it as "a place of outstanding scenic beauty. . . . Vegetative features and primitive character are perhaps the most notable contributing factors to the esthetic qualities of the Canyon."

The area proposed for wilderness in S 3027 fully meets every criterion to qualify for wilderness classification. Appended are the statements of the late Dr. Robert F. Hoover, Dr. Dirk Walters, Dr. Aryan Roest, Mr. Ian McMillan and Dr. Charles Dills, all recognized authorities who consummately speak to the flora, fauna and archeological attributes of Lopez Canyon.

As part of my testimony, I would like to introduce at this time photographs marked exhibits nos. 1 through 10. Nos. 1 and 2 are aeriels taken from the north and south boundaries, and demonstrate how unscarred the area proposed for classification yet remains. A stranger flying over the County could readily identify Lopez Canyon because the scars and imprint of man stop at its boundaries. Nos. 3 through 10 show its unexcelled beauty and uniqueness.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

So outstanding are the natural features of this proposed wilderness area, that shortly after passage of the 1964 Wilderness Act, stirrings began to have Lopez so classified. Many letters were written to the Forest service and elected repre-

sentatives, and a petition for wilderness studies and designation garnered some 2,700 names. On February 24, 1970, the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution urging that nothing be done to adversely affect Lopez Canyon during which period the board asked for studies and hearings by the appropriate jurisdiction for protection of the watershed.

Since the introduction of S3027 by Senator Cranston on December 15, 1971, there has been considerable public dialog into the merits of this proposal, extending far beyond normal conservation circles. The media has fully cooperated in providing an arena for inquiry; there have been letters-to-editor and talk shows, hearings before every legislative level, ample press coverage, a town meeting, and full opportunity for the citizenry of San Luis Obispo County to become conversant with the proposal. As a result of this intensified interest, the following responsible bodies have endorsed Wilderness Classification: The City Councils of San Luis Obispo and Morro Bay; the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society, with 700 members; the League of Women Voters; the Republican Women's Club of Atascadero; the San Luis Obispo County Democratic Central Committee; the Cholame Township Sportsmen Association; and editorially, the San Luis Obispo *Telegram-Tribune*—the largest county daily.

All conservation groups have endorsed the wilderness proposal: the Sierra Club, national and individual chapters; the Audubon Groups encompassing central coastal California—Paso Robles and Morro Coast Audubons; the Obispo Beautiful Association; the Native Plant Society—state and local; the Morro Bay Tree Committee; Ecology Action of California State Polytechnic College; and the Citizens Environmental Council of San Luis Obispo County.

On April 4, 1972, the San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission adopted its Open Space Element to the county general plan; this element, on page 41, provides that "The County should cooperate with the U.S. Forest Service in establishing a wilderness area in Lopez Canyon." This view was further supported by the San Luis Obispo County Conservation Advisory Committee, appointed by the Board of Supervisors to advise on county policy.

A petition specifically supporting S. 3027 has been informally circulated since February, 1972, and has more than 3,000 signers; I would be prepared to present this if the Subcommittee desires.

On April 7 of this year, Congressman Talcott who represents our district, participated in a town meeting which was widely noticed for the sole and specific purpose of discussing Wilderness Classification or other alternatives for Lopez Canyon. Approximately 400 persons attended, and many spoke. The U.S. Forest Service was present to air its alternative degree of management and to answer questions. At the conclusion of the meeting, Congressman Talcott observed that 90% of those attending—in his opinion—favored wilderness classification for Lopez.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO BOUNDARIES

As a result of further research, widespread public review and comments from the Forest Service set out in its "Fact Sheet for Lopez Canyon and Vicinity Management Proposals" published February 14, 1972, we are proposing certain minor boundary changes which are essentially technical in nature. Some confusion arose in preparing the original description for S 3027 because of discrepancies between maps and plats of the various agencies, federal and local. Except as otherwise noted, we are accepting the accuracy of the U.S. Geological Survey maps. Our suggested changes are as follows:

1. The original text of S. 3027 lists the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sect. 32, T 29 S, R 13 E as National Forest land. This 40-acre tract is now determined to be BLM land. We ask that it remain included in the wilderness proposal, but under the BLM designation of the bill. (This amendment cures item #7 of page 7 of the "Fact Sheet.")

2. The portion to be included in wilderness designation in Section 8, T 30 S, R 13 E should be amended to read more accurately as "That portion of said section lying easterly of the East Cuesta Ridge Road, and excepting the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$. . . estimated at 400 acres."

3. To comply with item #8 on page 8 of the Forest Service "Fact Sheet," we recommend that all of Section 16, T 30 S, R 13 E, be included under wilderness designation and within the bill. Our title search shows that the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of this section may possibly have title vested in the State of California, and we recommend this be researched further. Estimated acreage . . . 640

4. Regarding Section 17, T 30 S R, 13 E, we suggest that the includible portion of this section be described as "All that portion thereof lying easterly of

the East Cuesta Ridge Road, excepting therefrom the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, and excepting portions within 50 feet of the center line of spur road to the radio installation on Mount Lowe. Estimated acreage . . . 300"

5. The original text of S 3027 inadvertently includes 40 acres of private land in Section 29, T 30 S, R 14 E. We ask that the includible portion be amended to read: "SW $\frac{1}{4}$; the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$; and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$. . . estimate 280 acres.

6. Technical amendment: "Section 34, T 30 S, R 14 E, All lying southeasterly of the Hi Mountain Road. Estimated acreage . . . 450."

7. The bill's original description for Section 9, T 31 S, R 14 E, appears to interfere with the Lopez Canyon County road because of confusion in plotting this new road on local maps. We suggest amendment as follows: "All lying north-easterly of the Lopez Canyon County Road. Estimated acreage . . . 200."

8. Likewise for Section 10, T 31 S, R 14 E—"All lying northerly of the Lopez Canyon County Road. Estimated acreage . . . 580."

9. The original text of S 3027 states the estimated acreage of township lots nos. 48 and 49 (T 31 S, R 14 E) as 160 acres in each lot. We believe this acreage should be more accurately stated as 120 acres in each lot.

The above amendments largely eliminate objections nos. 4a (1), (2) and (4); and Nos 7, 8 and 9 of the Forest Service "Fact Sheet", pages 7 and 8.

HOW IS LOPEZ CAYON BEST PROTECTED?

In its present natural state, Lopez Canyon is of relatively low fire hazard, and little prone to erosive runoff.

The vegetative cover of the Canyon is not typical southern California dry chaparral; rather, it is a mature, climax forest and brushland, with canopy trees and damp, lush undergrowth. This static, mature state is a probable equilibrium between litter accumulation on the one hand, and its decomposition on the other, resulting in negligible fuel build-up. This natural soil-building process and the canopy protection of mature trees prevents sudden, heavy water run-off, even though the area is one of relatively heavy rainfall. It provides water retentive cover assuring sustained moisture. In the 100-year storm of 1969, Lopez Creek flowed forcefully, but carried little silt and debris.

The Forest Service, and others, have expressed need for further protective fire and fuel breaks and access roads. We contend these are not needed. As noted above, this is not a typical chaparral forest; the last fire in the Canyon area was in 1929—43 years ago—and started outside the National Forest, spreading westerly and allegedly into the Canyon. However, mature trees which are estimated to be 400 years old show no fire scars; and there are long-time residents who cannot recall a fire within the canyon.

Secondly, we contend that there is already adequate access to the boundaries of the proposed wilderness area from the west (by East Cuesta Ridge Road—the north boundary); from the south (from the Lopez Canyon County road) and from the east (from the Hi Mountain road, which also serves as a partial boundary). Further, it should be noted that new and improved aerial fire suppression means are now available which in some measure supplant older, conventional methods.

As to the effectiveness of fire and fuel breaks in stopping fires, if any conclusion can be reached from southern California chaparral fires which have jumped one-half mile wide freeways, it is that under rampant fire conditions, fire breaks have little effect controlling forest fires. We contend that since 90% of fires start from along roads or where there has been entry by vehicle, the installation of fire/fuel breaks actually increases the likelihood of fires by inviting vehicle entry; and undeniably, they produce more run-off and erosion. My exhibits nos. 11 through 16 portray the West Cuesta Ridge fuel break, which is approximately four miles north of Lopez Wilderness and on the same mountain range. These pictures show typical design and—unfortunately—some popular uses. As installed, the ridges are stripped of native cover and planted to grasses (or sometimes herbicided); these grasses may have lower fuel content, but are more combustible. Hence, when with heavy motorcycle use, there is considerably more danger of fires starting.

Despite the best efforts and intentions of the Forest Service in controlling traffic, it is inescapable that once a road or vehicle path is opened, it is physically impossible to control entry. My exhibits nos. 13 and 15 show that these elaborate barriers the Forest Service has installed have not totally controlled the vehicles and resultant erosive consequences. And the erosion that is a consequence of the road construction itself is shown in exhibits nos. 14 and 16; from these, a safe

deduction is that many times the installations to control and suppress fire do more permanent damage than does the actual fire itself.

Considering that the area we are proposing for wilderness has been almost miraculously preserved from the ravages of man, and considering that of the remaining 340,000 acres of federally-owned land in San Luis Obispo County, precious little has been untrammelled, we are not asking too much to set aside this 21,300 acre tract for someone coming along in the future. This amounts to only one percent of the land area of the County. Other areas of our Los Padres Forest—notably Lapanza and Black Mountain—are being ravaged by vehicle enduros, which the Forest Service cooperates in sponsoring. We do not want this to happen to Lopez Canyon.

I submit that the best management and protection for the Lopez Canyon watershed is to let nature continue to manage and protect it for us . . . by placing it under protection of the Wilderness Act.

PRIVATE INHOLDINGS

With the boundary amendments I have proposed, we estimate that the four privately owned inholdings comprise approximately 680 acres.

The City of San Luis Obispo is owner of an estimated 240 acres in the canyon bottom. Mayor Kenneth Schwartz of that City is here to express its position.

Mr. Guy Arnold, who resides at Pozo, San Luis Obispo County, owns 240 acres in Sections 14 and 23 of T 30 S, R 13 E, which extends westerly from Burrito Canyon into Lopez Canyon, and through which a transmission line passes. Mr. Arnold has resisted Forest Service efforts to extend the damaging Hi Mountain road extension through his parcel, largely because of his concern of erosion and the plague of uncontrolled vehicle entry that results from these roads. He has given me a letter stating that he will, in lieu of condemnation of his land for wilderness purposes, covenant to retain his property undeveloped under wilderness conditions, but under his ownership so that he can continue to graze cattle.

Mr. Robert McNeil of Santa Margarita, San Luis Obispo County, owns 157 acres in Section 7, T 31 S, R 15 E. He acquired this parcel by purchase within the last several years from Stanford University, which in turn had acquired it by bequest. He and his family have leased this parcel for cattle grazing for some period of time. Like Mr. Arnold, his concerns are road and trail building, and the unrestrained vehicular entry it invites. He has indicated he will not oppose wilderness classification of this area.

A fourth private inholding is 40 acres in Section 14, T 31 S, R 14 E which county records indicate the property of M. Spencer, whom we have not had opportunity to contact.

TRANSMISSION LINE

Lopez Canyon midway is traversed by a 115 KV transmission line installed in 1941-42 by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Five towers are on National Forest land; two on the private Arnold inholding. No towers are in the floor of the Canyon; wires which span the canyon at high level are virtually out of sight from the Lopez trail. The vegetation under the line has not been brushed out. The road which was constructed to permit installation of the line has not been maintained, and now is overgrown and largely invisible.

In an attempt to show the impact of this line, Exhibit no. 17 is submitted which is an aerial photo. Of such low visual impact are the road and the towers that it has been necessary for us to delineate with crayon the path of the easement.

If the fifty-year easement was granted at time of installation, it would have fewer than 20 years to run, and hence not be a permanent disqualifying installation. It is our understanding that this facility is of marginal utility, sometimes used only as standby, and may well be obsolete by the time of termination of the license.

THE FLORA OF LOPEZ CANYON

(By Robert F. Hoover, Ph. D., Professor of Botany, California State Polytechnic College, San Luis Obispo, until his death in February, 1970. Author of consummate study "The Vascular Plants of San Luis Obispo County." Published numerous articles in all botanical journals based on extensive fieldwork in California and western North America)

Lopez Canyon, in the Santa Lucia Range of San Luis Obispo County, has a rich flora which is remarkable principally for the number of plants of mainly northern distribution, growing under cool and moist conditions unusual for this part of

California. Slopes densely covered with mosses and ferns are a rare sight in San Luis Obispo County generally, but well represented in Lopez Canyon. Except for the absence of redwoods, it suggests a small section of the redwood belt shifted southward. There are also, however, some plants which are more common to the south.

The perennial stream which follows the bottom of Lopez Canyon flows first northward, then bends eastward at a point directly east of San Luis Obispo, and finally turns southward to flow into Arroyo Grande. The surrounding summits reach an altitude of about 2800 feet. The sheltered and shaded condition of portions of the canyon, heavy winter rainfall, and frequent fogs in summer help to explain the nature of the flora. Along the creek, one of the conspicuous plants is *Aralia californica*. Not generally common, but present in some moist spots, are Leopard Lily, *Lilium pardalinum*; and Giant Helleborine, *Epipactis gigantea*; as is also the rare orange-flowered mint *Satureja mimuloides*. Of the 20 species of ferns known in San Luis Obispo County, 13 have been found in Lopez Canyon. Most notable are *Woodwardia fimbriata* for luxuriance of growth and *Polystichum dudleyi* for its rarity. The latter grows on the rocky walls of a narrow gorge in the upper part of the canyon.

Plants of northern distribution include Woodland Madia, *Madia madioides*; Red Larkspur, *Delphinium nudicaule*; Glab Wake Robin, *Trillium sessile* var. *angustipetalum*; Alum Root, *Heuchera micrantha*; and Horsemint, *Agastache urticifolia*. On rocky slopes are found *Dudleya pulverulenta*, *D. lanceolata*, and variable plants which seem to belong to *D. cymosa*. These dudleyas here vary in such a way as to suggest the possibility of hybridization followed by extensive backcrossing.

The ridges surrounding Lopez Canyon have forests of knob-cone and big-cone pines, but these trees hardly descend into the canyon. Madrones are common in the upper part, and there are large trees of *Quercus chrysolepis*, one of which bears the largest acorns I have seen.

At the lower end of the canyon was one of the outlying southern occurrences of Oregon Oak, *Quercus garryana*; as evidenced by its short stubby acorns and the leaves, more sparsely hairy on the lower surface than in Valley Oak, *Quercus lobata*. This portion of the canyon, with its many interesting plants, has recently been destroyed in connection with the construction of a dam just below the confluence of the Lopez Canyon creek with Arroyo Grande. Just outside the mouth of Lopez Canyon *Delphinium californicum* was recently found, apparently the most southern occurrence of the species.

AMPLIFICATION OF DR. HOOVER'S STATEMENT ON FLORA OF LOPEZ CANYON

(By Dirk R. Walters, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, California State Polytechnic College, San Luis Obispo, and President of the San Luis Obispo County Chapter of the Native Plants Society)

I would like to offer a few words in amplification of those of the late Dr. Robert Hoover. Dr. Hoover was the recognized authority on the vascular plants of San Luis Obispo County, and his book, *The Vascular Plants of San Luis Obispo County, California*, is the culmination of some 20 years of study on this county's flora. On two occasions known to me, Dr. Hoover wrote material pertinent to the area under discussion today. The first is a letter in defense of wilderness status which is already a part of the record (Congressional Record Vol. 117(197). The second is general article describing the flora of Lopez Canyon published in the Newsletter of the California Native Plant Society 5(2): 1-2. My present remarks are based on these two writings.

The interior mountains of San Luis Obispo County are extremely dry and covered by chaparral on the slopes and dry oak and laurel in the canyon bottoms. Any area that is moist and shaded enough to support a diverse fern flora is surely unique and without replacement in any nearby portion of the county.

On the high ridges above Lopez Canyon occur the knob-cone pine (*Pinus attenuata*). This pine is one of the closed-cone pines adapted to the fires that periodically burn through Chaparral. It is the only stand of this species within 150 miles. Also in Lopez wilderness area the big-cone pine (*Pinus coulteri*) forms large continuous stands in contrast to its more common scattered population structure.

The taxonomy of the manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos*) of the Lopez Region is not clear. I am not sure which species Dr. Hoover meant when he wrote of "extensive stands of two species" as there are apparently six possible species in the proposed Lopez Wilderness Area. These are *A. pilulosa*, *A. obispoensis*, two varieties, one endemic of *A. glauca*, *A. glandulosa*, *A. cushingiana* and the endemic *A. luciana*.

STATEMENT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL VALUES IN LOPEZ CANYON

(By Charles E. Dills, Ph. D., Field Director and Site Recorder of the San Luis Obispo County Archaeological Society)

I am concerned about the archaeological values that must be present in the proposed Wilderness Area for Lopez Canyon. The Society has not had a chance to survey the area to the extent it would like; because of other pressing survey needs in areas of imminent danger, we have from time to time deferred our study of Lopez Canyon.

I find it extremely difficult to believe that there are no areas of Indian occupation at Lopez Canyon. It is ideal and typical country in many ways. There is good supply of food and water. There is protection and there are many rocks for tools and mortars. There are intense occupation areas within a few miles. Indians would have to have consciously avoided this area, which I don't believe, but don't "know."

While we have been busily surveying more endangered areas at the expense of this one, I hope we soon can remedy this.

 THE FAUNA OF LOPEZ CANYON

(By Dr. Aryan I. Roest, Ph. D., Professor of Biology, California State Polytechnic College, San Luis Obispo. Student of mammalogy in San Luis Obispo County for 17 years; contributor to the "Journal of Mammalogy," "Auk," "Condor" and "Herpetologia")

The Lopez Canyon area, proposed for consideration as a Wilderness Area, supports an abundant fauna representative of the coastal California region. Most of the birds not directly associated with the coastline itself that are listed in 'Birds of Western San Luis Obispo County' (prepared by the Morro Coast Audubon Society) have been reported from the Lopez area. This would include approximately 150 species—an impressive list. Some of these birds are considered quite rare or unusual, such as the California Condor and the Spotted Owl. The following species may be found in Lopez Canyon area:

Great Blue Heron	Allen's Hummingbird
Green Heron	Belted Kingfisher
Turkey Vulture	Red-shafted Flicker
California Condor	Acorn Woodpecker
Sharp-skinned Hawk	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Cooper's Hawk	Hairy Woodpecker
Red-tailed Hawk	Cowny Woodpecker
Red-shouldered Hawk	Nuttall's Woodpecker
Golden Hawk	Western Kingbird
Prairie Falcon	Cassin's Kingbird
Pigeon Hawk	Ash-throated Flycatcher
Sparrow Hawk	Black Phoebe
California Quail	Say's Phoebe
Mountain Quail	Trail's Flycatcher
Band-tailed Pigeon	Western Flycatcher
Mourning Dove	Western Wood Peewee
Roadrunner	Olive-sided Flycatcher
Barn Owl	Horned Lark
Screech Owl	Violet-greeb Swallow
Great Horned Owl	Tree Swallow
Pygmy Owl	Barn Swallow
Spotted Owl	Cliff Swallow
Long-eared Owl	Purple Martin
Short-eared Owl	Steller's Jay
Poor-will	Scrub Jay
Common Nighthawk	Common Raven
Lesser Nighthawk	Common Crow
Black Swift	Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Vaux's Swift	Plain Titmouse
White-throated Swift	Common Bushtit
Black-chinned Hummingbird	White-breasted Nuthatch
Costa's Hummingbird	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Anna's Hummingbird	Pygmy Nuthatch
Rufous Hummingbird	Brown Creeper

Wrentit	Yellow-breasted Chat
House Wren	Wilson's Warbler
Winter Wren	Western Meadowlark
Bewick's Wren	Red-winged Blackbird
Canon Wren	Brewer's Blackbird
Rock Wren	Brown-headed Cowbird
Mockingbird	Wester Tanager
California Thrasher	Black-headed Grosbeak
Robin	Blue Grosbeak
Varied Thrush	Lazuli Bunting
Hermit Thrush	Purple Finch
Swainson's Thrush	House Finch
Western Bluebird	Pine Siskin
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	American Goldfinch
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Lesser Goldfinch
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Lawrence's Goldfinch
Cedar Waxwing	Red Crossbill
Loggerhead Shrike	Rufous-sided Towhee
Starling	Brown Towhee
Hutton's Vireo	Savannah Sparrow
Bell's Vireo	Vesper Sparrow
Solitary Vireo	Lark Sparrow
Warbling Vireo	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Orange-crowned Warbler	Sage Sparrow
Nashville Warbler	Slate-colored Junco
Yellow Warbler	Oregan Junco
Myrtle Warbler	Chipping Sparrow
Audubon's Warbler	White-crowned Sparrow
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Townsend's Warbler	White-throated Sparrow
Hermit Warbler	Fox Sparrow
MacGillivray's Warbler	Song Sparrow
Yellowthroat	

Among mammals, the following list is suggestive of the variety of species which occur:

Common Opossum	California Mouse
Trowbridge Shrew	Deer Mouse
Vagrant Shrew	Brush Mouse
Broad-handed Mole	Pinyon Mouse
Bats—about 12 species	Desert Wood Rat
Black-tailed Jackrabbit	Dusky-footed Wood Rat
Audubon Cottontail Rabbit	California Meadow Mouse
Brush Rabbit	Gray Fox
California Ground Squirrel	Coyote
Merriam Chipmunk	Black Bear
Western Gray Squirrel	Raccoon
Botta Pocket Gopher	Long-tailed Weasel
California Pocket Mouse	Badger
Santa Cruz Kangaroo Rat	Striped Skunk
Western Harvest Mouse	Spotted Skunk
Mountain Lion	Bobcat
Mule Deer (Black-tailed)	

Reptiles and Amphibians which may be found in the Lopez drainage include:

California Newt	Whip-tailed Lizard
Red Salamander	Western Skink
Slender Salamander	Alligator Lizard
Arboreal Salamander	Legless Lizard
Western Toad	Ringnecked Snake
Pacific Treefrog	Yellow-bellied Racer
Red-legged Frog	Striped Racer
Yellow-legged Frog	Gopher Snake
Pond Turtle	Kingsnake
Fence Lizard	Garter Snake
Horned Lizard	Western Rattlesnake

The wild, relatively undisturbed character of the Lopez Canyon area, which is little visited by people, is an excellent environment for this variety of native wildlife. The result is an unusual combination of native vegetation and animal life existing much as it did in times past. Most other regions of southern and central California have been considerably disturbed, with resulting changes in the original, native condition of the fauna and flora. Preservation of the area with as little change as possible would be highly desirable.

CONDORS IN THE LOPEZ WILDERNESS AREA

(By Ian McMillan, San Luis Obispo County rancher, naturalist and nationally recognized authority on the California Condor; author of "Man and the California Condor," 1968)

The proposed Lopez Wilderness Area in the Padres National Forest, includes the most important of all known nesting sites of the rare and endangered California Condor. Located in San Luis Obispo County, at a point approximately a hundred miles northward of the Sespe Condor Sanctuary, this is the most northern of any condor nest known to be active in recent years. Therefore, the territory has special importance as a vital extension of the condor's breeding range. A young condor was known to have hatched each year in this nesting territory in 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969.

Of all known condor nests this is the only site known to be active in the years 1968 and 1969. The Lopez Wilderness proposal is of added importance as it would provide for the preservation, in status quo, of this most important nesting retreat of the California Condor.

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. Wilson.

STATEMENT OF LEE WILSON, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Chairman and Senator Buckley. I am Lee Wilson, a resident of San Luis Obispo County in California. I am here to represent the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club as chairman of the Lopez Wilderness Committee. I am appearing in support of Senator Cranston's and Senator Tunney's bill, S. 3027, which proposes to permanently preserve a grand wilderness within the Los Padres National Forest in California.

I won't take time to tell any more about the beauty of this place, I think that has been ably done, but I do want to talk about two things here, and I will make it as brief as possible.

First I would like to talk about the powerlines. I am going to read a paragraph here out of my statement. This line extends 2¼ miles within the area. It was built 30 years ago to supply power from the San Joaquin Valley to San Luis Obispo County.

Within the last 20 years a large generating plant has been built at Morro Bay. It now supplies power for San Luis Obispo County and northern Santa Barbara County, and in addition furnishes a large amount of power that is transmitted back to the valley over a new line that has many times the capacity of the old line, it runs almost parallel to it, but outside the proposed wilderness area. Two new lines will soon be completed from San Luis Obispo County to the valley parallel to the old line that will each have carrying capacity in the neighborhood of 100 times that of the old line. Plans indicate an ultimate number of six of these high lines to the valley. These figures show that the old line, within the proposed wilderness is an obsolete miniature, and of minor commercial value. Twenty years from now when the easement permit expires, I doubt that the Forest Service will find much resistance if they ask the power company to abandon and remove the line, thus leaving the area free of imperfections, this being comparatively low voltage and being the low

line for the transmission line certainly has very little value to the power company.

Senator ANDERSON. Is this area in the proposed wilderness that you are talking about.

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. Is it where the Forest Service proposes to put in a powerline.

Mr. WILSON. This powerline goes across the proposed wilderness area.

Senator ANDERSON. Did the Forest Service recommend that the area containing the powerline be put in?

Mr. WILSON. No, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. Do you recommend it be put in?

Mr. WILSON. Yes; I recommend it. I think it is a small imperfection. This line is invisible. I have taken several hundred people into Lopez Canyon on trips and not a single one of them in the canyon has ever noticed the powerline.

Senator ANDERSON. Is this in your written testimony?

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. We are limited here; I have to go to the Senate shortly. We have a large number of witnesses left and we asked if you couldn't just put the statement in the record and it will certainly be reviewed by the Senators and the staff before they have executive sessions on this bill.

Mr. WILSON. That is fine. I will be glad to do that; and thank you very much for letting me appear.

(The prepared statement of Mr. Wilson follows:)

STATEMENT OF LEE WILSON, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIF.

My name is Lee Wilson. I am a resident of San Luis Obispo County, in California. I am here to represent the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club as chairman of the Lopez Wilderness Committee. I am appearing in support of Senator Cranston's and Senator Tunney's bill # S3027 which proposes to permanently preserve a grand Wilderness within the Los Padres National Forest in California.

I will not take time here to tell you of the grand wilderness character and rugged beauty of this unique piece of Federal Land. That has been ably done by previous speakers. Rather I will use my time to deal with the aspects of protecting an important segment of the watershed that supplies the Lopez Water Project. I will also discuss some of the alternate plans that have been proposed for managing these lands.

Although we find almost universal support for our Wilderness plan, there are a very few who contend that the area can be better protected by other means.

It has been said that Wilderness classification would not permit the Forest Service to manage the area in a manner that would properly protect the watershed that supplies the \$20,000,000 Lopez Water Project. Construction of this project became a certainty many years ago, yet practically no change in the management plan has taken place. We therefore can assume that the plan is now adequate or that the Forest Service has been negligent in the matter.

The City Council of one municipality has placed itself in opposition to the Wilderness plan; they based their decision to do so upon information supplied by a local sportsman's club to the effect that a fire in Lopez Canyon would cause approximately 40,000 cubic feet of soil per square mile of land to be carried by siltation into Lopez Lake, and that the total amount would displace 33 acre feet of water storage space.

This statement is grossly incorrect. These figures were taken from estimates made for an area remote from here, and in an entirely different soil, different ground cover, and different terrain; they depict a most violent fire burning over the entire area, followed immediately by a once-in-a-century rain storm.

Only 20 square miles of the proposed area are in the Lopez Lake watershed, so if we use the above highly exaggerated formula, the siltation in the lake would only displace 20 acre feet. The last fire of any consequence in the proposed Wilder-

ness area occurred 43 years ago; it burned over, only 6 square miles of land in the Lopez watershed. Still using the same exaggerated figures, and discarding improved techniques of fire fighting, and using 43 years as a frequency rate (which could possibly be 100 years or more), it would take 8,633 years to fill the 53,000 acre foot lake with silt. In 863 years only 10% would be lost. Gentlemen, I think you will agree that this would be an insignificant price to pay for the preservation of the Los Padres National Forest's finest remaining Wilderness land.

I would like to compare this 1/7 acre foot per year to the amount of siltation that would result from the 17 miles of firebreak and the 11 miles of steep hillside roadway proposed in the Scenic Area plan, all of which would go into Lopez Lake during every rainstorm. Anyone interested in determining the siltation that could result from these defacements should inspect the existing 7 miles of Hi Mtn. Road, and the West Cuesta firebreak. The unretouched photographs that we are leaving with you today, tell the story quite well. It is unbelievable the amount of erosion that is taking place there.

The results of the Burgy and Papazifiriou study on the effects of vegetation management on slope stability recently completed at the University of California clearly shows the dangers of erosion caused by type conversion on steep shallow soils such as we have along the Hi Mtn. Ridge.

There is no doubt that by far the most active agent of siltation of the lake is eutrophication within the lake itself, a condition that cannot be improved in any manner by a change in management procedures of the land within the proposed Wilderness area.

Our Wilderness proposal has been criticized because of the existence of an electrical power line extending 2P miles within the area. This line was built 30 years ago to supply power from the San Joaquin Valley to San Luis Obispo County. Within the last 20 years a large generating plant has been built at Morro Bay. It now supplies power for San Luis Obispo County and northern Santa Barbara County, and in addition furnishes a large amount of power that is transmitted back to the Valley over a new line that has many times the capacity of the old line, it runs almost parallel to it, but outside the proposed Wilderness area. Two new lines will soon be completed from San Luis Obispo County to the Valley parallel to the old line that will each have a carrying capacity in the neighborhood of 100 times that of the old line. Plans indicate an ultimate number of 6 of these huge lines to the Valley. These figures show that the old line, within the proposed Wilderness is an obsolete miniature, and of minor commercial value. Twenty years from now when the easement permit expires, I doubt that the Forest Service will find much resistance if they ask the Power Company to abandon and remove the line, thus leaving the area free of imperfections.

The same Sportmen's Club recommendation says "hunting in Lopez Canyon is presently available over roads that would be closed to motor vehicles under the Wilderness classification." This is wrong in every respect. No road or trail within the proposed Wilderness area is now open to public motor vehicle travel. Wilderness classification would close no road now open to vehicle use, and would close no trail.

Wilderness designation would permit no development. It is obvious that the purpose of any other plan would be to provide for development. To develop in any manner would impair the great character and beauty of this irreplaceable resource. The Scenic Area proposal for this area uses the words "develop", "development", "improve", "improvement", "manage", and "management" a combined total of 18 times. Any development or improvement, or any management beyond that provided by the terms of the Wilderness Act could only be looked upon as a detriment to the valuable watershed and to the wild character of the land it encompasses.

One other proposal that has come forth is to "leave it alone". With that proposal we heartily agree and we proclaim here that the only way to accomplish it is to place the land under the protection of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

About two years ago we began circulating a petition asking for the establishment of the Lopez Wilderness Area. In order that every signer knew the proposal well, a copy of the proposal, and a map of the area were attached to each petition. The petition now bears the signature of 2,769 people from all walks of life. I have a copy of that petition, and if I may, I will leave it with you. Please observe that the first page bears the signature of our Congressman in whose district these lands are found.

I have with me copies of our original Lopez Wilderness Area proposal. It contains much detailed information that has not been brought out here today. I would like to leave it with you.

In asking that you give this proposal your approval, I am speaking for a great many people in California, and throughout our great country who realize that if we are going to preserve the remaining de-facto Wilderness we must do it in this generation.

Thank you for the privilege of appearing before you.

SENATOR ANDERSON. Mr. Jim Eaton.

**STATEMENT OF JAMES A. EATON, MOTHER LODE CHAPTER,
SIERRA CLUB**

Mr. EATON. I am James A. Eaton, conservation executive of the Mother Lode Chapter of the Sierra Club. The Mother Lode Chapter is a subunit of the Sierra Club which stretches from Yosemite to the Oregon border with a membership of 6,000.

The students of Active Conservation Tactics, University of California at Davis, also have asked me to represent them today. This group has been actively working for the preservation of the Snow Mountain area since 1969, and I have served as their president for a year and a half.

I am pleased to have this opportunity today to tell you of the complete support of both organizations of S. 2680, sponsored by Senator Alan Cranston, to establish the Snow Mountain Wilderness. We have long felt that legislation was needed to fully protect this scenic wild area and are pleased that both Senators from California, as well as our Congressman, Robert L. Leggett, support the wilderness proposal. We also understand that Representative Don Clausen, whose district will include part of Snow Mountain next year, also is in favor of wilderness designation of the area.

Rather than reading the rest of my statement here I will submit it for inclusion in the record. I would like to speak to a few specific points.

The Forest Service's management plans would not protect these valuable features. They allow motorized vehicles in the area now, and have plans to log in the watershed of the Middle Fork of Stony Creek, and outstanding wild river. They plan a highway over the mountain as well as additional developments that would destroy the wilderness character of Snow Mountain.

Even the crest zone, to be managed as "primitive" by the Forest Service, is not properly protected. The landing of helicopters for recreational purposes is allowed during winter, and the use of snowmobiles in this area has been suggested by the district ranger.

The Pacific Crest Highway, a two-laned paved road proposed by the Forest Service would cut into the heart of the Snow Mountain area. It would cross extremely steep and fragile slopes on the southwest side of the mountain. A nearby road adjacent to the wilderness proposal was closed all last summer due to a landslide, and I have heard that another slide that occurred this winter threatens to keep the road closed this year as well.

The three peaks nearest to Snow Mountain—Sheetiron, St. John, and Goat, all have roads to their summits. 2,164.4 miles of roads existed on the Mendocino National Forest as of June 30, 1969. An additional 1,428 miles of road were planned. These roads are of spacious standards, and offer ample opportunity for the motorized recreationist, whether he is driving a passenger car, a four-wheel drive vehicle, or

trail bike. There is also no reason to provide for this type of activity in the Snow Mountain area where fragile soils predominate. Recently the Forest Supervisor Blaine R. Cornell, speaking about four of the areas that could be logged under current management plans, said, "It is impossible—I don't mean 'impossible' but damn difficult—to develop roads because of the steep country."

Except for the timber already sold in the Nye sale, the value of the trees is questionable. The following is from the Willows Daily Journal of February 10, 1972:

Cornell said it seems clear that the other areas offer "extremely tough logging," continuing:

"Today we can't see our way clear to run in and log it. Roads would be an extremely tough proposition. It would require a great deal more study to determine where, and if, we could build them.

"Maybe in the future it would be possible to log—economically—by helicopter."

But, pointing to a map of the area, he acknowledged that the distance to main roads presented a major difficulty even for future helicopter logging.

As far as the Nye sale is concerned, we are very pleased that Commander Industries, the timber purchaser, has agreed not to build roads or log in this area while legislation is being considered. We do not think that the two areas in this sale should ever be cut and hope that a method can be found to keep Commander Industries from suffering any economic loss as a result of these areas being included in the wilderness.

When sold, the cost of the roads to harvest this timber was estimated to be greater than the return to the Forest Service. I have been in both areas and cannot believe that this is good timber-growing land. Wildlife, watershed, and wilderness are much more important uses for this area, and it should be a part of the Snow Mountain wilderness.

The Snow Mountain wilderness proposal is part of the Stoney Creek Forest Reserve set aside by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1907. Much of this original reserve has now been subject to intensive development by the hand of man. The Mother Lode Chapter of the Sierra Club and Active Conservation Taxtics strongly urge passage of S. 2680 to protect the few remaining acres that remain in a wilderness condition today. If not, future generations may never know the true beauty of the land as it was when President Roosevelt had the original foresight to set it aside.

Thank you.

Senator ANDERSON. Thank you very much.

Is there anything further?

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Chairman, I have one other item here that I would like to put in the record, that is the original proposal for this area to the Forest Service and it contains much technical information that has not been brought out here today. Could I include that, please?

Senator ANDERSON. You may file that with the committee.

Mr. John McComb, Mr. Corry McDonald, Mr. Karl Larsen, and Mr. Reed Cundiff.

**STATEMENT OF JOHN McCOMB, REPRESENTING SOUTHWEST REGION
SIERRA CLUB; CORY McDONALD, NEW MEXICO WILDERNESS
STUDY COMMITTEE; KARL LARSEN, NEW MEXICO; AND REED
CUNDIFF, LOS CRUCES, N. MEX.**

Mr. McDONALD. Senator Anderson, ladies and gentlemen, I am Cory McDonald, chairman of the New Mexico Wilderness Study Committee, residing in Albuquerque. Our wilderness study committee is a coalition of conservation organizations and individuals numbering somewhere between 2,000 and 3,000 active citizens concerned with obtaining the correct classification for the right amount of wilderness in our State.

There is a crucial public issue much larger than the outstanding legislation. The issue is simple. The USFS proposed an area of 181,967 acres at the public hearings. Subsequently, after the hearings, their proposal increased 3.4 percent—6,212 acres to 188,179 acres. However, at the hearings, the public testified that it wanted to see 234,731 acres—12.3 percent of the original USFS proposal—become wilderness area. We have also inspected the written inputs to the record at the regional office. Our impression of the overall input was that the public was due far more than the additional 3.4 percent concession.

At least two more factors must be considered in arriving at a decision in this instance. The southwestern part of the State is sparsely populated. Consequently, those people understandably think they already have "too much wilderness." Admittedly, the Gila Wilderness Area is big country. Then the Blue Range on the west side, is also big. The other factor is that only 0.085 percent of our State's area is now classified as wilderness. We do have an average amount—33 percent—of Federal Land.

So many of our more populous States, both to the east and west of us, do not have public lands for their wilderness recreation. It is unfortunate that they have contributed to the overuse of our Pecos Wilderness in which we estimate that some 70,000 to 100,000 people annually have concentrated their use on less than 25 percent of the area. Those areas are beyond their carrying capacity.

Not only must we find ways to spread their uses over more of the existing wilderness areas, but we must add more wilderness areas rapidly to prevent the destruction of existing ones by overuse. The Aldo Leopold Wilderness Area is one area badly needed now in its full natural scope despite the fact that some violations of the primitive area were permitted. All of these scars can be assisted to heal with favorable management.

Our public endeavors must be regarded or we could get discouraged at the slow legal processes and react at election time in unexpected ways. More of the younger and less patient people are beginning to swell our ranks. They have started to attend such events as the roadless area meetings. We are asking them to write their opinions of this issue to the Senate committee about May 22 in evidence of their concern. These concerns are encouraging the conservation-minded young people to register to vote in numbers outweighing less public-minded segments of their ranks.

The conclusions which we seek is that the Senate committee will make more favorable boundary adjustments before discussion by the

Congress and thus be more responsive to the public wishes. This particular case may be quite typical and precedence setting. The administration bill in each case must be more than a few percent responsive to the public hearings or the legal process must be changed. Consequently, we ask that the Senate committee find more favorably in this specific case.

A letter, dated April 10, 1972, to the Honorable Senator Henry Jackson, chairman of this committee, is here read for inclusion in the record.

(The letter follows:)

WILDERNESS STUDY COMMITTEE,
April 10, 1972.

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

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Please be advised that we have had conversations with Senator Anderson and his aide, Mr. Claude Wood, pertaining to the Senator's Bill for a 188,095 acre Aldo Leopold Wilderness Area in this State of New Mexico. It is understood that the bill is in your Committee, and that it is based upon the Proposal of the U.S. Forest Service.

The bill as it stands is of considerable merit. However, our organization proffered a "Conservationist's Proposal" at the Public Hearing and it was strongly supported by the public. This proposal is contained as an exhibit on page 77 of the USFS Proposal. Our proposal recommends a 23% larger area containing 231,737 acres.

We received a different reaction to the Public Response described on pages 18-19 of the USFS Proposal. We were organizationally at both meetings and the attached individual statement was subsequently submitted for the Record. Our conclusion was that at the Friday Hearing at Silver City, the audience was made up of primarily local people, many of whom had never been in the area. The Saturday hearing at Truth or Consequences was attended by people from throughout the state who went to the meeting at their own expense to represent the various citizens' groups and organizations. At the Saturday meeting 85% of those testifying were for our "Conservationist's Proposal."

It is our responsibility as the representatives of the coalition of citizens' conservation organizations, particularly those signing our Proposal (page 83), to request that you reconsider and make the corresponding boundary revisions in the Bill prior to its being scheduled for discussion by The Congress. Thus, you could be most responsive to the public wishes.

We have dozens of pictures made by our members during their field trips in examination of the boundary location question. These pictures are a poor substitute for an onsite inspection but may be of some guidance to you in making a final decision. In most additions, ancient vestiges of man's former activities can be detected with some uncertainty if you know local history. Without that background, the specified additions, all presently in the Black Range Primitive Area, appear to be a good grade of Wilderness. Our pictures can be made available if you want them for your deliberations.

Our onsite observations are distilled in our testimony at the Saturday, December 5, 1970, hearing. These observations were made by individuals and groups over several years time. They represent firsthand experiences and must be considered in a different light than that testimony made by persons basing their statements only on principle. The USFS proposal does not exhibit these testimonials, but they are in the Public Record.

We had no final agreement with Senator Anderson and his aide, but Mr. Wood did advise that we should write this letter to the committee to ask your advice on how to further proceed.

Sincerely,

G. CORRY McDONALD, *Chairman.*

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF G. CORRY M'DONALD

My name is G. Corry McDonald. As the Vice Chairman of the New Mexico Wilderness Study Committee, I wish to make an additional statement for last-minute inclusion in the record.

I did not attend the Opening Session at Silver City but understand that about 400 persons were in attendance. Some 56 testified. It was estimated that about 55% of those testifying were against the USFS Proposal and 45% were for it. Applying these percentages to the number present as typical, about 220 would have been against and 180 would have been for the Proposal.

I did attend the Truth or Consequences Second Session and listened to about 70 persons testify. About 200 people were in attendance. 15% of those testifying were against and 95% were for the USFS Proposal as modified by the Joint Proposal of the Conservation Groups. Applying these percentages against the 200 in attendance, about 170 persons were for the modified proposal and 30 would have been against it. Adding the two sessions, the totals work out to be about 60% for and 40% against.

It is to be particularly noted that those testifying at the Truth or Consequences Session were predominantly for the modified proposal. It is therefore recommended to the Congress of the United States and to the U.S. Forest Service that the Exclusions and Additions described in the Joint Proposal of the Conservation Groups be carefully weighed as strong public opinion.

Mr. McDONALD. It is to be noted that we have a tape-slide presentation, 11 minutes in length, which may assist in your understanding of why this Aldo Leopold Wilderness Area is unique. We will make arrangements with the Wilderness Society to provide this to you for the purpose of your later consideration. There are a couple of highlights of the letter to Senator Jackson, chairman of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, dated April 10, that I would like to read just briefly:

We believe that the Forest Service's bill has commendable merit. However, our organization proffered a "conservationist's proposal" at the public hearing, and it was strongly supported by the public.

The Truth or Consequences meeting was attended throughout the State by a large number of people who went to the meeting at their own expense to represent the various citizen groups and organizations. At the Saturday meeting, 85 percent of those testifying were for our conservationist proposal.

Our onsite observations are distilled in our testimony at the Saturday, December 5, 1970, hearings. These observations were made by individuals and groups over several years' time. They represent firsthand experiences and must be considered in a different light than that testimony made by persons basing their statements only on principle. The USFS proposal does not exhibit these testimonials, but they are in the public record and available at the district office.

We think we now have specific comments on the exclusions and additions and the gentlemen will please make their statements quickly.

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. McComb.

STATEMENT OF JOHN McCOMB, REPRESENTING SOUTHWEST REGION, SIERRA CLUB

Mr. McCOMB. Mr. Chairman, gentlemen, I am John McComb. I am the southwest representative for the Sierra Club with an office located at 2014 East Broadway, room 212, Tucson, Ariz. 85719. The Sierra Club has a long and active history of interest in the preservation of wilderness dating from our founding in 1892 by John Muir. We have 140,000 members nationwide, about 1,000 of whom live in the State of New Mexico as members of our Rio Grande chapter.

My wife and I have personally enjoyed backpacking within the proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness in addition to several automobile trips on the periphery. I testified at the field hearing held by the Forest Service on this proposal in Silver City, N. Mex., in 1970. I also actively participated in the preparation of the joint recommendations of conservation groups, including the Sierra Club, which were presented at the hearing.

I hear frequent references to the fairly large area in southwest New Mexico and southwest Arizona which is either classified as a primitive area or wilderness. The total acreage of the Blue Range Primitive Area, Gila Wilderness and Primitive Areas, plus the existing Black Range Primitive Range Area, is about 925,000 acres. It is argued that we do not need this much acreage in this locality. Ideally, it would be nice to have wilderness areas spread more uniformly over the United States, but unfortunately, wilderness is where you find it. We also live in an increasingly mobile society where most persons are willing and able to travel hundreds of miles to recreation areas. At the same time the Southwestern United States is the fastest growing section of the country. Four of the six States with a population growth of more than 25 percent between 1960 and 1970 are located here.

Wilderness use has increased even more rapidly than population. For example, the Forest Service estimates a 50-percent increase in the visitation of the Superstition Wilderness in the same period. We can expect a continuation of this dramatic growth in wilderness use throughout the Southwest in the coming years. I sincerely believe that the demand for wilderness recreation will far exceed the capacity of available areas in the near future.

We were quite pleased when we first saw the preliminary wilderness proposal for the Aldo Leopold Wilderness in 1970. We were also very encouraged to learn that several significant additions were incorporated in the recommendations made to Congress as a result of public comments made at the field hearings indicating a genuine responsiveness to public opinion. Although we believe that the Aldo Leopold Wilderness should be somewhat larger than recommended by the Forest Service, it is my opinion that the differences between our recommendations and those of the Forest Service arise almost solely from differences of opinion on the degree of purity required in order for an area to qualify as wilderness.

The pertinent section—section 2(c)—of the Wilderness Act requires wilderness be an area “which generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable.” Obviously, some judgment is necessary in the interpretation of this section. We feel that the Forest Service has gone to extremes not contemplated by the framers of that language.

An outstanding example of this can be found in the Morgan Creek area which was excluded from the proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness: by the Forest Service. In regard to this area the Forest Service states

Exclusion 6 is proposed to exclude an area with evidence of past logging activities. This 894 acre tract, located on Morgna Creek, also includes several range improvements and a short section of old road which probably served as access to the logged area.

What about this logging? First, it took place around the turn of the century before the Gila National Forest was established. The Forest Service’s own detailed report states, “Stumps of trees, now nearly rotted away, show the mark of the lumberjack’s crosscut saw.” A careful investigation by a group of New Mexicans could locate only 100 of these stumps in the entire excluded area.

At the same time the Forest Service has been engaged in new trail construction in a number of existing wilderness areas which has resulted in the cutting of many more trees than the limited number which apparently disqualified the Morgan Creek area. The old road

referred to by the Forest Service is also far less obtrusive than most modern wilderness trails. If the Forest Service were to apply the purity criteria which they have used in Morgan Creek to other wildernesses, it is probable that very little of our protected wilderness would make the grade. In the opinion of many who have seen the Morgan Creek area and who are familiar with other western wilderness areas, the Morgan Creek area has the necessary qualities of wilderness. In other words, the imprint of man's work is substantially unnoticeable.

The Morgan Creek area is perhaps the outstanding example of the differences between the conservation groups and the Forest Service on the question of purity. It is this question, however, which is common to most of the additions which we proposed, but which were not adopted by the Forest Service. I will briefly describe these additions which we feel would measurably enhance the quality and diversity of the proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness. There is some confusion in nomenclature; so I will give both a name for each area, plus the letter or numeral reference we used at the field hearing.

Hillsboro Peak (conservationist addition J), 3,300 acres. This area was not included by the Forest Service because it "contains—a fire lookout tower" and "the Mineral and Carbonate Creek sections—may contain mineral deposits of sufficient value to warrant future investigation." The mere possibility of minerals is certainly not sufficient reason to exclude this area. The improvements associated with the Hillsboro Peak fire lookout are similar to those on Reeds Peak which is within the area proposed for wilderness status by the Forest Service. To the best of my knowledge there are no improvements other than the fire lookout tower that in any way compromise this area's wilderness character. Inclusion of this area within the wilderness would protect several additional miles of the crest of the Black Range.

Rabb Park (conservationist addition K), 4,110 acres. This area is similar to other proposed for inclusion by the Forest Service. The limited evidence of historical activities by man is not of a substantial character.

East Canyon and Aspen Canyon (conservationist addition L), 2,750 acres. Excluded by the Forest Service because several small areas within this recommended addition have been logged. In our opinion, when viewed in the context of the entire 2,750 acres, this logging has not had a substantial effect on the wilderness qualities of the area. This addition would add several miles of permanent stream to the wilderness.

Powderhorn Canyon and McKnight Canyon (conservationist addition M), 5,105 acres. The same comments apply to this area as to the previous addition, addition L.

Rocky Canyon (conservationist addition N), 2,920 acres. Our differences with the Forest Service proposed exclusion 4 and it was selected to avoid many of the problems—such as wells, roads, et cetera, present in other parts of this exclusion. It is, therefore, disappointing to read the following misleading statement in the Forest Service proposal:

In addition to private land tracts and motorized wells scattered through this exclusion, Area T contains much evidence of man's activities and is not suitable as a part of the wilderness.

There are neither any private lands nor motorized wells in the area we have recommended for retention and the Forest Service gives no indication what it is that disqualifies this area.

Turkey Run (conservationist addition O), 1,895 acres. A portion—800 acres—of this addition—labeled "addition J" by the Forest Serv-

ice—was incorporated by the Forest Service after the field hearings. Of the remainder, the part which forms a narrow strip usually less than one-half mile wide between the Forest Service boundary and ours is probably of limited importance. The Forest Service has selected a topographic boundary while we recommended a specified setback from Turkey Run. The easternmost portion of this addition in the headwaters of Turkey Run is of greater importance since it is logically an integral part of our recommended Tom Davis addition.

The primary justification for recommending the following series of additions along the eastern side was to broaden the diversity of the wilderness by significantly increasing the lower elevation acreage containing pinyon-juniper and riparian woodlands. The three additions adopted by the Forest Service do much toward incorporating the pinyon-juniper areas, but they did not add significant sections of riparian woodland which are poorly represented in the proposed wilderness. The chief problem associated with our additions derives from primitive roads and some undeveloped parcels of private land found in these stream bottom areas. We do not believe that these factors substantially affect the wilderness character of the area nor would they unduly complicate its administration.

Tom Davis and Moccasin John (conservationist addition P)—12,270 acres. Some 2,125 acres of this addition—labeled by the Forest Service as "Addition K"—were adopted by the Forest Service. The remainder was excluded because of some possible mineral potential, evidence of vehicular use, and supposed problems associated with locating a boundary.

Morgan Creek (conservationist addition Q)—960 acres. I have already described this area in some detail. It is essentially the same area labeled as "Exclusion 6" by the Forest Service. It should definitely be retained in the wilderness.

Lake Mountain (conservationist addition R)—3,080 acres. We feel that the benefits to be derived from including this area more than offset the minor problems of the protrusion of several tracts of private land into the boundary.

Flagpole Mountain-Magnum Park (conservationist addition S)—6,300 acres. The Forest Service adopted about half—3,287 acres—of this proposed addition. These areas have been labeled as "Additions L and M" by the Forest Service. The remainder would also constitute a valuable addition primarily for the riparian woodland it would add to the wilderness.

These additions would increase the size of the proposed wilderness to 231,737 acres. This is some 43,558 acres larger than the 188,179 acre wilderness recommended by the Forest Service.

We concur with many of the Forest Service recommendations to exclude significant areas now within the Black Range Primitive Area. The exclusions with which we agree total some 18,638 acres. Most of this acreage is in the Diamond Creek area. There is general agreement that it does exhibit substantial evidence of man's impact at the present time. However, this area should be managed in a manner that will not further compromise its potential addition to the Aldo Leopold Wilderness at some future date.

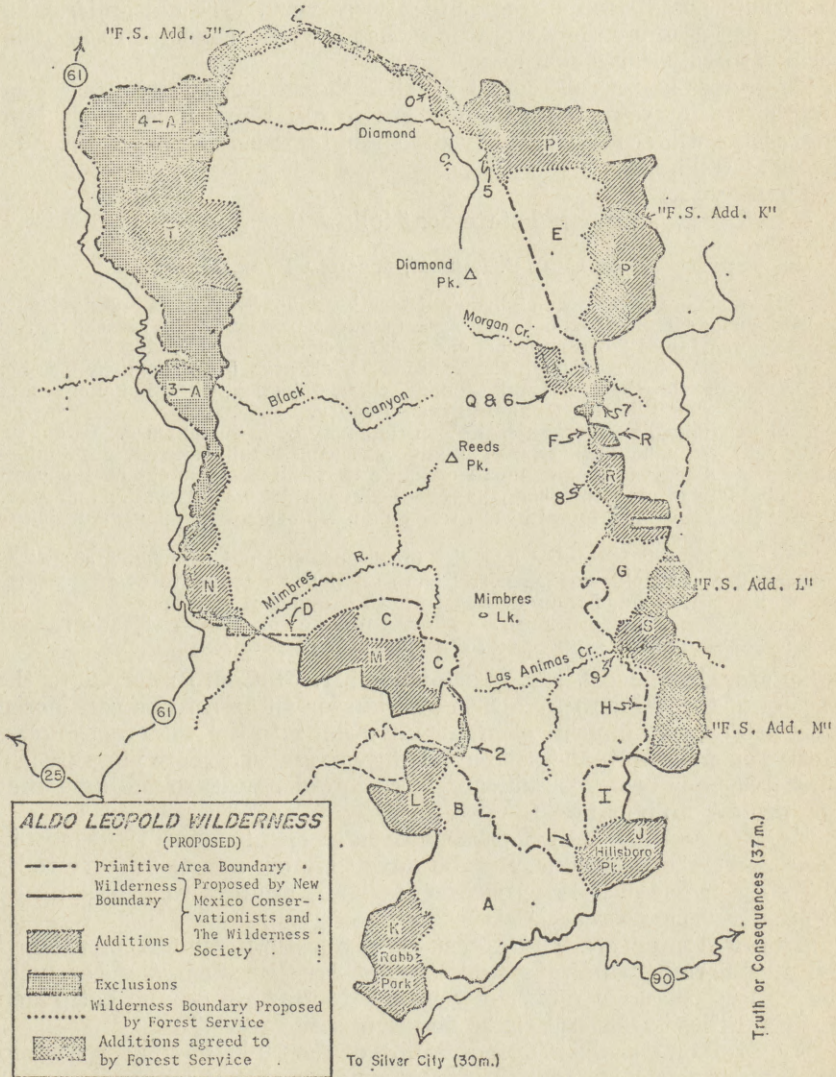
I would like to conclude by noting that the differences between the recommendations of the conservation groups and those of the Forest Service are primarily of a policy nature and do not arise from disagree-

ments about how the land should be managed. I believe that these differences should be easily resolvable once some reasonable guidelines on such questions as purity have been agreed upon.

We should strive to make this wilderness worthy of Senator Anderson, the father of the Wilderness Act, and Aldo Leopold who deserves much of the credit not only for giving protection to this area, but also for recognizing the need for preserving wilderness wherever it occurs.

Thank you.

(The map follows:)



Mr. McComb. I thank you for the chance to appear.
 Senator ANDERSON. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF KARL LARSEN, MESILLA PARK, N. MEX.

Mr. LARSEN. I am Karl Larsen, resident of Mesilla Park, Dona Ana County, and I speak too in favor of the Forest Service proposal for the Aldo Leopold Wilderness with only one exception that I can speak of personally, that is against the Morgan Creek area.

Friends and I hiked up through Morgan Creek in 1970, looking for those things that might disqualify it from wilderness status and we did indeed find those things that were stated to be there, namely, an old boiler which is rotting away and sinking into the dry canyon. We found some stumps that indeed were very, very old and rotting away, and I found they were not what I would consider to be deleterious to wilderness character.

There was a very old corral which I thought was quite interesting, split logs that were falling down. All in all, I feel it is clearly land that is of a wilderness character and should be made a part of the Aldo Leopold Wilderness.

Thank you.

(Mr. Larsen's prepared statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF KARL F. LARSEN, MESILLA PARK, N. MEX.

I support the Forest Service proposal for the Aldo Leopold Wilderness with one exception. The Morgan Creek area (shown as an exclusion by the Forest Service) was found from personal onsite inspection to be of wilderness quality.

Friends and I hiked through the Morgan Creek area for 2 days in October 1970, looking for signs of roads, fences, corrals, logging or other man-made devices that would detract from wilderness quality.

At the roadhead we found a cattle pen that may be in current use.

We followed a trail up the canyon and, after considerable searching, found an old and very decayed tree stump. I estimate that the tree was cut 50-100 years ago. The area around the stump is forested in mature mixed conifer and some "maple like" trees not found in my tree guide. No other stumps attributable to logging were seen.

The "old boiler" $\frac{3}{4}$ buried in a dry creek-bed, and old wire fence on rotten posts, and a very old wooden corral were all that we found to evidence early use of the area. None of these detract from the essence of wilderness.

Morgan Creek, and other areas excluded for the sole reason of early logging activity, should now be protected to benefit future generations.

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. McDonald, Mr. McComb referred to the section of the Wilderness Act to provide for an area to be considered with little if any imprint of man's intrusion into the wilderness areas. Have you and your panel visited all of these areas, and are you satisfied that there has been insignificant intrusion of man into the area that you propose to be added?

Mr. McDONALD. Yes, I personally have spent about 150 hours in these particular additions and you have to know ancient history to be able to see some of the encroachments. They are that weathered, they are that reverted already.

Senator ANDERSON. The Forest Service in its testimony mentioned livestock corrals, windmills, tanks, roads. Are these operations actively pursued in this area now? Is there cattle grazing, do the cattlemen maintain these wells and tanks and fences and roads?

Mr. McDONALD. That differs. Many of the tanks have been washed out by gully wash storms. There are some roads that are used once or twice a year to take salt in to the cattle. Otherwise they are not used. The countryside on the west side is gentle and you don't even need a road in many cases to get in. So some vehicles have gone into the

primitive areas for the purpose of taking salt in to cattle. So there are some areas, but they are surely not permanent roads.

Senator ANDERSON. It has been mentioned in the testimony of your group that these scars would heal in time. Won't this be true of thousands of other acres of land throughout the country if they wanted to reach out and put it into the wilderness area, wouldn't it heal? Is there anything especially unique about this area that would have some good reason for bringing these scarred areas in?

Mr. McCOMB. If I could comment on that briefly, I believe the areas we have recommended for addition have substantially healed now. It is not a matter of their healing in the future.

(Statement of Mr. Cundiff follows:)

STATEMENT OF REED CUNDIFF, LAS CRUCES, N. MEX.

Chairman Senator Church and Gentlemen: I am Reed Cundiff from Las Cruces, New Mexico and am president of the Southwestern Mountaineers, a climbing club and mountain rescue group in southern New Mexico. My purpose for this presentation is to urge your endorsement of S. 3256, a bill to designate certain lands in the state of New Mexico as wilderness, the "Aldo Leopold Wilderness," introduced by Senator Anderson and Congressman Saylor, if amended to include peripheral lands.

I have spent a number of days back-packing and hiking in the proposed area, primarily on the eastern slope and feel that the areas I've seen and experienced are definitely of wilderness quality. I only regret that several of the most beautiful areas on this side such as the Perchera, Mineral, Carbonate, and Morgan Creek areas were excluded from the conservation groups' proposal for a 231,737 acre wilderness. This is an area of deep canyons, delightful streams, and surprisingly tall waterfalls with a vegetation that is quite surprising for New Mexico, including as it does numerous quite large black walnut trees and other deciduous trees that are otherwise quite uncommon in the state. The reasons for their exclusion are obvious under current Forest Service criteria for wilderness: impact by man through old and supposedly current mining operations and jeep trails in the more accessible areas.

However, I feel that some of the Forest Service prerequisites for "wilderness" are too demanding. Several of the areas which I have seen which were excluded as "not suitable for wilderness" due to evidence of man would return to a wild state quite quickly if man's machinery were prevented from entering. I feel that much of the peripheral land should be included within the boundaries of a wilderness area as buffer if they are otherwise of wilderness quality.

It is in order to preserve those as yet unspoiled areas of the current Primitive Area that I urge the amendment and adoption of S. 3256.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, thank you all very much.

The hearing will recess until 2 o'clock. The staff advises that they have someone who will continue the hearing for the other witnesses that have not yet been heard. I shall not be able to be present this afternoon inasmuch as I have other meetings which I must attend.

(Whereupon, at 12:30 p.m., the hearing was recessed, to reconvene at 2 p.m.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Senator METCALF. This subcommittee will be in order.

This is a continuation of hearings by the Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands on various wilderness bills. The committee is pleased and honored to have for its first witness this afternoon a lady who has been passed over so that there can be some testimony before Senator Anderson on some of the New Mexico areas. I am delighted to have Mrs. Katherine Petterson testify on the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.

**STATEMENT OF MRS. KATHERINE PETTERSON OF THE SNOW
MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS AREA COMMITTEE**

Senator METCALF. Do you have a prepared statement?

Mrs. PETTERSON. I think they have already been submitted. I gave them to one of the staff people.

Senator METCALF. All right, thank you very much. Go ahead.

Mrs. PETTERSON. Thank you for your very nice introduction.

I am Katherine Petterson from Kelseyville, Calif., and am Lake County representative of the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area Committee. My purpose for this presentation is to urge your endorsement of S. 2680, a bill to designate certain lands in the State of California as wilderness, entitled "Snow Mountain De Facto Wilderness Area," introduced by Senator Alan Cranston and Senator John Tunney.

I must be a truly dedicated advocate of the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area, having left my happy home to perform this scary task of discussing this proposal with your distinguished committee. And even more formidable is the fact that so many people back home are depending on me to represent them.

Actually, this whole idea of a Snow Mountain Wilderness was first conceived back in 1952, by the Konocti Rod and Gun Club in Lake County. Realizing the devastation that would result to scenic Snow Mountain should it be logged, we approached the USFS for advice and support. They were not particularly responsive, and the general public, 20 years ago, could not visualize the extent of the tremendous impact the timber industry would have on our forests; so the move died for lack of interest. In 1966, after a road was built to the top of adjoining rugged St. John Mountain—the people of Stonyford were concerned that Snow Mountain would be next. A public meeting, attended by cattlemen, horsemen, sporting groups, and interested citizens, resulted in the formation of a citizens group known as the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area Committee. I was selected as the Lake County representative.

Through the interim years, studies have been made, public meetings have been held, and citizen support sustained and enthusiastic. The supervisory boards of the three adjoining counties—Lake, Glenn and Colusa—have by resolution endorsed this project.

So, I am here today to represent these people and to explain why we seek statutory protection by inclusion of Snow Mountain in the National Wilderness Preservation System. The Wilderness Act specifies the character of the land to qualify. It is recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammled by man; has outstanding opportunities for solitude; has at least 5,000 acres of land; and contains ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Snow Mountain meets these requirements. The USFS recognizes this on page 14 of its study, "the Snow Mountain area appears to meet most of the minimum conditions for wilderness", but in its endeavor to preserve the multiple-use concept has adopted a vehicle control area which specifies the alpine Crest Zone for "wilderness type" recreation and encourages the future development of roads, motor bike trails, water impoundment sites, and timber harvest of surrounding areas.

Now one doesn't have to be an engineer nor a professional forester to evaluate the consequences of this program. Director Ray Arnett of

the Department of Fish and Game in California recently stated: "The key to fish and wildlife conservation is the condition and extent of its habitat—the clean, productive land and water required for their existence". Let's apply this statement to our proposed 37,000 acres.

To the north is a topography that drops from a summit of 7,056 feet to a gorge of 2,500 feet, within less than 3 airline miles. To log this area would be devastating to Stony Creek, known as the best native trout fishery in the Mendocino National Forest and a candidate for the Wild River system as stated by the U.S. Forest Service. Even now scars of mud avalanches and slides bear testimony to unstable ground conditions on surrounding slopes. This gorge is a rugged canyon region, a challenge to the backpacker and fisherman. While in there after the flood of 1964, I was amazed how the force of water had scoured the stream bed and lodged huge boulders in unbelievable places. I could visualize the destruction of a wonderful stream if the surrounding slopes had been disturbed.

To the west is the Eel River drainage dropping in elevation from the 7,056 feet of the Crest to the Eel River at 2,000 feet in at the most 5 air miles. This nonforested zone has five year-around live streams—Copper Butte Creek, Humming Bird Creek, Berry Creek, Thistle Glade Creek, and Deer Creek. The development plans are for a two lane highway in the headwaters with trail heads for motor bike trails and the logging of ridge-tops.

Unfortunately, this area is not understood by our foresters because of the formidable appearance of terrain and cover. In the Snow Mountain study it is stated, "This does not appear to be a significant part of the study area for wilderness considerations." Frankly, I doubt that aside from casual observation from the ridge tops and the road below that it was really explored. To penetrate into the interior unfolds a wondrous wilderness and ecology of its own.

Senator METCALF. Would you suspend for a moment?

Do we have a map of this area?

Mrs. PETERSON. Yes.

Senator METCALF. Where is the area that you are talking about right now which does not appear to be a significant part?

Mrs. PETERSON. Well, the location of this area is north of San Francisco, about 150 miles.

Senator METCALF. I have this Snow Mountain Vehicles Control Area.

Mrs. PETERSON. Congressman Leggett introduced or submitted a map of this area this morning and it gives you a better idea of the location than this one.

Senator METCALF. I am very sorry, I had to go to a consumer executive session this morning. It wasn't a matter of not being interested or concerned in this, but I was interested in getting this legislation.

Mrs. PETERSON. Well, this is the map here.

Senator METCALF. All right. It is right in the middle of it.

Mrs. PETERSON. It is right in the middle of the Mendocino National—well, on the southern perimeter of the Mendocino National Forest.

It is here, the bear, the deer, and the mountain lion have a natural refuge. Just the other day, my husband and I when returning home from fishing, followed a tom lion track for several miles on the periph-

eral road. When we used to hunt mountain lion this was a favorite spot. And often we would meet bear hunters listening to their hounds on a hot bear track.

This same day, I hiked up Deer Creek, the southwest boundary of our proposed wilderness, and along the moss-covered banks of this delightful bubbling stream and water falls were chamise lilies, the trillium lily, maiden hair fern and countless other plants to delight a botanist. Wildlife habitat improvement projects and brushfield manipulation such as recommended for this little understood area could very well destroy it—to say nothing of the potential erosion problems from higher elevation road and logging activities.

To describe the crest zone, I would like to quote excerpts from a letter of Dr. G. Ledyard Stebbins, eminent botanist and president of the California Native Plant Society, to Congressman Robert Leggett, dated January 13, 1972: "Snow Mountain comprises three adjacent summits above 6,500 feet in elevation, the highest being somewhat over 7,000 feet. It is the southernmost high peak in the North Coast Ranges, rising nearly a thousand feet above its closest neighbor, Crockett Peak, 3½ miles away, and 300 feet above Saint John Mountain 6 miles distant. Heights of summits to the south drop off rapidly. Unlike its two neighbors, Snow Mountain presents a large bulk above the 6,000 feet line, and consequently an opportunity for considerable development of high-elevation flora in the many different exposures presented by the complex topography. We note that evidence of glacial activity occurs at the head of Dark Hollow Creek.

Such a situation of high, rather isolated terrain is likely to produce much of interest to the plant geographer, for it affords opportunity for isolated stands of plants outside of usual range. Though much botanical exploring remains to be done, it is known that some such plants indeed occur on Snow Mountain. A poppy, *Argemone munita* subsp. *rotundata*, that occurs mainly on the eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada, is to be found on Snow Mountain. The rare *Cycladenia humilis* is at its southern limit there, and the Snow Willow-herb, *Epilobium niveum* makes one of its rare appearances in the North Coast Ranges. The Red Fir, *Abies magnifica*, reaches its southern most limit in the Coast Ranges on the two highest summit peaks. It is to be expected that other rarities will be found with further studies.

"Snow Mountain East and West are both on file for the wonderful flower gardens they present in season, and uncommon bird and other animal life. Vistas from the summit areas are reported to be spectacular, as the elevation well above the surroundings would lead one to expect; The upper elevations, because of the rather gentle terrain and openness of the plant cover have been particularly abused by trail bikes. We are glad to note that such use has already been restricted by the United States Forest Service and will, of course, be forbidden under Wilderness classification.

And from Dr. Lincoln Constance, professor of botany, University of California, Berkeley, writing to Senator Henry Jackson on January 29, 1972: "As a teacher of some 40 years standing, I have throughout my career emphasized to students an appreciation of the teaching, research, and esthetic values of the natural landscape. That some 40 years, however, has seen an accelerating loss of natural landscape and diminishing opportunities to preserve some of the best of what remains.

"In the Snow Mountain region we still have such an opportunity, and one of exceptional value for scientific purposes aside from its wilderness values."

Congressman Leggett in a recent dispatch from Washington, stated:

Virtually all the conservation groups and hundreds of individual citizens have supported the Wilderness plan. After I originally introduced the Snow Mountain

Bill on July 14, 1971, 100 percent of the mail I have received on the subject has supported this legislation.

But there has been opposition and basically this comes from three philosophies—the timber industry not wanting to be deprived of a natural resource; the U.S. Forest Service advocating multiple use; and the two landowners of 480 acres who feel their rights are being abused.

It is certainly true that the timber industry is an important part of our economy. And if the forests are properly harvested and managed wisely should be a renewable resource. But something has gone awry. Like wilderness, our timber resources are vanishing and, as with the Nye Timber Sale, the logging industry is moving into the marginal areas—confirmed by the fact that this is a deficit sale, and a sale which never should have been made. The Forest Service was notified, prior to this sale, that we were going to seek congressional action. A recent court ruling interpreted section 1132 (b) of the Wilderness Act leaving no doubt that those areas contiguous to a wilderness which are predominantly of wilderness value, the decision to classify or not to classify them as wilderness must remain open through the presidential level. Under the circumstances, an environmental impact statement as required by the National Environmental Policy Act should quite possibly have been submitted.

Considering the high elevation, rugged terrain, poor soil types, the estimate of commercial timber in this 37,000 acres is not likely to exceed 2,325 board feet per acre. But, we hear, "if this growing crop is not harvested when mature it will die". Really, is this a tragedy? What happens to the pileated woodpecker and the flying squirrel if denied a nest in a hollow tree; the eagle without a scrawny limb to rest upon; birds without bugs to eat and the bear hungry for grubs in a rotten log? Is subsidizing an industry to sterilize this forest in the name of harvest really wise?

As for the multiple use concept which patterns the major portions of our forests the choice is there. One can drive to many areas in the now popular campers, sit in comfortable chairs and admire the view. Fine. I am not against this. But there is an increasing percentage of our population that after a good days hike, wishes to squat by a primitive campfire, cook up a hearty meal, often liberally sprinkled with ashes, preferring to listen to a babbling stream or barking coyote rather than a backfiring trail bike or partying neighbors. This is a purist concept I know, and fortunately the greater percentage of our population prefers a more social type recreation—for if it were otherwise we would be sore amiss for wilderness. It is one thing to drive up to a view point, snap a picture and drive on to fish a well-stocked stream adjacent to a public road. It is quite another to earn that viewpoint, to catch a native trout and discover a water-ouzel nest in the moss under a water fall.

It is so easy in this day of powerful bulldozers and chain saws to gobble up a vast territory. In the last twenty years, the changes in the Yolla Bolly Range of the Mendocino National Forest is astounding. I don't even pretend to know the statistics, but I know what I see, and that is a phenomenal increase in roads and logged mountainsides.

On Snow Mountain, private ownership comprises less than 2 percent of the total acreage—680 acres; 480 acres of this is owned in the Crest Zone by a family which is against the wilderness concept. They

complain about the encroachment of people on their land, that wilderness will serve as an added attraction and result in overuse and abuse and ultimate destruction of their property. They have been particularly vehement against trail bikes which use is now restricted in the Crest Zone. Yet, these same landowners endorse multiple use for Snow Mountain. This doesn't make sense. Their inholdings are mainly four meadow areas, very scenic, with some timber on one. As far as I can see, the biggest drawback for them would be the restriction of road building to their holdings if they could finance such a project. With multiple use, the U.S. Forest Service would build these roads.

I have tried to illustrate the wisdom of a Snow Mountain Wilderness Area. The unusual feature of combining in 37,000 acres the beauties of alpine country which plunges down through transition zones to the rugged gorge of Stony Creek to the north, through canyon and creek country to the west and abruptly to the meadows to the south. Herein are the great variety of flora and fauna, rare species such as the mountain lion and the botanical specimens urged for protection by the bontanists. Snow Mountain should remain untouched by development for its slopes are too fragile to withstand man's busy projects. Let us not be in a hurry to commit these last virgin acres to logging and multiple use. Do not our young people and their children have a right to judge for themselves? For once a wilderness has been destroyed it can never be restored.

Senator METCALF. Thank you very much, Mrs. Petterson, for a most eloquent and persuasive statement. I have followed you as you read your statement and it is very helpful. I don't have any questions, except to ask you why this isn't already a part of our wilderness system?

Mrs. PETTERSON. This is really hard to understand, having worked all these years on it and personally having been well acquainted with the area, having been up there for a good many years. It is hard for me to understand this also.

Senator METCALF. The members of the Forest Service in the audience have provided me with the Forest Service position which is a recommendation that S. 2680 not be enacted.

Nevertheless, I am impressed by your statement, it was most persuasive. The statements of people who are interested and concerned and worried about these wilderness areas are especially important to this committee.

Thank you very much, Mrs. Petterson, for coming here and thank you for your patience in waiting so that you could testify this afternoon.

Mrs. PETTERSON. Thank you, Senator Metcalf.

Senator METCALF. Our next witness—well, we are going to have two witnesses. Mr. Les Paddock, Commander Industries of Red Bluff, Calif., and Mr. George A. Craig, Western Lumber Manufacturers, Inc., and as I understand it, they are going to appear together.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE A. CRAIG, WESTERN LUMBER MANUFACTURERS, INC.

Mr. CRAIG. Thank you, Senator.

The last time I appeared before you was in connection with the clear-cutting questions and I would like to commend you and the com-

mittee for the excellent report that was developed and the thoughtful penetrating recommendations that you developed.

Senator METCALF. Well, the report and the recommendations, of course, were the result of the kind of hearings that you presented and some of the suggestions that you people made to us. So we are delighted that we were able to have the hearing and get together. I think we have reached a solution that is compatible with the Forest Service, the conservationists and the forest operators.

Mr. CRAIG. Yes, sir. I do thank you. I believe, Senator, that if the same type of thorough examination is given to these two areas in California, that you will come up with an equally wise conclusion. It is our hope that you will see that the Forest Service has applied reason to the management of these areas and their opposition to both the Snow Mountain area and the Lopez Canyon proposals.

This in no way indicates any misunderstanding of the feelings of folks like Mrs. Petterson. I am a professional forester and 36 years ago I packed into my first wilderness experience. I have taken my family and three kids when they were younger and walked in for 2 week periods in remote areas. We know the value of this. We feel as professionals that there are other problems being impinged on these areas by our civilization, by society.

I think our fundamental difficulties with some of these folks have to do with confidence in the professional capacity of trained scientists to manage these areas wisely. I hope that over time, some of that concern will be eroded.

I have been identified as manager of Western Lumber Manufacturers. We are an association of firms dependent on the natural forest for timber. Our members have an obvious interest in any restrictions placed on reasonable development of the natural forests. However, in spite of that interest, we have supported the classification of a number of California areas as wilderness, and these areas have included hundreds of millions of board feet of timber. Examples include the classification of the Mokelumne area and the enlarged High Sierra, Desolation Valley, and Emigrant Basin areas. We recognized that the loss of that timber was part of the payment that had to be made to continue such areas in a primitive condition.

The wilderness concept was developed by the Forest Service, and approximately 1.7 million acres of California's national forest were classified as wilderness-type areas before the Wilderness Act became law in 1964.

Senator METCALF. Now, they were primitive, as I recall.

Mr. CRAIG. Some were classified as wild, some were classified as wilderness, and some were classified as primitive. The Secretary's regulations were changed and with the enactment of the Wilderness Act, all of those classified by the Secretary as wilderness or wild were blanketed into the system. The remaining areas which were primitive, were set aside for study.

We are complete now with that review, there are two more areas that will be reviewed earlier this year.

This classification was done under regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture. The Multiple Use Act of 1960 declared that such classification was appropriate, even though the Organic Act of 1897 stated

that the purpose of national forests was to supply a continuous source of water and wood for the citizens of the Nation.

Congressional leaders did indicate that passage of the Wilderness Act would not affect other uses of the national forests. For example, Senate Report 109 of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, presented by Senator Church in 1963, stated: "the wilderness preservation system can be established without affecting the economic arrangements of communities, counties, States or business enterprises since the areas are already withdrawn, or because existing private rights and established uses are permitted to continue. There will be no withdrawal of lands from the tax base of counties or communities; no withdrawal of timberlands on which lumbering operations depend." Many other similar quotations are available from the Congressional Record.

The wilderness-type areas in California national forests have grown to more than 2 million acres, including private land. This is made of 1.6 million gross acres classified as wilderness and 420,000 gross acres classified as primitive. These areas amount to about 10 percent of the national forest area in California.

With S. 2680 and S. 3027, it is proposed that another 58,500 acres of California's national forests be classified as wilderness in two units, the Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon areas. We oppose such classification for the following reasons:

First, a disproportionate share of the public lands would be devoted to limited purposes. Besides the said 2 million acres in national forests there are 4.4 million acres administered by the National Park Service or Federal Fish and Wildlife Service. Most of this area will be classified as wilderness.

Second, the primary recreational wants and needs in America are for areas accessible by roads, as the Outdoor Recreation Review Commission reported to the Congress. It is wrong to classify so much of our most scenic areas in such a way as to prevent ready access for large numbers of citizens. On page 3 of the Commission's report is this statement:

Driving and walking for pleasure, swimming and picnicking lead the list of the outdoor activities in which Americans participate, and driving for pleasure is most popular of all. This is generally true regardless of income, education, age or occupation.

Third, the restrictions of the Wilderness Act preclude the installation of even primitive sanitation facilities, the building of check dams for fish management, the use of power equipment for trail building, et cetera. It is becoming necessary to restrict human use of wilderness areas because of human health problems, soil erosion problems, et cetera, all because the act prevents development and other management practices. We have enough of the national forests assigned to this nonmanagement fate.

Fourth, the Forest Service has authority to manage some areas for scenery appreciation or back-country recreation without classification as wilderness where appropriate. This can be done without the undesirable constraints imposed by the Wilderness Act. A substantial part, over 12,000 acres, of the Snow Mountain area was designated as scenic by the Forest Service, and the use of vehicles was prohibited in the area before S. 2680 was introduced. We supported such designation.

Fifth, where appropriate, the Forest Service has authority under the Code of Federal Regulations to prohibit the use of motor vehicles as necessary to protect the national forest environment. This was done on most of 30,000 acres of the Snow Mountain area prior to introduction of S. 2680.

Sixth, in response to preservationists' requests, the Forest Service studied 27,000 acres of the Snow Mountain area and sought public reaction to a proposal to classify the area as wilderness. The above-mentioned management decisions resulted. The Forest Service plan of management emphasized environmental considerations and preservation of scenery. The Congress has the authority but no good reason to change the Forest Service's plan.

Seventh, S. 2680 includes 10,000 acres more than that proposed initially for wilderness and has such problems as a highway location, areas of included private land and a timber sale area already under contract for harvesting.

Eighth, there was little opportunity for local people to express themselves regarding the area proposed by S. 2680. Affected people, including Forest Service representatives, were not aware of hearings by some county boards of supervisors until they were completed. There had been little reason to expect another review so soon after the first, as there had been earlier hearings, but it was on the 27,000-acre area. When this 37,000-acre area was under consideration by the county interested and affected, people were not notified. Really, there was little reason to expect a review so soon after the hearing.

Ninth, the Lopez Canyon area proposed by S. 3027 does not meet the standards and definitions of the Wilderness Act. It includes man-made intrusions such as an electrical power transmission line, roads, an FAA radio transmission facility and vegetative fuel breaks for protection from fire.

Tenth, these bills are not conservation measures. They would substitute little use and nonmanagement for wise use and sound management. Our energies should be devoted to truly important resource problems, such as promptly funding and implementing a program for balanced use of the National Forests, as we urged to the Appropriations Committees last month. A copy of our testimony is offered for the record in this hearing.

I have the testimony we gave last month and I would like to offer this two-page testimony on the Forest Service program as part of our statement, if I may.

Senator METCALF. It will be inserted in the record immediately after your formal statement.

Mr. CRAIG. Thank you, sir.

America's need for millions of new homes cannot be met without such a program. Developed recreational opportunities, improved wild-life habitat, and more useable water depend upon it.

In conclusion, we would like to recognize the judicious recommendations this subcommittee recently developed regarding the clearcutting issue. They were largely a repudiation of the irresponsible critics of the Forest Service. We believe that equal care by the subcommittee in its review of S. 2680 and S. 3027 should have the same results. Approval of these bills would be contrary to the intent of the framers of the Wilderness Act as well as a disservice to the Nation.

Now, Mr. Paddock represents the firm who holds the contract for the timber sale and he has a much briefer statement that he would like to present.

Senator METCALF. I am going to call on him in just a moment and I am going to defer some questions, except that I cannot refrain from saying, in response to your statement, that our subcommittee recommendations on clearcutting was a repudiation of irresponsible critics of the Forest Service. Of course that is what we in the trade call a self-serving declaration. When you throw irresponsibility in, you exclude many of the genuine critics of the Forest Service. Dean Boley, of Montana State University, I feel made a responsible, and I think entirely appropriate criticism, and many of the other people who came in and testified before our committee, made such criticism. I just can't agree with you that when we weighed and analyzed that we brushed aside all of those outstanding people who came in and testified before the committee that the Forest Service operations were detrimental to conservation, watershed control, esthetic programs.

Mr. CRAIG. Yes, Senator, I will agree with you that there were responsible critics of the Forest Service and I consider myself one of them. In the last 15 years, I hope I have been a responsible critic of the Forest Service. What I was referring to was that there were some irresponsible statements and that the committee, responding to the responsible people on both sides, came up with a judicious conclusion, but that some of the people who had been headline hunting, with irresponsible statements were repudiated. This is the intent of my statement.

Senator METCALF. This is going to be, I think, the result whether it is what you call the preservationists or the representatives of industry, where they are irresponsible as far as failure to correctly analyze the needs of America as far as wilderness and recreation is concerned, compared to the needs of America insofar as timber production is concerned, and allowable cutting is concerned.

Mr. CRAIG. Yes, sir. Maybe I should clarify further by saying we had some irresponsible testimony this morning. Senator Buckley raised the question of Mr. McCloskey, and pointed out that on the first page of his testimony, he said that both of these areas are tracts of roadless and undeveloped land and there just had been testimony before and after, that there were roads in these areas.

Mr. McCloskey has a number of such statements that are not responsible and I don't know how we are going to meet this political pollution problem unless we call the shots as we see them and that is what I was trying to do.

Senator METCALF. Well, I am very grateful for your statement, of course, and I am pleased that you come in here with a frank and forthright conclusion. But I am not going to concur with your appraisal of any of the statements in this morning's record until I have had an opportunity to read them.

I remember an old story, you know, a man came in and the judge said are you guilty or not guilty. He said, well, Your Honor, I can't tell unless I have heard the evidence.

(Laughter.)

So, I can't tell about this morning's hearings which I will read carefully, I assure you, until I have read them.

But, I certainly want to tell you that a good many people came in objecting to clearcutting and made reasonable and responsible state-

ments which were persuasive for the committee and as a result of that, the committee laid down some proposals and some guidelines, I think, that are new and different and have been adopted by the Forest Service.

I will ask you some more questions a little later, but let's go to your colleague and your companion.

**STATEMENT OF LES PADDOCK, COMMANDER INDUSTRIES,
RED BLUFF, CALIF.**

Mr. PADDOCK. I am Lester C. Paddock. I am resources manager for Commander Industries, Inc., a forest products manufacturing firm headquartered at Red Bluff, Calif.

We have a sawmill operation employing about 100 persons located at Elk Creek, Calif., just 9 miles northwest of Snow Mountain on the Mendocino National Forest. Our Elk Creek operation also utilizes the services of contract logging and trucking firms employing about 75 men who keep our sawmill supplied with nearly 50 million board feet of logs required annually. Our firm owns two parcels of timberland, totaling 160 acres, located within the boundaries of the proposed wilderness area covered by S. 2680 which is under consideration today.

In 1959, our company, and others in the forest products manufacturing industry, recommended that the 7,000-acre crest zone of Snow Mountain be administratively designated as a back country recreation area with the exclusion of roads, all vehicles, and timber harvesting. In our opinion, the alpine zone of Snow Mountain with its extensive stands of red fir and with sweeping views of the Sacramento Valley and the coast range deserved to be designated exclusively for recreation and scenic purposes. These recommendations were made at the Forest Service public meeting and by letters. The Forest Service was considering various management directions for the 27,317-acre Snow Mountain study area which the Sierra Club had earlier requested to be studied for possible wilderness classification.

Following consideration of oral views and more than 500 written statements, the Forest Service designated two scenic areas of more than 6,000 acres each, the Snow Mountain back country special zone and the Middle Fork Stony Creek zone, where only foot and horse travel for recreational purposes would be permitted. A 30,000-acre vehicle control zone was established, with jeep or trail bike use allowed only on a few designated routes at the lower elevations of Snow Mountain. The Pacific Crest Highway was still planned to run immediately west of the crest zone and would permit north-south travel through the Mendocino National Forest.

On June 24, 1970, subsequent to the Forest Service land management decisions for the Snow Mountain study area, Commander Industries was the successful bidder for the Nye timber sale which has a cut volume of about 5.5 million board feet. The entire sale area lies north and outside of the original Snow Mountain study area. Almost all of the sale area lies within the proposed Snow Mountain wilderness area as designated by S. 2680. We have announced that we will not operate the sale during the balance of this calendar year. Our contract requires that the timber sale be completed by late 1973.

Senator METCALF. Mr. Paddock, you right there answered a question that I was about to ask about allowable cut and the actual timbers

that would be included in this area. Suppose you go over and cut the area, would that prevent its being designated as a wilderness?

Mr. PADDOCK. On this area that lies outside of the original Snow Mountain study area, in which is included our nine timber sales, then logging that timber would eliminate that portion that has been added on to the original study area from wilderness classification because of the intrusion of man.

Senator METCALF. So, it is your interpretation that you carried out the contract that you already have and logged this area outside of the study area, but within the confines of this legislation, that that would keep it from being designated a wilderness area?

Mr. PADDOCK. Yes. Under S. 2680.

Senator METCALF. How much timber is that?

Mr. PADDOCK. That is 5.5 million board feet.

Senator METCALF. How many people are you going to hire?

Mr. PADDOCK. Well, later in our testimony we have something on this.

Senator METCALF. All right, go ahead.

Mr. PADDOCK. Designations of the 37,000-acre Snow Mountain Wilderness Area, or 34,052 acres as recently measured on available small-scale maps by the Forest Service, as proposed by S. 2680, would reduce the annual allowable cut of the Mendocino National Forest by an estimated 2 million board feet. This would be a reduction in addition to that already made when the Snow Mountain Crest Zone was designated as a scenic area.

A lowering of the annual allowable cut for the forest of 2 million board feet would eliminate about 14 primary forest industry jobs and about twice that many in dependent service and trade employment. We presently have under contract about 26.5 million board feet for 1973 operations, including the Nye timber sale. This leaves a deficit volume of 21.5 million board feet, and a deficit volume of 27 million board feet if we are deprived of the Nye timber. This volume must be purchased to continue our operations during 1973, yet the proposed timber sell program by the Forest Service for the balance of 1973 indicates only about 12 million board feet that we have a possibility of purchasing, in the vicinity of Elk Creek. Two sales we had hoped to purchase, 13.5 million board feet, have been set aside for small business.

Senator METCALF. Is your operation completely dependent on Forest Service timber?

Mr. PADDOCK. We will be in the future. Due to the depressed lumber market over the past 2 or 3 years, we have logged quite heavily on some of our private lands. We are now reaching the point where we cannot continue to do so.

Senator METCALF. You are operating your private land and your other timber on a sustained yield basis?

Mr. PADDOCK. We have been supplementing national forest timber with our own private timber.

Senator METCALF. Go ahead.

Mr. PADDOCK. We are opposed to this proposed legislation as not being in the best public interest when the needs of all of the various publics are considered. Wilderness designation for this entire area would lower employment and prevent the annual harvest in perpetuity of lumber sufficient to construct 166 homes yearly. A 12,000 board

foot unit. That public must be considered, too. We believe that the Forest Service decisions made in 1970 were a reasonable balance of competing demands on a limited land base. We respectfully recommend that you table S. 2680. Thank you.

Senator METCALF. Thank you very much for your testimony which is certainly backed by statistical information and the need of your company to continue its forest operations.

I am impressed and this subcommittee is just as concerned in supplying jobs and perpetuating the timber industry as we are concerned with establishing wilderness areas. We have a joint responsibility. I thank you, Mr. Paddock and Mr. Craig, for coming up and giving us a specific instance of what the impact of this bill will be.

I marked a few places, Mr. Craig, as we went through your testimony; however, subsequently you answered some of the questions, and Mr. Paddock has answered some of the questions, and I want to say we are grateful that you appeared here.

Mr. CRAIG. Thank you, Senator.

Senator METCALF. You have made very persuasive and eloquent testimony in favor of your position. I thank you very much.

Mr. CRAIG. Thank you very much.

Mr. PADDOCK. Thank you.

(The statement referred to by Mr. Craig follows:)

STATEMENT BY GEORGE A. CRAIG TO SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES OF THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON FOREST SERVICE BUDGET, WASHINGTON, D.C., APRIL 12, 1972.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I am George A. Craig, Secretary-Manager of Western Lumber Manufacturers, Inc., an association of timber purchasers who are dependent on national forest timber.

Past deficiencies in funding for national forest management were outlined in our testimony last year to this committee. We noted current specific needs for reforestation and other silvicultural work, improvement of wildlife habitat, more developed recreational facilities, range improvement, better management of watersheds, more mineral investigations, the establishment of property lines, the construction and maintenance of roads, and better protection from pests and fire. We recommended the appropriation of \$552 million for national forest management, an increase of about \$137 million over the previous year.

ONLY 4-PERCENT INCREASE FOR NATIONAL FORESTS

We were pleased that Congress subsequently approved total Forest Service appropriations having an increase of about \$72 million over the adjusted figure for FY 1971 and nearly \$38 million over the Administration's budget proposal. (About \$9 million of the increase was for research, and state and private forestry cooperation.) We thank you for your recognition of the growing needs for better management of the national forests.

The President's budget for the national forest system in FY 1973, totaling \$432,259,000, is an increase of about 4 percent over the previous year. It is substantially below what is needed to put the national forests under intensive balanced management. That need for FY 1973 has been estimated at \$673.9 million. Timber receipts under the lower funding are expected to be about \$353 million.

It appears that we will not have balanced management of the various resources on the national forests until there is better balance between the funding of natural resources generally and the other elements of the federal budget. There are substantial increases in funds for pollution control and abatement, for water resources and power, and for the acquisition of recreational areas. However, the combination of all budget items related to protection and enhancement of the quality of the environment and wise use of natural resources gives a comparatively small total of *net* outlays, \$2,450 million. This is only one percent of total outlays under the federal budget.

NATIONAL FORESTS NET COST UNDER \$1 PER CAPITA

The national forests' share of the net outlays expected in FY 1973 is less than \$186 million or eight one-hundredths of one percent of total net outlays by the federal government. This means that we spend only one dollar per acre per year to manage, enhance and protect the annual production of 171 million visitor days of outdoor recreation, 7.9 million animal-unit-months of livestock forage, 182 million acre-feet of water, 12 billion board feet of commercial timber, and many forms of wildlife.

The net outlay of \$186 million is for a national forest program that includes the investment of \$157 million in construction of roads and trails and \$36 million in their maintenance, the investment of \$61½ million in reforestation and stand improvement (\$31.3 million of which is from trust funds), the payment of \$85.7 million to the states in lieu of taxes, the expenditure of \$40 million for recreation, about \$7 million for wildlife habitat management, \$6 million for protection of the forests from insects and disease, and nearly \$35 million to protect the forests from fire.

Offsetting much of the cost of the program for the national forests is the expected income of \$353.7 million in timber receipts, \$29.0 million in timber stand improvement trust funds paid by timber purchasers under the Knutson-Vandenberg Act of June 9, 1930, \$6.6 million in grazing fees, \$14.3 million in recreation fees, and \$9.3 million from miscellaneous sources, such as gravel sales. The remaining cost of \$186 million amounts to about 91¢ per capita per year.

MANY MORE BENEFITS OBTAINABLE

The Forest Service's current draft of an "environmental program for the future", lists numerous opportunities for increased benefits from the national forests through better funding. Over a 10 year period of increased appropriations, starting with \$673.9 million, it is expected that accommodations for annual recreational visits could be increased by 138 million visitor days, 81 percent of the 1970 level.

There would be improvement of 3.7 million acres of wildlife habitat. Live stock forage could be increased by 1.6 million animal-unit-months annually. Water yields could be increased by 300,000 acre-feet and flood water reduced by 1.5 million acre-feet annually. Sawtimber yields could be increased 54 percent. Mineral investigations could be made on 2.5 million acres. There would be location and marking of 130,000 miles of property lines and 750,000 property corners. Protection of the forests from fire, insects and disease could be intensified.

Improved access for the national forests is essential. The 10-year program would result in the construction or reconstruction of 104,000 miles of roads and 34,000 miles of trails. There would be annual maintenance of 120,000 miles of roads and 97,000 miles of trails. Seventy percent of the miles of construction and reconstruction would be done by timber purchasers. Currently they are building about 7,500 miles of road compared to 900 miles done with appropriated funds under contract to road builders.

IT IS TIME TO INVEST

As noted earlier, the President's FY 1973 budget of \$432,259,000 for the national forests should be increased to \$673,900,000 to initiate the described program. This would mean increases in the national forests' share to \$78.0 million for timber sales administration and management, \$45.9 million for reforestation and stand improvement, \$49.5 million for "recreation public use", \$15.0 million for wildlife habitat management, \$17.4 million for range resource management, \$19.2 million for soil and water management, \$10.6 million for mineral claims, leases and special uses, \$16.1 million for land classification, adjustment and surveys, \$40.6 million for protection from fire, \$11.8 million for maintenance of improvements, \$6.8 million for water resource development, \$9.0 million for insect and disease control, \$233.2 million for roads and trails on an obligation basis, \$14.4 million for development of recreation-public use areas, \$22.0 million for water resource development construction, \$10.5 million for construction for fire, administration, etc., \$71.4 million for pollution abatement, and up to \$2.4 million for acquisition of selected inholdings.

A year ago, we asked that the funds for the first year of the 10-year program for the national forests be set at \$552 million, about \$122 million less than our current proposal. Most of the difference lies in the additional money for pollution abatement, development of recreation-public use areas, water resource development, etc. These are reflective of the increased awareness of all agencies to the need to protect the environment. They relate to a large extent to the great public use that these areas experience.

We respectfully ask that you consider the place of natural resources in the total budget, the need to fund a balanced and coordinated program for the national forests and the benefits that would result. Past neglect has deprived this nation of many of these benefits. For example, an additional $7\frac{1}{2}$ billion board feet of timber per year should be available to provide homes at reasonable prices.

It is time to invest in our renewable forest resources on the national forests.

Senator METCALF. Mr. George Alderson, Friends of the Earth testifying on S. 3027 and 2680.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE ALDERSON, OF FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Senator METCALF. Mr. Alderson, we are pleased to have you before the committee, you have a brief statement and you may go ahead and read it.

Mr. ALDERSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am George Alderson, Legislative Director of Friends of the Earth.

Before getting into the statement, I wanted to say we deeply appreciate your own strong and devoted efforts to conserve our public forests and we are deeply grateful for the things you have been doing on this subcommittee along with the other members.

Senator METCALF. I wish you would suggest that to the lumber and sawmill workers in the State of Montana, who aren't quite as appreciative of the activities.

Mr. ALDERSON. Well, we hope they will become more appreciative later on.

Both of the California areas that are before you are within easy distance of populated sections of California and are accessible to urban dwellers in a way that is not true of many existing wildernesses. They are also what we refer to as de facto wilderness—land that is, by reason of its physical characteristics, wilderness in fact, but not in law. Friends of the Earth is pleased to join with the other, local citizen groups today to urge enactment of laws that will protect these areas of de facto wilderness.

The case that we bring before the subcommittee today is particularly critical because the Forest Service has continued to deny proper protection to Lopez Canyon and Snow Mountain. The future of these areas is thus dependent upon the use, or abuse, of administrative discretion.

In Lopez Canyon, the Forest Service plans to manage vegetation along stream channels, even though they admit that Lopez Creek is the only trout stream on the San Luis Ranger District—in fact, the only stream on the district capable of supporting fish life. The Forest Service plans no protection at all for Snow Mountain; it is to become a multiple use area, and a time sale has already been designated.

In view of these areas' importance to urban populations, the Forest Service should be leaning over backward to protect these lands. Instead, they are hastening to destroy them. The decisions that led to this represent, at worst, an abuse of discretion; at best, a serious error in judgment. We urge the subcommittee to remedy this situation by adding the areas to the national wilderness preservation system, insuring that they will be safe from such decisions in the future, when the pressures for destruction will be so much more severe. If it is hard to withstand pressures for logging and for cutting the trees along streams now, it will be far more difficult to withstand the stronger pressures 10 or 20 years from now. The Wilderness Act

of 1964 was enacted to avert these pressures, to insure that these remaining islands of wilderness would remain as wilderness down through the years. We urge that the protection of the Wilderness Act be extended to the Lopez Canyon and Snow Mountain areas.

Many of the members of Friends of the Earth are familiar with these two areas. But, rather than go into detail on them at this point, I would defer to the witnesses from California who have already testified. We urge the subcommittee to consider the facts they will present, and fashion legislation based on S. 3027 and S. 2680 which will prevent the loss of these priceless resources.

Friends of the Earth deplores the Forest Service for turning its back on the needs of California's urban dwellers. In these two areas, we have land that needs and deserves to be protected for the use of nearby urban populations. If we hesitate now, the pressures of logging and roadbuilding will destroy them, and the impact of the mechanized monsters—off-road vehicles—will ruin their value to those who seek solitude.

It is not too late to correct the Forest Service's mistake, and that is what we ask the subcommittee to do.

Senator METCALF. Thank you very much, Mr. Alderson. I want to call to your attention the testimony of the previous witness who suggested that this committee lay down guidelines for clearcutting, with which he approves and with which the industry can live. It was only because we held hearings such as we are holding today, and did what you suggested that we corrected some of the Forest Service's mistakes.

Those guidelines are laid down and have been adopted and that is the purpose of the hearing today.

Thank you for coming and suggesting some appropriate guidelines.

Mr. ALDERSON. Thank you.

Senator METCALF. Well, now we have the witness that we have been looking for all day, Mr. Harry Crandell from the Wilderness Society, who is going to be accompanied by Douglas Scott.

You are the final witness and we are delighted to have you here to close the hearing.

STATEMENTS OF HARRY CRANDELL OF THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY, ACCOMPANIED BY DOUGLAS SCOTT OF THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Mr. CRANDELL. Senator Metcalf, I am glad you explained why you are looking forward to us appearing here. We are, I suppose, the latest testimony with the leastist testimony.

Senator METCALF. Well, we always anticipate the last witness because they are the closing witnesses and they put the clincher on the testimony. So that is your opportunity.

Mr. CRANDELL. Thank you, sir.

My name is Harry Crandell, and I am director of wilderness reviews for the Wilderness Society. I am accompanied by Douglas Scott of our staff. I will focus on the Aldo Leopold Wilderness, briefly, and Dr. Scott will discuss the Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon area.

I think it is unfortunate that the Forest Service had to steal away with their map because we had some points to make with respect to it. I believe the citizens this morning and the Forest Service adequately

described the area, and the conflicts, so I don't think it is that necessary for me to go into that much detail.

Senator METCALF. When we go into executive session, the staff will have those papers and they will be able to present those arguments just as they were argued today.

If you will just identify them along with the record, we will be able to work with those maps and I will be able to say, "Well, when I was conducting the hearing, this is what happened".

Mr. CRANDELL. All right.

The Wilderness Society is a national nonprofit conservation organization of some 70,000 members who are actively engaged in educational programs to acquaint Americans with the need for wilderness in a quality environment.

On behalf of the Wilderness Society, I am pleased to appear here today with representatives of other State and National environmental organizations to testify in favor of an Aldo Leopold Wilderness in New Mexico.

Aldo Leopold was, of course, one of the first exponents of the wilderness concept. It was through his keen insight and inspiring efforts that the heart of the Black Range along with adjoining wild country was set aside by the Forest Service in 1924 as the Gila Wilderness.

Mr. Chairman, it appears to us the issue is mainly one of policy of the Forest Service and interpretation of the Wilderness Act and what the Wilderness Act means and how it should be applied in the review and the implementation once an area has been established.

Now, it is clear to us that the Forest Service is taking a very restrictive view of the Wilderness Act and perhaps a very limited interpretation of the act, as particularly regarding permitted uses within an area.

Now, I have a little handbook here on the Wilderness act, Senator, and I think it would be very helpful if you could have a copy of it and I would just like to focus on a couple of passages of the act that we believe the Forest Service is not aware of.

Senator METCALF. You know the pamphlet of which you are speaking was put together by Mr. Brandor, who is a very distinguished constituent of mine from Montana, and I certainly applaud you for citing his document.

Mr. CRANDELL. Well, Senator, you are very perceptive.

First of all, I would like to point out, sir, on page 56 of this document, section 4C. of the wilderness law. The law sets forth the prohibitions of certain uses within a wilderness area, among them being there will be no garage, vehicles and no installations and no structures and so forth. It is very clear to us that the Forest Service is using this section as admission criteria to the wilderness system.

Senator METCALF. Is that section 4C.?

Mr. CRANDELL. Yes.

Whereas we believe that this committee and the Congress, intended that this section be applied and used to guide uses and management of an area after it was admitted to the wilderness district. So, therefore, we have conflicts in the Aldo Leopold wilderness proposal whereby in a small canyon, in the area, there was some timber harvesting of the area, stumps have practically disappeared, a boiler that is buried, that has been excluded by the Forest Service.

By using section 4C. and not section 2C. of the wilderness law as admission criteria, the Forest Service is developing conflict with citizens, perhaps unknowingly.

Section 2C. states that the works of man generally has—the area generally had to be effected primarily by the force of nature with the works of man substantially unnoticeable, and we feel this is the section for the admission criteria.

So, we have the conflict and Aldo Leopold, we think is very typical and we want to go on record stating we think these conflicts are unnecessary if everyone gets together and reads the Wilderness Act and interprets it in the same way. So, New Mexico citizens developed alternate proposals which we fully subscribe to. They have adjusted the boundaries, suggested some additions. The Forest Service has suggested some additions. The Forest Service has suggested some deletions and so have the citizens to the area. But, the conflict rises in the additions and deletions and what constitutes wilderness in there. It is in this area where the Forest Service is applying the prohibition uses of the Wilderness Act as criteria for saying it doesn't qualify. The Society says it does, saying it generally appears to be affected primarily by the courses of nature.

So this issue, we feel, needs to be resolved, and hopefully as along the lines you were mentioning, clear cutting hearing, some direction can come from this committee setting forth the management of areas and administration standards. Perhaps utilizing Aldo Leopold and other Forest Service areas as examples.

That is all I have, sir, on Aldo Leopold.

Senator METCALF. Thank you very much.

Your regular prepared statement which you have departed from at times and summarized at other times, will appear in the record as if read.

(The prepared statement of Mr. Crandell follows:)

STATEMENT OF HARRY CRANDELL, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

I am Harry Crandell, Director of Wilderness Reviews for The Wilderness Society. I appreciate this opportunity to appear before this committee today.

The Wilderness Society is a national non-profit conservation organization of some 70,000 members who are actively engaged in educational programs to acquaint Americans with the need for wilderness in a quality environment.

On behalf of The Wilderness Society, I am pleased to appear here today with representatives of other State and national environmental organizations to testify in favor of an Aldo Leopold Wilderness in New Mexico.

Aldo Leopold was, of course, one of the first exponents of the wilderness concept. It was through his keen insight and inspiring efforts that the heart of the Black Range, along with adjoining wild country, was set aside by the Forest Service in 1924 as the Gila Wilderness.

The Gila was the first wilderness area to be designated by the Forest Service and consisted of over a half-million acres of Federal land. Later, the unit was divided into three separate parts, and in the process, many thousands of acres of irreplaceable wilderness were destroyed.

The Black Range, prehistoric home of the Apache Indian, rises from the hot, dry desert and semidesert of southwestern New Mexico. Abrupt canyons penetrate the range from the east, west, and south, until they are lost among the lofty peaks which form a part of the Continental Divide. Elevations vary from 6,300 feet at Animas Creek to 10,165 feet on McKnight Mountain.

Within this bioclimatic and geological span flourishes a rich variety of plant and animal life unusual to the Southwest. Permanent streams, virgin pine, fir, and spruce forests, aspen groves, wildflower meadows, big game, and numerous species of birds greet the visitor's eye and provide the stillness, the solitude, and the wild natural beauty vital to his spiritual refreshment.

Wildlife of the area includes elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer, bear, mountain lion, bobcat, coyote, turkey, bald and golden eagles, and a host of smaller mammals and birds. The only known population of the endangered Gila trout is found in the Diamond Creek drainage in the northwestern part of the area.

For scientists and educators, the area is truly an unspoiled biological reservoir that must be preserved for study. It offers exceptional opportunities for substantial high quality outdoor recreation.

Members of The Wilderness Society and other conservation groups represented here today have carefully investigated the wilderness character of the Black Range, its resources, and attributes. As a result of these investigations and studies, we recommend that S. 3256 be amended to include 231,737 acres in the Aldo Leopold Wilderness. The following points are specific details of our suggested amendment:

Addition J, Hillsboro Peak, approximately 3,300 acres. This inclusion would add several miles of the important Black Range crest to the wilderness. The mere possibility of mineral development should not prevent its wilderness protection. In light of Senator Church's statements at the hearings held by the Subcommittee on Public Lands of the Senate Interior Committee on May 5, the fire lookout tower in this area would be an administrative installation and would not disqualify this area as wilderness.

Addition K, Rabb Park, approximately 4,110 acres. This area qualifies for wilderness protection. The limited evidence of man's activities in this area is "substantially unnoticeable."

Addition L, East Canyon and Aspen Canyon, approximately 2,750 acres, and *Addition M, Powdermen Canyon and McKnight Canyon*, approximately 5,105 acres. The addition of these areas would add several miles of permanent streams to the wilderness, valuable assets in this arid region. The small amount of selected tree cutting which took place in these areas many years ago should not prevent them from being included in the wilderness. Most of this cutting was done fifty or more years ago and the land remains affected "primarily by the forces of nature."

Addition N, Rocky Canyon, approximately 2,920 acres. This area is of wilderness quality. Differences of opinion have to do with the selection of a boundary. Loss of wilderness lands should not be proposed simply to make future management slightly easier.

Addition T, Middle & East Diamond Creeks, approximately 7,080 acres. This addition is only a portion of the Forest Service proposed exclusion from the Black Range Primitive Area. This area does qualify for wilderness and its boundaries were chosen to avoid many of the problems seen by the Forest Service in this exclusion. There are neither any "private land tracts" nor "motorized wells" mentioned by the Forest Service as reasons to exclude the larger area.

Addition O, Turkey Run, approximately 1,095 acres. We recommend addition of this area, with differences of opinion based primarily on boundary selection.

Addition P, Tom Davis & Moccasin John, approximately 10,145 acres. This area is of wilderness quality. Problems associated with boundary selection should not allow this wilderness land to be lost. The inclusion of Byers Run in this area would add significant riparian woodland zones.

Addition Q, Morgan Creek, approximately 960 acres. This area is extremely valuable for wilderness classification. The minor logging which occurred around the turn of the century should not disqualify this area as wilderness. A recent field investigation could locate only a few stumps in the entire area.

Addition R, Lake Mountain, approximately 3,080 acres, and *Addition S, Flagpole Mountain-Magnum Peak*, approximately 3,013 acres.

Additions P, Q, R & S would broaden the diversity of the wilderness by significantly increasing the lower elevation acreage containing pinyon-juniper and riparian woodlands, the latter being poorly represented in the smaller proposed wilderness.

A half century ago, Aldo Leopold and the Forest Service decided that the highest and best use of the Black Range was as wilderness. We feel this is still true and that an Aldo Leopold Wilderness of 231,737 acres should be established.

Thank you.

Senator METCALF. Now, we have Dr. Scott.

STATEMENT OF DOUGLAS SCOTT, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Dr. SCOTT. I am Douglas Scott and I have prepared statements on the two California de facto wilderness proposals, Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon, and I would simply file those statements for the record and proceed briefly in a more informal way.

Senator METCALF. They will be printed in the record at the end of your testimony.

Dr. SCOTT. I want to say the Wilderness Society feels there is nothing more significant and important about the Wilderness Act than the very point brought up by the Lopez Canyon and Snow Mountain proposals and that is the Act relies heavily on the initiative and input and active participation of citizens in the designation for this kind of land use for areas they are concerned about.

These two proposals are before you today not because the Forest Service has aided and helped and constructively and positively worked with local citizens to develop sound proposals, these are here today despite every negative roadblock the Forest Service could put in the road. They are here because these citizens believed so strongly they understood the Wilderness Act and understood these areas that they have worked long hours at no pay to bring these proposals to the Congress.

Certainly, the most fundamental thing about the Wilderness Act is the fact that it transferred the judgment factors from the Forest Service to the Congress and that is something that each day of experience tells us was of an extremely wise choice.

In the case of the Snow Mountain proposal, which doesn't seem to have much disagreement over the fact that this area is suitable under the terms of the Wilderness Act for designation as wilderness. The issue is more the classic one of whether the area should be designated, the discretion of the Forest Service limited by congressional action and other uses foregone to provide for what we feel is the dominant resource value, wilderness. In this kind of situation, you are down to a judgment that the Congress must make. We think it is noticeable in the case of the Snow Mountain proposal that this proposal is overwhelmingly endorsed by every level of government in California and the Federal level.

The local Congressman and the man who will take over part of this area through reapportionment are in favor of this proposal. Mr. Leggett and Mr. Clausen.

Senator METCALF. Is the Governor in favor of this?

Dr. SCOTT. The State of California has identified on a document that both the Snow Mountain area and the Lopez Canyon areas are of critical concern in the environment of California. That has been made a part of the record.

Senator Metcalf. As you know, I was one of the sponsors of the Redwood bill and ran into some problems with the Governor of California who suggested if you have seen one redwood you have seen them all. I am delighted to have the Governor of California and I want to make it perfectly clear that he was in favor of this proposal.

Dr. SCOTT. This is a planning document that has been made a part of your record from the State of California, and it bears the name of the current Governor, so I presume that speaks for his position.

Furthermore, it has been endorsed actively and enthusiastically not be one of the local counties which is involved, but by the Board of Supervisors for all three counties involved.

The only agency that is opposed to this proposal is the Forest Service.

Senator METCALF. No, that's not true. Well, the only Government agency, yes. Because we have testimony that we just had from people who feel this should be part of the allowable cut.

Dr. SCOTT. This is nothing more than the classic question of value judgment between whether the area is best for intensive recreation and timber production or the best use for the property.

Senator METCALF. I shouldn't have interrupted you, I am sorry.

Dr. SCOTT. We think any reasonable kind of poll taken in California would identify that the sentiments of the people of that State are overwhelmingly in favor.

In the case of the Lopez Canyon, you have a situation in which the Forest Service this morning after reading the definition of Wilderness Act, this is an area where its community of life is untrampled by man and with the imprints of man's works substantially unnoticeable. They simply say the Lopez Canyon is not such an area. We dispute that. We think their interpretation of the Wilderness Act is categorically wrong entirely, too pure and artificially so. The nonconforming features of the Lopez Canyon that the Forest Service cites, consists of 2.5 miles of "a conventional road." That road is not within the boundaries as currently proposed as reflected in amendments proposed this morning by Harold Miozzi, one of your earlier witnesses. So there goes that 2.5 miles.

They also refer to 4 miles of four-wheel drive vehicle roads. I am sorry they have chosen to leave because I would like to have them show me on the map what roads they are talking about. The only possible road I am told that this could be was the one built in 1941 to allow the installation of the towers for the transmission line. That road has not been maintained since the time of its construction, it is a barely passable trail today. Is it entirely unnoticeable to the average traveler in Lopez Canyon and furthermore, the act does not say a four-wheel drive temporary road disqualifies an area.

The act in section 4C. makes a strong distinction between permanent roads and temporary roads. This is certainly temporary. It is as temporary as was the road that divided the Great Swamp in New Jersey which had asphalt on it and which the Congress decided should be a part of wilderness, ordered ripped up and is now a part of the wilderness system.

Senator METCALF. That was a special situation. I think the Congress kind of protected itself. We said we weren't always going to allow asphalt roads and four-lane highways.

Dr. SCOTT. This isn't an asphalt road or a four-lane highway, it is impassable to a vehicle. Senator Church made a strong point that he believed the agencies of the Government that fall under the wilderness program should follow the consistent standards of the Wilderness Act. The Department of Interior defines a road for purposes of disqualifying an area for wilderness as a road which is improved, which is suitable for public travel by means of four-wheeled, motorized vehicles intended primarily for highway use. There is no road in the Lopez Canyon proposal before this committee that meets that definition. These are old, old jeep and truck tracks.

Senator METCALF. Let me tell you, there are a whole lot of secondary roads in Montana that don't meet that definition. [Laughter.]

Dr. SCOTT. Now, if I may focus just briefly on the power transmission lines that crosses the area, this is a temporary feature. The

Wilderness Society is not appearing before you to suggest that we think powerlines ought to be a feature of every wilderness area. But one line which is substantially unnoticeable, which is temporary, which is obsolete, the permit or the lease for which will run out in roughly 20 more years, balanced against all of the other criteria and all of the other values of this area is substantially unnoticeable. The same designation can be made in the case of this powerline as this committee and the House of Representatives made on the dams in the desolation wilderness that was put in in 1968 and 1969 in which they said yes, those dams are nonconforming features but the disturbance to the larger wilderness values that comes in excluding them is outweighed by the value of including them for the total preservation of the area, and that is the kind of decision the Wilderness Act should direct itself to.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that we have a fundamental disagreement with the Forest Service over this strained and artificial, pure standard of wilderness that the Forest Service is using. By their standards, virtually nothing qualifies. We do not feel and the society does not feel that the Wilderness Act was intended to be read quite so purely. That is when you use words such as, in the act's definition, we are talking about an area which generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's works substantially unnoticeable.

You are not talking about completely unnoticeable. You are not talking about what absolutely appears to have been affected by the forces of nature alone. When we are designating wilderness in a natural wilderness preservation system, not just for tomorrow, but for generations, this is who we are building this wilderness system for, that we can afford to take a slightly longer term view of the matter.

Now, I regret that Mr. Craig has seen fit to challenge the veracity of the statements made about our colleague, Mr. McCloskey, for the Sierra Club this morning, because I will have to call attention to page 2 of Mr. Craig's statement, wherein the third paragraph, one of his 10 points for qualifying this as not being a wilderness area are the restrictions of the Wilderness Act which preclude the installation of primitive sanitation facilities. That is simply not true. The Wilderness Act says nothing about that. The building of check dams is prohibited, that is also not true. The act prevents development and other management practices. That is not true.

The act prohibits, as Mr. Crandell said in section 4C., a great number of things. Structures, installations, use of mechanical vehicles and facilities. It places no prohibitions, as Senator Church so well pointed out several weeks ago, subject to the proviso which I quote, "Except as necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purposes of this act," and one of the purposes of the Wilderness Act is public use.

The minimum requirements for this administration of the area for public use include the protection of health and safety of people, the provision of primitive sanitation facilities, and the protection of the area and water quality, for example, through the provision of primitive sanitation facilities. We see no conflict there and we don't believe that is what the Congress intended in the Wilderness Act.

Senator Church spoke last week at that other hearing of his concern that this purity of the Forest Service in which an area is designated as

wilderness and can't even have a privy is going to lead to a purity backlash against the wilderness system. We share that concern very deeply.

Now, for years and years, the wilderness leaders of the wilderness movement, Sierra Club and Wilderness Society, and other conservation groups have been accused of being purists and we want to lock these things up and keep them away from the general public. We haven't heard that from the general public, only from the U.S. Forest Service and the forest products industry.

The backlash which is coming against the wilderness system will come if this kind of purity persists on the part of the Forest Service. We don't think that is what Congress intended and we hope this committee will see fit to lay down precedents that are absolutely clear and firm that make it beyond any shadow of a doubt that the Wilderness Act was written by people of broad integrity, broad outlook and broad visions, not as a straitjacket but for the reason of preserving for future generations of Americans the enduring resource of wilderness. That is what we hope you will do with these proposals.

Thank you.

Senator METCALF. Thank you, very much, for a most impressive statement. I notice you have suggested in your opinion that the timber in the area is of low quality and the cost of access to this timber would be high. I think I should permit Mr. Craig or Mr. Paddock to respond to that, if you would, for the record. Not at the present time, but please submit a response for the record. As you know, Mr. Scott, Senator Church has a bill in on the MacGruder corridor that we connect a couple of primitive areas and it has been his position and mine that the timber is of low quality. There is some superb timber in there but it is so far away that the cost of the access roads would be far above the value of the timber. Everytime I go out to Montana, some forest operator, lumber man, says, "Well, you are just shutting us off from taking those super cedars down there." Of course, we are because if the Forest Service builds a road in there, it will cost more than the value of the logging.

So, I would like to have just a response from Mr. Craig or Mr. Paddock or somebody else as to what is the value, what is the quality and what are the access costs of this timber that you already bid upon.

Mr. CRAIG. We would be pleased to do so, Senator.

(Subsequent to the hearing the response by Mr. Craig was received and is in the appendix.)

Senator METCALF. You must feel there are some values concerned and the committee would be delighted to have your ideas on this.

Dr. SCOTT. On that point, I think one specific question that might best be directed by the committee to the Forest Service would be whether it is not true, as I am told it is, that the Nye timber sale is a deficit sale and if that is the case, it will add considerably to the weight of argument that this is extremely low grade timber. I would also suggest that Mr. Eaton who testified about the Snow Mountain area earlier, has a fine photograph of a portion of the timber involved in the sale which makes it clear that you are talking about scattered stands of timber and that may well be made a part of the file of the committee.

Senator METCALF. Certainly it will be made a part of the file and there have been offered various slide presentations. I wasn't here this morning, but when we go into executive session, we would be pleased to have the slides available and an opportunity to show the members of the committee instead of just whoever was sitting up here, Mr. Buckley or whoever was conducting the hearings this morning, because at that time we would like to be able to see this material. So they will be made part of the file if you will present them and the members of the staff will prepare them for our information at the time this comes up for executive hearing.

Mr. PADDOCK. May I make one statement, please?

Senator METCALF. Mr. Paddock,

Mr. PADDOCK. In regard to the statements as to the fact that the Nye sale was a deficit site sale at the time of purchase, let me remind these people that that sale was purchased during a time of severe depression in the lumber industry. Lumber prices were very low.

Senator METCALF. Well, certainly, please present any qualifications or any considerations that you have. I want you to present just as persuasive an argument as you can against this statement that Mr. Scott has made that the timber is of low quality and the cost is high.

Mr. PADDOCK. If that sale were to be put on the market today, and sold under the same conditions on today's lumber market, it would not be a deficit sale.

Senator METCALF. Put this in your statement. We want as complete a record as possible.

Dr. SCOTT. If I may, I would like to make reference to the deep appreciation that we in the Wilderness Society have to two groups of people. First of all, the citizens in these localities who have worked so hard to bring these proposals to you. This is the lifeblood of the wilderness program.

Secondly, to this committee and the Members of Congress who have seen fit to support these proposals, particularly, to Senator Cranston, Senator Anderson, and Senator Tunney. We especially call attention to the bill introduced yesterday by Senator Tunney, the California Omnibus Wilderness Act that would designate 14 wilderness areas, including Lopez Canyon and Snow Mountain. In his statement yesterday, he made some interesting points about the small percentage of land we are talking about in California with such wilderness designations and I call the attention of the committee to these statements that would indicate that we are not talking about some massive land grab in the State of California, but a reasonably balanced wilderness system in the State.

Senator METCALF. Thank you very much.

(The statements of Dr. Scott follow:)

STATEMENT OF DOUGLAS SCOTT, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY, ON S. 2680

I am Douglas Scott representing The Wilderness Society. The Wilderness Society is a national non-profit conservation organization of some 70,000 members who are actively engaged in educational programs to acquaint Americans with the need for wilderness in a quality environment.

I appreciate very much this opportunity to appear before you today to testify in support of S. 2680, a bill to establish the Snow Mountain Wilderness.

The Wilderness Society is in full support of the proposed 37,000-acre Snow Mountain Wilderness as proposed by many local individuals and conservation groups. We want to thank and support Senators Cranston and Tunney for their efforts at advancing this proposal with S. 2680.

The Snow Mountain area is the largest undeveloped area in the Mendocino National Forest outside of the established Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness. As such, it is a remnant of what was, until very recently, a vast wilderness in the California Coast Range.

The Snow Mountain Wilderness would be an extremely valuable asset to the rapidly growing north-central portion of California. In an area that has greatly increasing numbers of wilderness areas, the Snow Mountain Wilderness would be very accessible, both because of its proximity to population centers and its availability early and late in the season. Snow Mountain is also popular with wilderness enthusiasts in the winter.

Wilderness designation would protect the watershed values of the area from developments which could destroy these values. Section 4(d) of the Wilderness Act protects water rights and watershed protection measures which are found to be in the public interest.

It is our opinion that the timber in the area is of low quality and the cost of access to this timber would be high. For these reasons, we feel that the wilderness values of the area outweigh any timber values that may exist.

We believe that the lower slopes of the mountains in the proposal should definitely be included in the wilderness. These lower portions of the front zone are integral parts of the biologic community of the Snow Mountain area. They provide habitat for a variety of wildlife and a different type of recreation than exists in the higher elevations of the mountain.

Designation of the Snow Mountain Wilderness would restrict vehicle use in the area. However, because Snow Mountain is a very small piece of the much larger public land holdings in the region, impact of such designation on the overall recreation vehicle activities would be minimal.

STATEMENT OF DOUGLAS SCOTT, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY ON S. 3027

I am Douglas Scott and I represent The Wilderness Society. The Wilderness Society is a national non-profit conservation organization of some 70,000 members who are actively engaged in educational programs to acquaint Americans with the need for wilderness in a quality environment. I appreciate very much this opportunity to appear before you today in support of S. 3027, a bill to establish the Lopez Canyon Wilderness.

The proposed 21,500-acre wilderness lies along the rugged backbone of San Luis Obispo County, California, from near the Cuesta Summit to the headwaters of the Arroyo Grande Valley, in Los Padres National Forest. It is an area of contrasts, from steep, dry hillsides covered with chaparral to gentle creeks running year-round through lush, tree-lined stream beds.

Lopez Canyon is described by many persons as the most beautiful wild area between the San Rafael Wilderness in Santa Barbara County to the south and the Ventana Wilderness in Monterey County to the north. If established, it would be the only wilderness area in San Luis Obispo County. It would provide outstanding wilderness recreation for the residents of the City of San Luis Obispo and many other fast-growing communities nearby. This excellent hiking and camping area will be a valuable asset near the proposed Lopez Reservoir Recreation Area, and the existing youth camps in Lopez Canyon.

The Wilderness Society wants to take this opportunity to express its great appreciation of and support for many years of hard work on the Lopez Canyon Wilderness Proposal by many local conservation groups and individuals. Without this effort, and without the interest and help of Senators Cranston and Tunney, we would not be at this hearing today. We are in whole-hearted support of the proposed 21,500-acre Lopez Canyon Wilderness as outlined in S. 3027.

The issue of wild fire suppression and prevention has been mentioned as a problem in the Lopez Canyon area. It is our opinion that Section 4(d) of the Wilderness Act allows the land administrator to take whatever actions he deems necessary to control fire within a wilderness area.

Watershed is an invaluable resource in Lopez Canyon. The Lopez drainage is a major sub-watershed within the Congressionally-approved 566 watershed project (Arroyo Grande Watershed) authorized July 26, 1956. Wilderness designation is recognized as a very good means of protecting a watershed from degradation. Sections 4(d)(4) and 4(d)(7) of the Wilderness Act protect water rights and on-going water conservation works found to be in the public interest.

As mentioned by Senator Cranston when introducing this bill (S. 3027), "there are a certain number of man-made imperfections within the boundaries" as proposed. These minor man-made impacts upon the land include a 70-kilowatt power transmission line, several miles of unimproved, four-wheel drive roads and some firebreaks and helicopter landings used in fire suppression. We agree with Senator Cranston that none of these items should preclude the designation of the area as wilderness. With the exception of the transmission line, which is a temporary item, "none of these uses detract measurably from the primitive environment." Actually, even the transmission line is only visible from a couple of places and the overall area still "appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature."

Within the 21,500 acres of land proposed for wilderness status, some 1,745 acres are administered by the Bureau of Land Management. This area is an integral part of the ecological community and the physiographic unit of Lopez Canyon, and by all means should be included in the wilderness. This inclusion could be accomplished in a number of ways. The Bureau of Land Management lands could be transferred, by provision of this Act, to the Forest Service for their administration. A simple way would be for this Act to empower the Bureau of Land Management to continue to administer these lands, under the provisions of the Wilderness Act as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System and in full coordination with the Forest Service.

We support Section (c) of S. 3027 which authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture "to acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, exchange or condemnation any or all non-Federal lands located within the exterior boundaries of the area described under subsection (a)." We feel that it is most important that the Forest Service have whatever authority is necessary to acquire lands within this area.

As a minor detail, we recommend that S. 3027 be changed to match standard wording for such legislation by eliminating the legal description of the proposed wilderness boundaries and substituting reference to a map on file.

Mr. Chairman, I wish to thank you, as well as Senators Cranston and Tunney, for this opportunity to present out opinion on S. 3027 to this committee.

VALLEJO, CALIF., May 27, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I would like to express my concern over our vanishing wilderness, and let you know that many concerned citizens of middle age, such as I, who in our lifetimes have been witnesses to the fast dwindling primitive areas in our country strongly desire and heartily support wilderness designation by legislation.

My husband and I are retired and spend a great deal of our time traveling in our country, especially enjoying its wild areas. However, as well as for our present enjoyment, I feel it our duty to preserve what we possibly can of such areas for the future enjoyment of our children and grandchildren. Shouldn't we take a giant step in making wilderness preservation one of the major priority items of our time by taking positive action now to achieve this goal? Not only must we achieve protection for these lands but we need to assure their preservation before it is too late—there are too few wild areas left and very little time. In future years, if necessary, wilderness areas can be redesignated for some other purpose, but once wilderness is lost to some other purpose it is lost forever.

As a part of this goal, I strongly urge your support of the Snow Mountain (California) Wilderness Proposal as outlined by S-2680 by Senators Alan Cranston and John Tunney (also HR9806 by Congressman Robert L. Leggett). It has long been felt that legislation is needed to protect this magnificent wild area. I just wish you could know and see the work of many young people in this area who give their time so selflessly to preserve a little of their world in its natural state and are working very hard for a Snow Mountain wilderness.

Therefore, I strongly urge your support of this bill. Please help us to protect the few remaining areas which remain in a wilderness condition else future generations may never know the true beauty of the land.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) LILLIAN I. EATON.

MOTORCYCLE OWNERS, RIDERS, ENTHUSIASTS,
Sacramento, Calif., May 30, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: There are more than two million motorcyclists in California, two thirds of whom occasionally utilize the public lands in following their recreational pursuits. The ultra-preservationists would have the American Public believe that these off-road vehicles are desecrating the lands. This is not the case.

These off-road vehicle enthusiasts are pursuing such activities as fishing, hunting, rock-collecting, mining, outdoor photography, or just plain sight-seeing. Many of these persons do not even realize that they are "motorcyclists". Their trail-bike is employed in the same manner as the horseman uses his horse: as a mode of off-highway transportation.

Portions of the public lands are being desecrated, and to that we can attest. But areas which are being desecrated are the areas already placed under non-vehicular Wilderness classification. These wilderness areas are foul with refuse and human excrement. And they are foul for two reasons alone:

1. Unlike the off-road vehicle enthusiasts, the horsemen and hiker leave their refuse behind, not bothering to haul it home with them.

2. Lack of vehicular access prohibits the organized off-road vehicle enthusiasts from extending their clean-up campaigns into existing wilderness areas.

We have only now been aware that you conducted a hearing on 18 May 1972 to hear testimony on S. 2680 and S. 3027, acts to create wilderness areas at Snow Mountain and in Lopez Canyon. We regret that we learned of this hearing too late to attend and offer testimony, but it is our sincere hope that you will allow this statement to become part of the official transcript.

It is also our sincere request that you will heed our urgings and vote in opposition to S. 2680 and S. 3027. Please provide total recreational opportunity for the total public.

Respectfully,

RUSSELL E. SANFORD.

TUCSON, ARIZ., *May 28, 1972.*

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Lands, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: In regard to proposed wilderness areas now under consideration, I believe:

1. Enclaves should be limited to minimal areas required exclusively for maintenance of wilderness.

2. Buffers, "management zones", within and paralleling the boundaries of wilderness areas to a depth of $\frac{1}{8}$ mile, and "thresholds" up to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile are unnecessary and foster the possible later misuse of these areas for nonconforming developments. They should be eliminated.

3. Private holdings within proposed wilderness areas also could be used in the future for nonconforming developments. Such inholdings should be acquired at the earliest possible opportunity. They should be placed in a category of authorized wilderness additions. A wilderness statute should be so written that whenever the Park Service acquires these lands they will be placed automatically in wilderness without requiring new legislation. This is in accord with recommendations made by the Task Force on Wilderness for the recent Yosemite Symposium on National Parks for the Future.

4. I recommend Wilderness designation with areas as recommended by conservationists, as follow:

Sequoia and Kings Canyon Wilderness, 830,000 acres; Shenandoah Wilderness (S. 3541), 112,687 acres; Isle Royale Wilderness (S. 2539), 132,700 acres; North Cascades Wilderness, 571,600 acres; and Flat Tops Wilderness, amending S. 1441 to 235,000 acres.

Sincerely,

LYNFERD J. WICKERHAM.

DAVIS, CALIF., May 28, 1972

Re S. 3027, Lopez Canyon.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Senate Public Lands Subcommittee, Senate Office Building, Washington,
D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: Please include this letter in the hearings record of the hearing held on May 18, 1972, concerning S. 3027, Lopez Canyon Wilderness.

I strongly support this bill, which would add approximately 21,500 acres of Lopez Canyon, San Luis Obispo County, to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

I join with Senators Cranston and Tunney in believing that Lopez Canyon will be more fully protected under the Wilderness Act of 1964. If preserved as wilderness, the area will continue to be a sanctuary for species of animals that depend on relatively undisturbed land for survival. I am concerned about the California Condor, a rare and endangered species. According to an authority on the Condor, Ian McMillan of San Luis Obispo County, Lopez Canyon is extremely important as a site of recent nesting activity. Since it is about 100 miles north of the Sespe Condor Sanctuary, the area represents an extension of the breeding range.

Lopez Canyon would be a valuable addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System because of its plant communities also. Its moist and lush character, with such a variety of plant species, is unusual in the southern Coast ranges.

When I lived in San Luis Obispo County, I enjoyed hiking in Lopez Canyon and believe it to be of wilderness quality. I hope that the area is classified as wilderness in order that future as well as present generations may comfort in knowing that Lopez Canyon remains wilderness.

I urge you to act favorably on S. 3027 in order that Lopez Canyon may have statutory protection under the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

ALISON BINDER.

KELSEYVILLE, CALIF., May 28, 1972.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I wish to thank you for the opportunity to present a statement pertaining to the Snow Mountain De Facto Wilderness Area, S. 2680, on May 18, and to submit further evidence.

First, in reference to the statement of John W. Deinema, Deputy Chief, USFS, he mentions the management recommendations for Snow Mountain were based on the study and the public views received by the Forest Supervisor at that time. I have attended all public hearings held, both for the USFS and by the County Board of Supervisors of Lake, Glenn, and Colusa. At all of these hearings the only objections voiced have been by the USFS, the timber industry, and the two land owners whom I've mentioned in my statement with the exceptions that *once* (at the USFS hearing in Lakeport in 1969) there was a representative from a Trail Bike Club. A John Mayfield from the Dept. of Resources, State of California, also objected, but this was revoked the other day. As Jim Eaton testified, the State of California now endorses as urgent the preservation of Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon as Wilderness.

The USFS did not listen to the public when it established the Motor Vehicle Control Area for Snow Mountain. Instead, as Mr. Deinema mentions on page 2 of his statement, they would restore, maintain, or improve the "Scenic Area". If doesn't need to be restored, maintained, or improved. But, it does need to be protected—as wilderness. He mentions motorized vehicles are prohibited from the gorge area. What a magnificent gesture—especially considering that almost without exception you need to use ropes to get in there!

Secondly, as pertains to the statement of Mr. Lester C. Paddock, Resources Manager of Commander Industries: They recommended that the 7,000 Crest Zone be protected from vehicular traffic and timber harvesting". This was particularly generous considering there is so little timber up there excepting for one small area, privately owned, and some other scattered pockets of timber, mainly weathered red fir with some conifer species. He mentioned that the annual allowable cut would be reduced by 2 million board feet *in addition* to that already made when this area was designated as a scenic area!

Senator Church, I appreciate having had the experience and pleasure of the senatorial hearing, and the gracious reception of Senator Metcalf as presiding chairman. I'm sorry to have missed the opportunity of meeting you, but hope your guidance of this committee will be favorable toward the preservation of a beautiful mountain for wilderness.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) KATHERINE PETTERSON.

MAY 29, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I strongly support the establishment of the Snow Mountain Wilderness.

This land must be set aside now. Tomorrow is too late. Once logged and mutilated by highways—it is no longer the same. Too much of our precious heritage has already been lost to us and future generations. We must act now.

I support your efforts in creating this wilderness, and ask that this letter be made a part of the official hearing record.

Sincerely yours,

SHIRLEY SARVIS.

SACRAMENTO, CALIF., May 29, 1973.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: We are sending you this letter to show our strong support for Bill S. 2680 introduced by Senators Alan Cranston and John Tunney which would establish the 37,000 acre Snow Mountain Wilderness. This area, although only 37,000 acres, contains a 7,000 foot mountain as well as a low elevation, wild creek.

The accelerating human impact upon our land is facing few restraints and one of these is the designation of wilderness areas. These are not just enclaves for the one percent of the people who like but they are refuges for other inhabitants of the land from man's mechanical and developmental madness. Not to set aside Snow Mountain is to allow it gradually to be managed for the whims of a gullible and thoughtless public (like millions of other acres in this part of California) rather than for the natural communities of the area.

Must every ecosystem in this country pass the multiple use (highest economic value to man) test? We say no and urge you to look favorably upon the bill before you to establish the Snow Mountain Wilderness.

We would like this letter to become a part of the official hearing record.

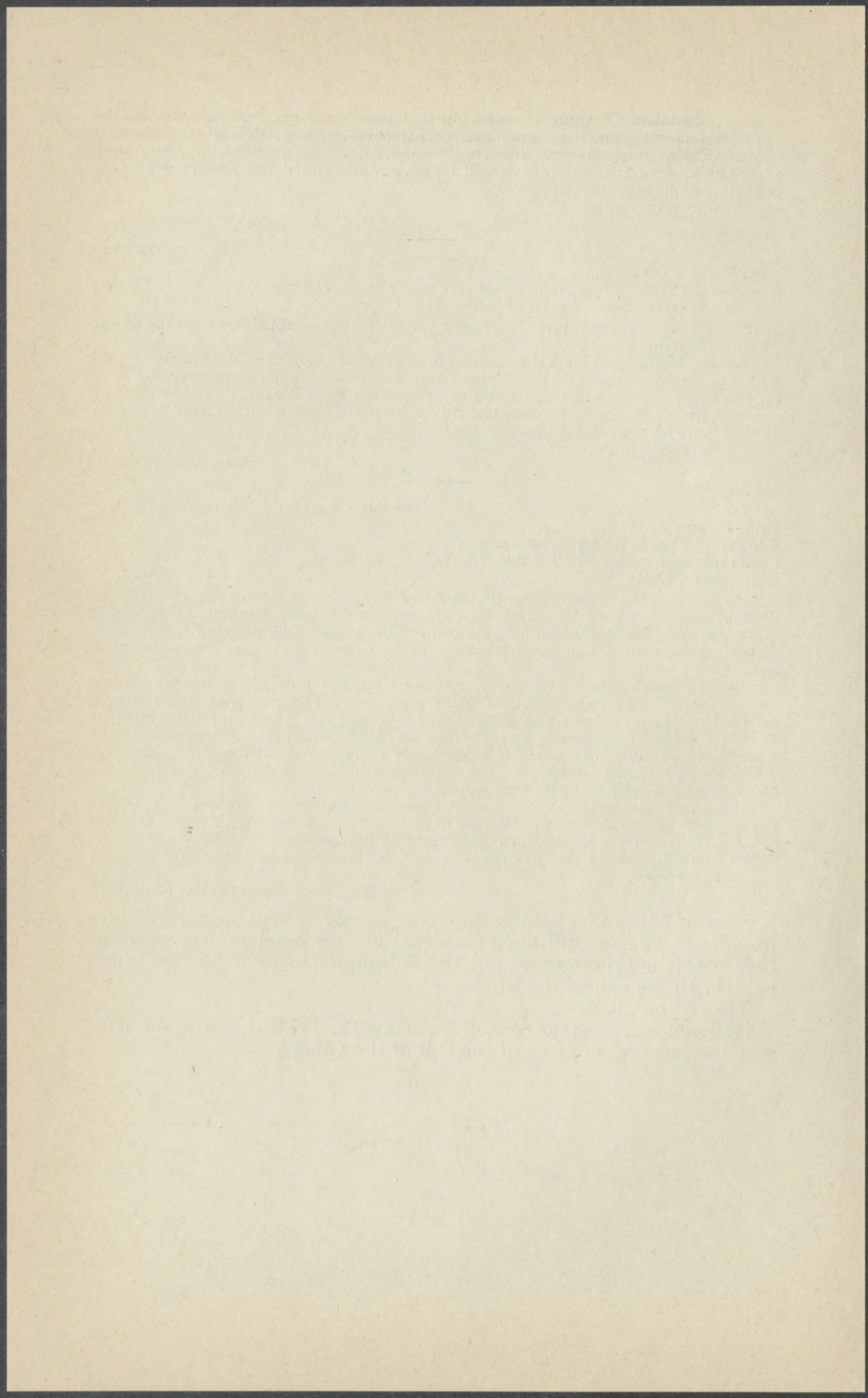
Sincerely,

BILL AND DOBBIE PATTERSON.

Senator METCALF. I think the record should be kept open for 14 days for submissions of additional material and this concludes the hearings before this subcommittee and the subcommittee will be adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.

Thank you all.

(Whereupon, at 3:30 o'clock on May 18, 1971, the subcommittee stood adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.)



APPENDIX

(Under authority previously granted, the following statements and communications were ordered printed:)

Due to the great volume of letters submitted to the Committee, we are only able to select a representative number to be included in the record. We hope you will appreciate our position on this matter.

STATEMENT OF HON. JERRY L. PETTIS, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to strongly urge the Members of this Committee to favorably enact S. 2680 which was introduced by Senator Cranston. This bill, identical to H.R. 13728 of which I am a co-sponsor in the House, would designate thirty-seven thousand acres of land in the Mendocino National Forest as the Snow Mountain Wilderness area.

I believe this is an excellent measure as it will set aside a significant area close to the Sacramento and San Francisco urban areas for use by residents who seek a wilderness area still in its natural state. The Snow Mountain area of the Mendocino National Forest has been adversely affected by road construction, timber cutting, and the development of nearby St. John Mountain. To make sure that the Snow Mountain area is not irrevocably damaged by human invasion, I've supported Congressman Leggett in his drive to make this a wilderness area.

Additionally, to designate the Snow Mountain area as a wilderness, protected area is important not only environmentally, but also economically. The economic value of the timber on Snow Mountain is not significant; therefore, the most valuable usage of this land is to retain it for watershed protection.

Finally, the preservation of Snow Mountain would leave over 950,000 acres of Mendocino National Forest open for other types of recreational functions.

For these reasons, I strongly urge those on this Committee to favorably and expeditiously act on this proposal.

Thank you.

WESTERN LUMBER MANUFACTURERS, INC.,
San Francisco, Calif., May 22, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: At the end of the May 18 hearing on S. 2680, a bill to establish the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area on the Mendocino National Forest, Senator Metcalf was acting as chairman. He asked us to send some information for the hearing record regarding the quality of the timber in the Nye Timber Sale. That is the sale that is currently under contract to Commander Industries and lies largely within the area proposed for classification as wilderness.

As part of the Forest Service's timber appraisal for each offering, there is usually a sample made of the timber quality by grading the logs in the standing timber. The results of this sampling is usually reported in the prospectus for each sale. We have reviewed the Fiscal Year 1972 prospectuses from California national forests to determine how the Nye timber compares with the other offerings.

More than three fourths of the estimated 5.5 million board feet in the Nye Sale is ponderosa pine. We found only three FY 1972 prospectus from the Men-

docino National Forest with log grade information. The ponderosa pine log grades in these sales and the Nye Sale were distributed as follows:

Timber sale	Log grade in percent of volume by sales			
	Nye	Cedar Springs	Spanish Ridge	Sheep Ridge
Grade 1	4.60	2.01	3.62	7.37
Grade 2	15.47	10.63	6.97	12.14
Grade 3	15.11	17.76	11.51	24.65
Grade 4				
Grade 5	64.79	69.60	77.90	55.84
Ponderosa pine volume, MBF	4,200	6,100	9,000	1,300

The sample indicates that the log grade distribution for the Nye sale is relatively good compared to other recent offerings on the Mendocino National Forest. The Forest Service estimated that 20 percent of the Nye volume of ponderosa pine would be in the two top grades and about 65 percent in the lowest grade. This is somewhat better than the averages for the other offerings. (The weighted average amount of Grade 5 for the three others is 73 percent.)

To compare the grade distribution with that of offerings in other national forests in California, I tabulated data shown on the attached sheet. Included are all offerings this fiscal year which have at least 2 million board feet of ponderosa pine or Jeffrey pine and for which we have grade data. The sample is for sales totaling 311 million feet of such pine. Only seven of these 54 units had a higher percentage of volume in Grades 1 and 2. Only 13 of the 54 had a smaller share of the lowest grade. Compared to the 20 percent of upper grades in the Nye Sale, the large sample had an arithmetic average of 13 percent. The amount of lowest grade in the Nye Sale was 65 percent compared to 72 percent for the large sample.

The actual value of the timber also varies with size. I have not taken the time to make that more complex analysis, since the above data are sufficient to indicate that the timber in the Nye Timber Sale is not substantially below average and data on size of timber are not as readily available.

We were also requested to comment on the fact that the Nye unit was a "deficit sale" at time of advertisement. At the hearing, Mr. Paddock of Commander Industries, the holder of the contract, explained that the offering was made at a low point of the market. The timber appraisal was based on data for the first quarter of 1970. The lumber price index for ponderosa pine at that time was 109.53. By the first quarter of 1972, it had risen to 142.83. This means that the advertised rate per MBF for ponderosa pine stumpage would be raised by \$16.65 if all of the timber were cut, removed and measured in the first quarter of 1972. This would remove the deficit several times over.

It should also be noted that the original deficit condition resulted from the requirement that the purchaser do \$127,000 worth of work on the permanent transportation system for the national forests. Some of this was reconstruction of existing roads. The resulting roads are expected to have a 20-year life and to serve many purposes in the use, protection and management of the forest.

The cost per MBF for road work was estimated at \$23.10 and the deficit amounted to \$2.29 per MBF. As noted above, the market change more than removed this deficit. However, it should be made clear that it is the timber purchaser who suffers in a truly deficit sale. The deficit comes out of what should be the normal profit opportunity. Under present contracts, the timber purchaser must pay the government some cash for each stick of timber removed, even though the purchaser has built roads to the extent that there is not enough value in the timber to give him credit for the work.

This expensing of long-lived roads on short-term timber sales is the result of the failure by the Congress and the administration to fund the road program for the national forests. This problem is discussed in our budget testimony which Senator Metcalf included in the record of the hearing on S. 2680.

If there is additional information that we might provide to clarify any of the issues regarding S. 2680, please let us know. We are confident that a complete record will cause the Congress to reject S. 2680 as inappropriate to the needs of the nation. The Forest Service's carefully developed plan of management of the Snow Mountain area should be permitted to operate.

Sincerely,

GEORGE A. CRAIG, *Secretary-Manager.*

LOG GRADE DISTRIBUTION FOR PONDEROSA PINE AND JEFFREY PINE IN CALIFORNIA NATIONAL FOREST
TIMBER OFFERINGS¹ IN FISCAL YEAR 1972

Sale name and National Forest	Volume MMBF	Percentage by grade	
		Grades 1 and 2	Grade 5
American Hill, Tahoe	10.3	29.3	52.6
Bailey Creek, Lassen	4.4	16.8	67.3
Bear, Eldorado	2.1	11.0	72.0
Blue Creek, Stanislaus	10.4	15.6	76.0
Bumblebee, Stanislaus	9.7	10.2	79.5
Bunchgrass, Shasta-Trinity	4.7	22.5	63.7
Caldor, Eldorado	4.6	8.0	82.0
China Ditch, Klamath	2.2	8.3	77.0
Collins, Stanislaus	3.0	16.4	70.4
Cornaz, Lassen	12.5	10.5	78.4
Cutler, Plumas	3.2	13.8	69.4
Devil, Shasta-Trinity	6.5	9.7	71.7
Dippity Doo, Klamath	4.3	11.6	72.5
East Stuart, Shasta-Trinity	2.4	20.9	54.9
Ebey Lake, Lassen	8.1	15.1	76.7
Ferrari, Eldorado	6.2	4.0	87.0
Fish Meadows, Klamath	4.6	4.1	90.5
Goat Mountain, Lassen	15.5	4.0	84.4
Greek Store, Tahoe	3.8	27.3	58.6
Hamilton, Lassen	8.6	15.5	62.9
Harris Spring, Modoc	9.4	16.6	69.5
Horseshoe, Sequoia	4.7	9.3	78.5
Iron Creek, Sierra	4.6	7.5	79.0
Jackson, Plumas	4.1	7.3	79.9
Jims Creek, Shasta-Trinity	6.6	27.6	53.7
Last Chance, Lassen	6.1	13.4	70.7
Lonesome Canyon, Plumas	8.5	12.8	72.2
Manzanita Chutes, Lassen	3.8	8.0	72.6
Moonlight, Plumas	6.5	16.5	61.7
Mud, Eldorado	6.7	8.0	81.0
Old Station, Lassen	15.0	7.6	81.5
Overlook, Stanislaus	6.4	18.7	62.5
Owens, Eldorado	3.6	17.0	61.0
Parsnip, Modoc	6.8	4.4	80.0
Pegleg, Lassen	3.2	9.3	80.0
Piute, Sequoia	6.6	6.5	82.7
Rat Trap, Shasta-Trinity	3.3	9.5	69.3
Recon, Plumas	8.9	8.1	67.8
Refuge, Eldorado	2.8	18.0	66.0
Red Rock, Plumas	2.0	26.9	53.0
Slate, Sequoia	2.7	7.8	73.4
South Deer Mountain, Klamath	8.9	4.7	77.2
Stonebreaker, Eldorado	2.9	11.0	81.0
Summit, Sierra	2.7	21.6	68.9
Taylor, Sierra	2.2	2.3	95.6
Trail Gulch, Klamath	2.3	9.4	78.0
Trapper, Klamath	4.8	7.1	84.0
Twin Buttes, Lassen	7.5	16.3	61.9
Wallow, Shasta-Trinity	6.0	13.4	71.7
White Springs, Stanislaus	7.6	16.1	69.6
White Fawn, Shasta-Trinity	5.0	13.0	69.5
Weed, Stanislaus	5.6	19.6	61.1
Wilcox, Shasta-Trinity	3.8	15.0	60.5
Wood, Shasta-Trinity	2.3	19.1	68.6
Total	310.8	213.0	271.9

¹ Units with at least 2 MMBF of these pines.

² Arithmetic average.

WESTERN LUMBER MANUFACTURERS, INC.,
San Francisco, Calif., May 11, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular
Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: You have scheduled hearings in Washington, D.C. on May 18, 1972, to receive testimony on S. 2680, a bill to create a 37,000-acre Snow Mountain Wilderness Area in the Mendocino National Forest and S. 3027, a bill to create a 21,500-acre Lopez Canyon Wilderness Area in the Los Padres National Forest. The bills were introduced in the Senate by both U.S. Senators from California.

Western Lumber Manufacturers, Inc., an association of forest products manufacturing firms who purchase national forest timber for their raw material supplies, opposes the passage of either bill. We oppose both bills but for different reasons and we recommend that they *not* be given favorable consideration by the Subcommittee on Public Lands.

In 1969 and 1970, following a request by the Sierra Club that the Snow Mountain area be studied for possible addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System, the Forest Service made a study, issued a report, held a public meeting, received oral and written testimony, and then designated two scenic areas and a vehicle control area. Each scenic area exceeds 6,000-acres in size and covers the most scenic portions of the area, that is, the crest of Snow Mountain and the gorge of the Middle Fork of Stony Creek. Timber harvesting, road construction and all vehicular use is prohibited in these zones. WLM supported the designation of a roadless recreation area with no timber harvesting allowed for the 7,000-acre Crest Zone of Snow Mountain. The attached map shows the 30,000-acre vehicle control area which was designated by the Regional Forester and which permits vehicular use on only a few designated routes at lower elevations.

The Sierra Club and Active Conservation Tactics group are now seeking passage of legislation to create a Wilderness that is about 10,000 acres larger than the original area they requested to be studied. To our knowledge, the resource data for the additional area has never been compiled and made available. The local timber industry operators and representatives of vehicular user groups who had opposed wilderness classification at the Forest Service public meeting were unaware of the campaign which had been mounted in support of this legislation.

Favorable consideration of S. 2680 by the Public Lands Subcommittee would render valueless the public involvement process which the Forest Service had used in considering all viewpoints at public meetings two years ago. It will polarize the various segments of the national forest user groups and future public meetings will generate militancy rather than reason or intelligent land use planning inputs. If further consideration is to be given S. 2680, then a local field hearing should be scheduled.

We are opposed to S. 3027 (Lopez Canyon) simply because the area does not meet the standards and definition of Wilderness as specified in the Wilderness Act of 1964. The existing manmade intrusions such as the electrical power transmission line, roads, FAA radio transmission facility and vegetative fuel breaks make the area unsuitable for classification as wilderness. This area did not even qualify as a roadless, undeveloped area in the recently released Forest Service inventory of such areas in California. If the Lopez Canyon area is deserving of special management direction for recreation or scenic purposes, then it should be done through the Forest Service multiple-use planning process and not by an Act of Congress.

The WLN Secretary-Manager George A. Craig expects to testify before your Committee on May 18, 1972.

Very truly yours,

JOHN T. KEANE, *Assistant Manager.*

[From the Daily News, Red Bluff, Calif., Tues., April 18, 1972]

LUMBER MANUFACTURERS PLEA FOR FOREST SERVICE FUNDING

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A plea to provide adequate funding in the upcoming annual budget of the U.S. Forest Service was voiced here today before a Senate committee by George A. Craig, Secretary-Manager of the Western Lumber Manufacturers, Inc.

Representing most of California's wood-products industry which depends on national forest timber, Craig said the Presidential budget for the National Forest system in the 1973 fiscal year totals \$432 million, substantially below the Forest Service's estimated needs of \$674 million. After estimated receipts from timber sales (\$353 million) and other sources such as grazing, gravel sales, recreation, and forest improvement trust funds, Craig declared:

"The national forests' share of (the net) is \$186 million, or eight one-hundredths of one percent (0.08 percent) of total net outlays by the federal government—only one dollar per acre to manage, enhance and protect—171 million visitor days of outdoor recreation, 7.9 million animal unit-months of livestock forage, 132 million acre-feet of water, 12 billion board-feet of commercial timber, and many forms of wildlife."

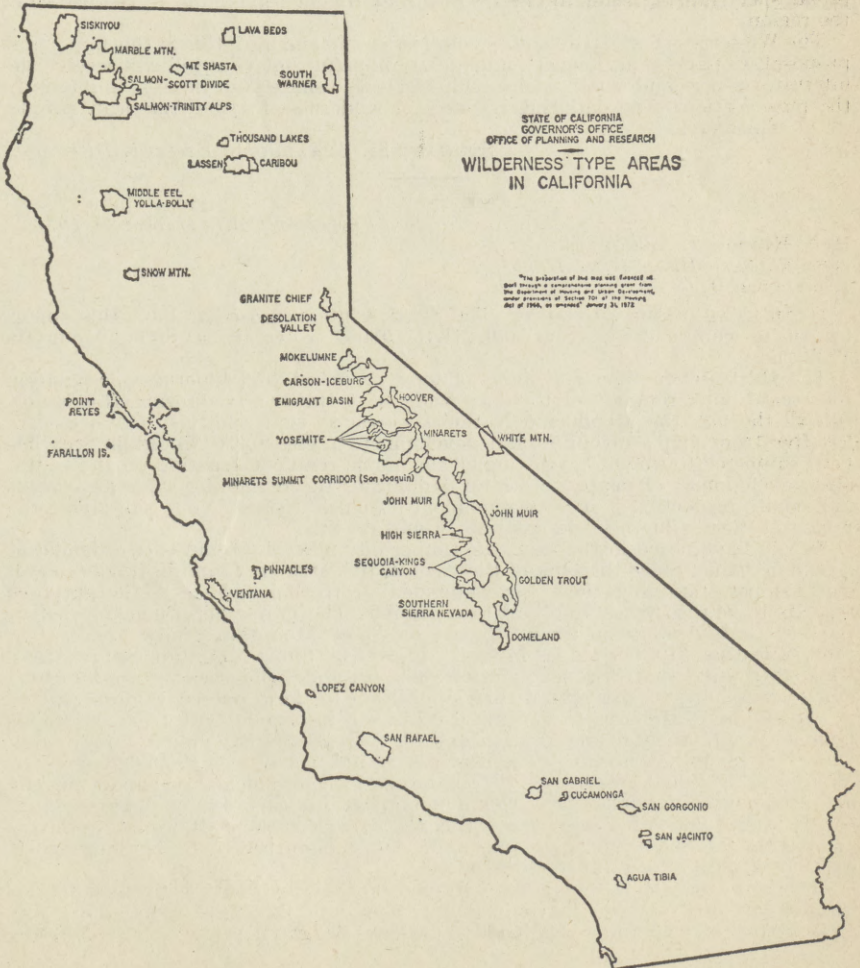
Appealing for balanced management, the forest-products representative from San Francisco argued that even considering funds for pollution control, water resources and acquisition of recreational areas the total environmental outlay for Fiscal 1973 (2.45 billion) is only one percent of the national budget. Craig said "balanced management . . . of the national forests" cannot be achieved "until there is better balance between the funding of natural resources generally and the other elements of the federal budget."

He is scheduled to make an identical presentation tomorrow (April 13) before the parallel House appropriations subcommittee on Interior & Related Agencies.

Craig said Forest Service budgets for Fiscal 1973 anticipate, among other items, an investment of \$157 million in construction of roads and trails, \$36 million in their maintenance, payment of \$85.7 million to the states in lieu of taxes, \$40 million for recreation, \$7 million for wildlife habitat management, \$6 million for insect and disease protection, \$35 million for fire protection.

The industry advocate asked for financial support of a Forest Service 10-year "environmental program for the future," which would increase wildlife habitat, water resources and timber yields. He asked the Senate subcommittee to:

" . . . consider the place of national resources in the total budget, the need to fund a balanced and coordinated program for the national forests, and the benefits that would result. Past neglect has deprived the nation of many of these benefits. It is time to invest in our renewable forest resources. . . . "



THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY,
Washington, D.C., October 1, 1971.

Congressmen ROBERT L. LEGGETT,
2263 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LEGGETT: Thank you for your letter of September 30 requesting our comments on the proposal to establish a 37,000-acre Snow Mountain Wilderness Area within the Mendocino National Forest in your Congressional district. We are familiar with your proposal embodied in H.R. 9806.

The Wilderness Society strongly endorses your proposal and is eager to see its early accomplishment. Our members and cooperators in that part of California have conducted detailed field surveys of the Snow Mountain region. These surveys and studies have led to the conclusion that the area outlined within your proposal is indeed well qualified for protection under the 1964 Wilderness law. We are satisfied that this area meets the standards and criteria established in the parent Wilderness Act and will be an important addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Of particular importance in this case is the location factor. The Snow Mountain Wilderness Area would be one of the closest preserved wilderness areas to major population centers such as Sacramento and San Francisco. As such it will constitute a vital regional resource, complementing other varieties of recreational opportunities already well available in that area. By assuring the permanent preservation of this substantial wild area, enactment of your proposal will in fact assure that a broad spectrum of recreational opportunities remains available to the people of the region.

The Wilderness Society welcomes your leadership and initiative in this important proposal, Congressman Leggett, and we are hopeful that your bill will receive the interest, support and active sponsorship of all who share your interest and ours in the preservation of an enduring resource of wilderness for the American people.

Sincerely,

STEWART M. BRANDBOG, *Executive Director.*

SIERRA CLUB,
San Francisco, Calif., October 29, 1971.

HON. ROBERT L. LEGGETT,
2263 Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LEGGETT: The Sierra Club is pleased to have this opportunity to comment on your bill, H.R. 9806, to create a Snow Mountain Wilderness.

The thirty-seven thousand acres of land proposed for wilderness designation represents but a remnant of the once wild Coast Range of California. Roads now run all through the Mendocino National Forest so that relatively few areas are left free from man's machines and developments. The Snow Mountain area has been subjected to timber harvesting on the north, road construction on the south, and development of nearby St. John Mountain; the remaining wilderness needs immediate protection if it is to remain in its natural state. Your bill, giving the area statutory wilderness designation, would do this.

As you have noted in the past, the timber on Snow Mountain is of insignificant economic value. Since the bulk of the trees in this area are found in fragile soil on steep slopes, retaining them for watershed protection and aesthetic purposes appears to be the highest and best uses possible. The Forest Service acknowledges the low timber values in their "Report on Snow Mountain Study Area" when they state that "timber values in their "Report on Snow Mountain Study Area" when they state that "timber values do not preclude wilderness establishment," and so it is hard to understand their opposition to the proposed wilderness.

The closure of the area to motorized vehicles is important both from the standpoint of environmental preservation and for recreational enjoyment. The preservation of Snow Mountain as wilderness would leave over 950,000 acres of Mendocino National Forest open to four and two wheel vehicle travel under current management plans. Wilderness would not affect hunting, fishing, backpacking, nature study, and other activities which already occur there. It would, however, assure that the Snow Mountain area could not be disturbed by timber harvesting, road construction, or motor vehicle travel.

The proposed wilderness has been studied in detail by Sierra Club members in conjunction with volunteers from other local groups. We have found the entire area worthy of wilderness classification and are delighted that you have felt the

same way. We completely support your bill to preserve this area as wilderness and are willing to assist you in any way needed for the passage of H.R. 9806.

Sincerely yours,

MICHAEL McCLOSKEY, *Executive Director.*

[Resolution No. 72-42]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

(Resolution endorsing and supporting passage of SB 2680 (Cranston) and HR 9806 (Leggett) for the establishment of Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.)

Whereas there is now pending before the Congress of The United States, Senate Bill 2680 as introduced by the Honorable Alan Cranston, United States Senator from California and HR 9806 as introduced by the Honorable Robert Leggett, member of Congress from the Fourth Congressional District of California, for the establishment of a Snow Mountain Wilderness comprising approximately 37,000 acres of land, generally located in southwestern Glenn County, northeastern Lake County and northwestern Colusa County of California.

Whereas the preservation of Snow Mountain as a wilderness area has been the subject of detailed study and numerous meetings attended by interested citizens and persons of Lake County, the great majority of whom expressed sentiments in favor of establishing such a wilderness area, and

Whereas it would be in the best interests of the people of Lake County, the people of the State of California and of the United States as a whole for such an area to be preserved as a wilderness: now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of the county of Lake, That:

1. Snow Mountain should be established and designated by Congress as a wilderness area;

2. SB 2680 and HR 9806 now pending before the Congress of the United States have approval and endorsement of this Board of Supervisors and the passage of such legislation is encouraged.

3. Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to United States Senators John V. Tunney and Alan Cranston, and to Congressmen Robert Leggett and Don Clausen.

Ayes: Supervisors Wrieden, Lampson, Wilds.

Noes: Supervisors Denner, Martinelli.

Absent: None.

Attest:

MOSLEY O. LAMPSON,
Chairman of said Board.

JAMES L. SHINN,
Clerk of said Board.

JEANNE R. SIGHTS,
Deputy Clerk.

IN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
County of Colusa, State of California, February 29, 1972.

Present: Supervisors: Frank L. Miller; C. Martin Wilmarth; Edwin G. Ross; H. L. Peterson; and R. J. Swallow.

Absent: None.

It is moved by Supervisor Miller, seconded by Supervisor Peterson to adopt Resolution No. 72-10 re: A Resolution to The Honorable Alan Cranston, The Honorable John V. Tunney, and The Honorable Robert L. Leggett supporting the design of the proposed Snow Mountain Wilderness Area. Resolution passed and adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Supervisors: Frank L. Miller; C. Martin Wilmarth; Edwin G. Ross; H. L. Peterson; and R. J. Swallow.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

[Resolution No. 72-10]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF COLUSA, CALIF.

(A resolution to the Honorable Alan Cranston, the Honorable John V. Tunney, and the Honorable Robert L. Leggett supporting the designation of the proposed Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.)

Whereas the Honorable Alan Cranston and the Honorable John V. Tunney, Senators from California, have introduced S. 2680, a bill in accordance with the Wilderness Act that proposes the designation of approximately thirty-seven thousand (37,000) acres entitled "Snow Mountain DeFacto Wilderness Area"; and

Whereas the Honorable Robert L. Leggett, Representative from California, has introduced H.R. 9806 in accordance with the Wilderness Act that concurs with the proposal of the Honorable Alan Cranston and the Honorable John V. Tunney: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by this Board of Supervisors, also representative of all the people of the County of Colusa, herein by unanimous expression fully endorses the foregoing recitals and pledges support of S. 2680 and H.R. 9806 bills to designate the Snow Mountain DeFacto Wilderness Area.

Passed and adopted this 29th day of February, 1972 by the following vote:

Ayes: Supervisors: Frank L. Miller; C. Martin Wilmarth, Edwin G. Ross; H. L. Peterson and P. J. Swallow.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Attest:

R. J. SWALLOW,
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.
MARTHA NANNEN,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
Willows, Calif., February 23, 1972.

HON. ROBERT L. LEGGETT,
U.S. Representative,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LEGGETT: Enclosed please find a certified copy of Resolution No. 72-10 adopted by the Glenn County Board of Supervisors on February 22nd, 1972, being a resolution endorsing and supporting passage of SB2680 (Cranston) and HR 9806 (Leggett) for the establishment of Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.

GLENN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.
By MILTON E. WALKER, *County Clerk*

[Resolution No. 72-10]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, GLENN COUNTY, CALIF.

(Resolution endorsing and supporting passage of SB 2680 (Cranston) and HR 9806 (Leggett) for the establishment of Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.)

As a basis and premise for this Resolution, the Board finds:

1. There is now pending before the Congress of the United States, Senate Bill 2680 as introduced by the Honorable Alan Cranston, United States Senator from California, and HR 9806 as introduced by the Honorable Robert Leggett, Member of Congress from the Fourth Congressional District of California, for the establishment of the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area which is generally located in Southwestern Glenn County, Southeastern Lake County and Northwestern Colusa County of California.

2. The preservation of Snow Mountain as a wilderness area has been the subject of detailed study and many meetings attended by interested persons and citizens of Glenn County, the great majority of whom have expressed sentiments in favor of establishing such lands as a wilderness area.

3. It would be in the best interests of the people of Glenn County and in the best interests of the people of the State of California and of the United States as a whole for such an area to be preserved as a wilderness: Therefore, it is

Resolved, That:

1. Snow Mountain should be established and designated by Congress as a wilderness area.

2. SB 2680 and HR 9806 now pending before the Congress of the United States have the whole hearted approval and endorsement of this Board of Supervisors and the passage of such legislation is solicited and encouraged.

3. Copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Alan Cranston, United States Senator and to Honorable Robert Leggett, Member of Congress.

Passed and adopted this 22nd day of February, 1972, by the following vote:

Ayes: Holvik, Polzin, Reimers and Colbert.
 Noes: None.
 Absent: None.
 Abstaining: Abstaining.

By RALPH P. COLBERT,
Chairman.

Attest:

MILTON E. WALKER,
County Clerk and ex officio Clerk

WILLOWS, CALIF., *January 28, 1972.*

HON. ROBERT L. LEGGETT,
*Room 2263 House Office Building,
 Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. LEGGETT: Enclosed you will find a small booklet which we prepared for you in appreciation of your concern for the Snow Mountain area. We hope it may be of some use to you also in persuading others of the need for protection of this area.

You are probably already aware that a portion of the Snow Mountain area included within the boundaries designated in H.R. 9806 will be logged this coming summer. Road construction probably will start as soon as access is possible, usually May. Since this sale (Nye Timber Sale) was sold before your bill was introduced, it appears the Forest Service can take no action in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

KIRK THOMPSON.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
 FOREST SERVICE,
San Francisco, Calif., April 6, 1972.

HON. ROBERT L. LEGGETT,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. LEGGETT: This is in reply to your letter of March 23, 1972, regarding Snow Mountain on the Mendocino National Forest.

Snow Mountain is one of the National Forest areas in California under study to evaluate alternatives for long-term management. No final decision will be made on candidate areas for wilderness study until after the views of interested individuals and groups have been evaluated. The Chief will announce a list of approved candidate areas by spring 1973. The candidate areas will be managed to exclude any activity which would depreciate its potential value as wilderness until such time as it is either rejected or selected.

Inasmuch as Mr. Lester Paddock has advised you that Commander Forest Industries will not operate on the Nye timber sale this year, it would appear your immediate problem is resolved. By the end of the year we should be in a good position to decide on the overall land management policy for the area.

In the meantime we will keep you informed on the status of our study of the undeveloped areas in the region. A summary of action to date will be sent you shortly.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS R. LEISZ, *Regional Forester.*

MARCH 23, 1972.

Re Snow Mountain.

MR. DOUGLAS R. LEISZ,
*Regional Forester, U.S. Department of Agriculture,
 San Francisco, Calif.*

DEAR FORRESTER LEISZ: As you know, I am concerned that we not desecrate Snow Mountain prior to the time we have had an opportunity to fully explore the possibilities of wilderness protection for that important mountain in Northern California. I well appreciate, of course, the good work done by the Forestry Service in reviewing alternative protections for the mountain and we will continue to study those recommendations.

In the meantime, as you know, a portion of the Snow Mountain area is included in the Nye Timber Sale. I have been corresponding with Commander Industries,

the contractor on this particular project, and I am pleased to enclose their reply dated March 10th and I also enclose an earlier reply dated February 11th.

I am interested in an abatement of the cutting in the Nye Timber area while we are reviewing this matter in the Congress. I, of course, would be interested in effecting a trade of perhaps other areas under your jurisdiction which are not the subject of wilderness concern for this particular contract area. I am sure you recognize the problem in the current situation.

I would appreciate your reviewing the correspondence in determining how your Department might be further helpful in taking action which would keep our options open.

Your many courtesies are appreciated.

Very sincerely,

Enclosures.

ROBERT L. LEGGETT,
Member of Congress.

COMMANDER INDUSTRIES, INC.,
Red Bluff, Calif., March 10, 1972.

HON. ROBERT L. LEGGETT,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LEGGETT: We were surprised to receive your letter of February 7 asking that we not operate a portion of the Nye Timber Sale, for which we hold the cutting contract on the Mendocino National Forest, because it "falls within the proposed boundaries of the Snow Mountain Wilderness". The Forest Service made a 1967-68 study of 27,317 acres recommended by the Sierra Club for classification as wilderness. A lengthy report of the study results was issued early in 1969 with invitations to comment on three management alternatives. The area included nearly 188 million board feet of timber. A public meeting was held to receive comments which the Forest Service considered (along with those in more than 500 letters) in making decisions to manage more than 12,000 acres of scenic areas without roads or timber harvesting. Now, there is a new proposal from the preservationists to include 37,000 acres in the wilderness classification provided under your bill, and you ask us not to exercise our contractual rights to timber that is entirely outside the original 27,317 acre proposal. We do not know what volume of timber lies in the additional 10,000 acres.

As you say, there must be recognition of the growing need for wood and wood products. We do not understand how this need can be met by proposals, such as yours, to remove more commercial forest land from our renewable resource base. The Organic Act of 1897 gave the continuous production of water and wood as the objective of national forest designation and management, and subsequent laws have not changed that purpose.

We had planned to build roads in the Nye Sale area this year and remove the timber next year, before the contract terminates at the end of the year. We need this timber and most of it is in the proposed wilderness area (contrary to your understanding). Because of our heavy dependence on national forest timber and the Forest Service's past failures to sell the programmed volumes, we cannot afford to yield our rights to any timber.

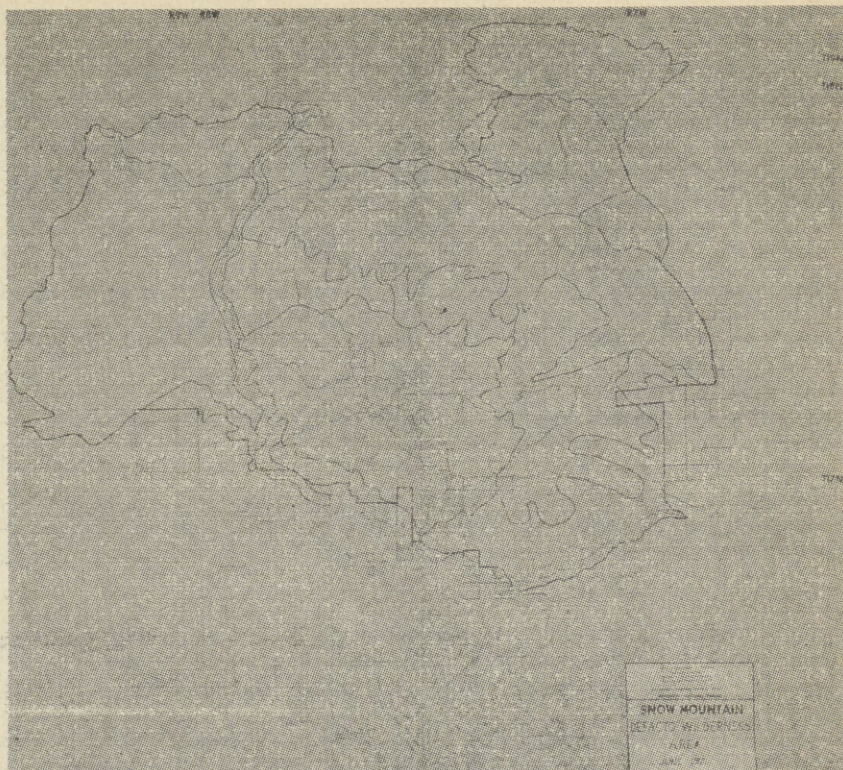
We want to take all reasonable steps to accommodate you, even though we consider the wilderness proposal to be inappropriate in the light of the recent Forest Service study, the public involvement and the establishment of the scenic areas. We believe overwhelming need is for more timber, not more wilderness. However, we will delay our road construction at least until next year, so that you may have time to explore with the Forest Service the alternatives you suggest in your letter.

It should be clearly understood that we must be able to plan our operations, particularly with a short supply of timber, and must have some understanding reached before the end of this year. Further, we see no obligation on our part to propose solutions to problems that are not of our own making. In addition, we expect to be made whole for any inconvenience or loss of rights we may suffer. We trust that these considerations will be a part of your examination of the question with the Forest Service.

We sincerely hope that your further review of this matter may result in reconsideration of the bill and its withdrawal.

Very truly yours,

LESTER C. PADDOCK, *Resources Manager.*



STATEMENT OF HON. JEROME R. WALDIE, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before the Subcommittee on behalf of S. 2680 which is identical to H.R. 9806 which I have co-sponsored with Congressman Leggett and several other Colleagues.

This bill will provide protection to the Snow Mountain area of the Mendocino National Forest by including it under the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

This unique area is now threatened by timber operations which, if allowed to proceed, will greatly jeopardize the environment and the wildlife in this area. Snow Mountain is doubly important to preserve as a Wilderness Area because of its relatively close proximity to the urban centers of Northern California and Southern Oregon.

I am fearful of the drastic consequences of timbering operations in the area because of resultant erosion and flooding problems that accompany such operations.

California and the Nation can ill-afford the loss of any wilderness areas to timbering, motor recreation vehicles and erosion-caused floods.

I would at this time like to commend the Subcommittee for its action on this important legislation and also commend my Colleague Bob Leggett on his outstanding leadership in this matter.

CORNELL SAYS LOGGING DOUBTFUL—WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT BEST ON SNOW MOUNTAIN?

WILLOWS—Blaine R. Cornell, superintendent of the Mendocino National Forest, says there is strong doubt that most of the proposed Snow Mountain Wilderness Area will ever be logged—at least by present methods.

Acknowledging that the soil is fragile and the slopes steep, he said, speaking of Areas D, F, E and G:

"It is almost impossible—I don't mean 'impossible' but damn difficult—to develop roads because of the steep country."

Cornell was speaking of an area some 10 miles west of Stonyford which has caused a sharp conflict between the Forest Service and groups such as the Sierra Club, Stony Creek Horsemen's Association and others which seek to establish some 37,000 acres of Snow Mountain as a Congress-designated Wilderness Area. This would close the area to motor bikes and other vehicles, and would also prohibit the U.S. Forest Service from permitting logging on it.

Under a bill introduced by Congressman Robert L. Leggett and Senator John V. Tunney, the "Wilderness Area" designation would remove the entire area from Forest Service management.

The Mendocino National Forest, when under the recent supervision of Lloyd Britton, came up, instead, with a proposal to designate Areas A and B as a managed Wilderness Area, with other areas open to possible logging and vehicular traffic—all under Forest Service supervision.

The Forest Service plan calls for management of the Snow Mountain "Crest Area" (Section A) and the Stony Creek Gorge (Section B) as, in essence, Wilderness Areas under Forest Service management, with the other areas open to possible logging only if it were found that logging would not harm the environment.

Cornell said it seems clear that the other areas offer "extremely tough logging," continuing:

"Today we can't see our way clear to run in and log it. Roads would be an extremely tough proposition. It would require a great deal more study to determine where, and if, we could build them.

"Maybe in the future it would be possible to log (economically) by helicopter."

But, pointing to a map of the area, he acknowledged that the distance to main roads presented a major difficulty even for future helicopter logging.

Cornell was speaking in response to a series of questions asked him by newsmen. The questions had been suggested by critics of the Forest Service plan who feel that Congress should declare the entire 37,000 acre area a Wilderness Area to remove it from possible future logging and vehicular traffic in response to future pressures.

The 37,000 acres includes about a 2,002-acre tract for future logging of the area through "Nye Sale" to Commander Industries last year on a \$127,000-bid. Logging has not yet begun. Wilderness-area supporters would like to have the sale canceled.

Under the Nye Sale, a tract in the northern part of Section H and the western part of Section D would be logged. Cornell said these areas are suitable to logging.

Replying to questions, he said the cost of 4.5 miles of new and improved roads for logging the area would be about \$90,000, to be paid by the Forest Service.

Also, he said, the Forest Service would provide \$10,000 of culvert pipe to Commander, for providing drainage under the roads.

He was asked how this \$100,000 of expense to the taxpayers, plus the costs of Forest Service surveying, engineering and construction of the roads, could result in any income to the taxpayers on a \$127,000 contract.

He replied that the roads would provide future benefits.

A "WILDERNESS AREA" IS URGED

Lakeport.—The Lake County Board of Supervisors has gone on record to establish a wilderness area of the entire 27,317-acre Snow Mountain area. By a 3 to 2 vote the Board made this recommendation to the U.S. Forest Service in Willows.

Lloyd R. Birtton, Mendocino National Forest Supervisor, has said he will make a decision by the end of January on whether to maintain the mountain as a Forest Service management area or recommend that Congress declare all or part of it a wilderness area.

In any event, the 5,000-acre crest of the mountain will be barred to vehicles or logging, Britton said.

Snow Mountain lies some 10 miles west of Stonyford, on the Glenn-Colusa County border, and ranges in height from 2,000 to 7,000 feet.

Hiking groups have generally expressed themselves as favoring the Lake County Board of Supervisors' stand; motorcycle and four-wheel drive groups want most of the area opened to vehicles, which it would not be under the wilderness classification; and lumber companies want the entire area managed by the Forest Serv-

ice, with large sections opened to logging. The Glenn County Board of Supervisors is on record favoring the latter.

Under normal Forest Service sustained-yield practices, the Snow Mountain area would produce some \$50,000 of timber per year, priced at the mill, the Forest Service estimated for the Daily Journal.

At the Lake County supervisors' meeting, chairman Carl Denner said he wanted the area to remain, as at present, under Forest Service management. He said the area should not be reserved for use "by a small minority of people," as he contended would be the case if it were designated a wilderness area.

Supervisor Arthur Burry said there was too much public land in the county and that adequate wilderness area was available nearby in the Yolla Bolly and other reserves. He also cited a loss of revenue to the county if timber sales from the area were prevented, and a hardship to the private landowner who could not use or develop his land if surrounded by the wilderness area.

Supervisor Wes Lampson said that he sympathized with Clair Jones of Upper Lake, the major private landowner in the crest area on Snow Mountain, but urged the wilderness designation, saying that it was not too much to ask from the large national forest acreage and that, while it might cost the county and loggers some money, "you can't put a dollar sign on benefits to be gained for years to come."

Middletown's Earle Wrieden said that he, too, had a regard for private property rights in the area but he was alarmed that if nothing is done, lumber operations will log off the area and create more problems.

Jones, the principal private land owner in the area, charged that "there has been a good deal of hypocrisy in this whole thing", referring to the campaign supported by the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area Committee and the Sierra Club.

Jones termed the campaign "one of the rottenest pressure plays I have seen in my life for the federal government to force a private land owner to give up his lands."

Katherine Petterson, Kelsyville, leader in the local drive for the wilderness area, told Jones that Federal law would protect his property rights and argued before the board that an exploding population called for preservation of more open space.

Supervisor Junior Wilds joined Lampson and Wrieden in voting for the resolution to recommend the wilderness concept to the forest service over opposition of Denner and Burry.

EDITORIAL—COMMANDER, INC. PUBLIC'S VOICE?

(Editor's Note: This is the first of two editorials concerning Commander Industries, Inc., of Red Bluff. The corporation owns large timber acreage in western Glenn County and operates a lumber mill in Elk Creek. The second editorial will examine Commander's methods of "harvesting" timber and discuss their assured effects on Glenn County's future economy.)

Should taxpayers be forced to subsidize logging for the benefit of Commander Industries, Incorporated?

Should they have to pay Commander Industries to bulldoze logging roads through the heart of scenic Snow Mountain, ideally suited for a Wilderness Area?

This, in effect, is what Lester C. Paddock, Commander's Resources Manager in Red Bluff, proposed in a letter published on this page Thursday.

Mr. Paddock quoted, apparently with shock approaching trauma, a Daily Journal editorial of Feb. 29 describing the Forest Service's Nye Sale to Commander of timber in the proposed Wilderness Area as "a sale which is nothing less than a shocking giveaway of taxpayer-owned property"—a sale that "will result in no gain, cashwise, to the American taxpaying public."

Mr. Paddock commented:

"How can you possibly make such an obviously erroneous statement? What about the wages earned by the approximately 100 employes at Commander's Elk Creek operation? plus logging personnel; what about 'the thousands of the 'public' who will benefit from the sale and use of the timber. . . ?"

Mr. Paddock clearly is dodging the point. He is, in effect, asking for a subsidy from the taxpaying public.

He did not deny, because he could not deny, the facts cited in the Feb. 29 editorial:

Commander was awarded a \$127,000 bid to log 5.5 million board-feet of timber in the Nye Tract.

The U.S. Forest Service estimates the cost of 5.5 miles of roads to tap the timber at \$90,000. The Forest Service—or the taxpayers, rather—will finance this cost.

Also, the Forest Service will pay for \$10,000 of culvert pipe to go under the roads. This totals \$100,000 of taxpayers' money.

"And," the editorial continued, "If another \$27,000 isn't eaten up in Forest Service expenses of surveying, engineering, supervising, and performing the other myriad details surrounding the logging, the editor stands ready to eat (Supervisor) Cornell's Forest Service hat."

He still does.

Furthermore, the above costs don't include any allocation of Forest Service fixed costs toward Nye-Sale Expenses. Does the Commander Industries accounting system ignore the allocation of fixed costs to its various activities? If so, the company is not long for business.

Hence, it is clear that the cost of logging the 5.5 million board-feet of timber will cost the taxpayers considerably more than the \$127,000 they will receive from Commander. They, the taxpayers, will make up the difference. Will the wages earned by the approximately 100 employees at Commander's Elk Creek operation" and so on, including public benefits from lumber?"

Does Mr. Paddock feel, then, that the taxpayers should help Commander Industries pay its loggers—that the taxpayers should subsidize Commander as it produces lumber and by-products which the public will purchase at going prices? Obviously he does.

Also, he apparently believes, the public should subsidize the costs of tearing huge chunks out of an area which, by all odds, should remain in its present state of pristine wilderness for the public's use.

Mr. Paddock questions sharply whether such a Wilderness Area would be in the "public interest."

Why, he asks, "create more wilderness area to be added to the millions of acres now in existence—an area that an extremely small proportion of the public will ever see and enjoy . . . ?"

In the first place, the only Wilderness Area in this region, the Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area, is almost inaccessible half the year due to heavy snow. The modest Snow Mountain Wilderness Area, totaling only 37,000 acres and with less than eight miles to a side, would be open to hikers, horseback riders and other outdoorsmen the year around.

Mr. Paddock kisses off these Wilderness users as "an extremely small proportion of the public."

If this is true, how come Congressman-Robert L. Leggett reported that of more than 100 persons writing to him on the issue, every one favored Wilderness?

How come the Boards of Supervisors of all the three counties in which the proposed Wilderness Area lies—Colusa, Glenn and Lake—are on record favoring Wilderness?

Don't they, after all, speak for the public?

Or is Mr. Paddock, Resources Manager of Commander Industries Incorporated, the self-anointed spokesman for the public—telling the public what it should and what it should not have?—E.F.D.

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE JAMES C. CORMAN OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Chairman: I welcome the opportunity to comment upon S. 2680, a bill to designate specified lands in the State of California as the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.

I have cosponsored identical legislation with Congressman Leggett in the House of Representatives (H.R. 13728) to include the Snow Mountain Area in the Wilderness System. I believe the Snow Mountain Area meets the criteria for inclusion in the Wilderness System and is well qualified for protection under the 1964 Wilderness Law.

The Snow Mountain Area, located in the Mendocino National Forest in Northern California, includes 37,000 unspoiled acres. At the present time, the U.S. Forest Service extends protection against exploitation to only two small areas within the Snow Mountain area. The rest of the area is open to further development. Recently, the area has been subjected to timber harvesting on the north, road construction on the south and development of nearby St. John Mountain.

Logging and other commercial interests present a grave problem to the protection of the Snow Mountain area. Although the Forest Service acknowledges the low timber value of this area, logging and other commercial interests prevail. Pressures to expand logging activity will undoubtedly continue unless this area is federally protected.

I do not believe the wild and natural character of this area should be marred. This primitive natural forest land will be much more beneficial to the people of California and the nation if left unspoiled. Inclusion of the Snow Mountain area in the Wilderness System would directly benefit the major population areas of Sacramento and San Francisco.

Under the terms of the 1964 Wilderness Act the wild character of the Snow Mountain Area would be preserved. No commercial enterprise, permanent or temporary roads, motor vehicles, motorized equipment or motorboats, structures, or installations would be allowed.

The protection of some public lands has long been an objective of the Congress. A nation such as ours, which has forged from East to West destroying vast wildernesses on the way, has a unique moral obligation to preserve part of our country in a state approaching that of which our forefathers found it. I believe the inclusion of the Snow Mountain Area in the Wilderness System will recall for future Americans a valuable part of our heritage.

[H.R. 13728, 92d Cong., 2d sess.]

A BILL To designate certain lands in the State of California as wilderness

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with subsection 3(b) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132(b)), certain lands in the Mendocino National Forest, California, which comprise approximately thirty-seven thousand acres as depicted on a map entitled "Snow Mountain Defacto Wilderness Area", dated June 1971 are hereby designated as wilderness and shall be known as the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.

SEC. 2. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file a map and a legal description of the wilderness area with the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, and such description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided, however,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal description and map may be made.

SEC. 3. The wilderness area designated by this Act shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE JAMES C. CORMAN OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Chairman: I welcome the opportunity to comment upon S. 2680, a bill to designate specified lands in the State of California as the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.

I have cosponsored identical legislation with Congressman Leggett in the House of Representatives (H.R. 13728) to include the Snow Mountain Area in the Wilderness System. I believe the Snow Mountain Area meets the criteria for inclusion in the Wilderness System and is well qualified for protection under the 1964 Wilderness Law.

The Snow Mountain Area, located in the Mendocino National Forest in Northern California, includes 37,000 unspoiled acres. At the present time, the U.S. Forest Service extends protection against exploitation to only two small areas within the Snow Mountain area. The rest of the area is open to further development. Recently, the area has been subjected to timber harvesting on the north, road construction on the south and development of nearby St. John Mountain.

Logging and other commercial interests present a grave problem to the protection of the Snow Mountain area. Although the Forest Service acknowledges the low timber value of this area, logging and other commercial interests prevail. Pressures to expand logging activity will undoubtedly continue unless this area is federally protected.

I do not believe the wild and natural character of this area should be marred. This primitive natural forest land will be much more beneficial to the people of California and the nation if left unspoiled. Inclusion of the Snow Mountain area in the Wilderness System would directly benefit the major population areas of Sacramento and San Francisco.

Under the terms of the 1964 Wilderness Act the wild character of the Snow Mountain Area would be preserved. No commercial enterprise, permanent or temporary roads, motor vehicles, motorized equipment or motorboats, structures or installations would be allowed.

The protection of some public lands has long been an objective of the Congress. A nation such as ours, which has forged from East to West destroying vast wildernesses on the way, has a unique moral obligation to preserve part of our country in a state approaching that of which our forefathers found it. I believe the inclusion of the Snow Mountain Area in the Wilderness System will recall for future Americans a valuable part of our heritage.

STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN JEROME R. WALDIE ON H.R. 9086, AND S. 2680

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before the Subcommittee on behalf of S. 2680 which is identical to H.R. 9806 which I have co-sponsored with Congressman Leggett and several other Colleagues.

This bill will provide protection to the Snow Mountain area of the Mendocino National Forest by including it under the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

This unique area is not threatened by timber operations which, if allowed to proceed, will greatly jeopardize the environment and the wildlife in this area.

Snow Mountain is doubly important to preserve as a Wilderness Area because of its relatively close proximity to the urban centers of Northern California and Southern Oregon.

I am fearful of the drastic consequences of timbering operations in the area because of resultant erosion and flooding problems that accompany such operations.

California and the Nation can ill-afford the loss of any wilderness areas to timbering, motor recreation vehicles and erosion-caused floods.

I would at this time like to commend the Subcommittee for its action on this important legislation and also commend my Colleague Bob Leggett on his outstanding leadership in this matter.

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE,
JOINT COMMITTEE ON OPEN SPACE LANDS,
Sacramento, Calif., May 16, 1972.

HON ALAN CRANSTON,
*U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR ALAN: In response to a request from Dobie Jenkins, I am submitting a prepared statement for the hearing on S. 2680 to be heard on May 23rd.

It is my sincere hope that this important bill is enacted into law. If I can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

JOHN F. DUNLAP.

Enclosures.

REMARKS BY ASSEMBLYMAN JOHN F. DUNLAP, CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee: My name is John F. Dunlap. I am a member of the California State Assembly, representing the 5th Assembly District of Napa and Solano Counties. Thank you, Senator Cranston, for allowing me to submit my comments on S. 2680, the proposed Snow Mountain Wilderness, for the record.

As our society becomes more urban and as the population increases, we have all come to realize the urgent need for preserving open space lands and wilderness areas. It is important not only to preserve our natural heritage, represented by scenic and ecologically important areas, but to provide a refuge for man to experience the spiritual rejuvenation that the Wilderness can supply.

The area we are discussing today, Snow Mountain, is one of the most unique and ecologically sensitive areas on the California landscape. Snow Mountain comprises three adjacent summits about 6,500 feet in elevation, which provide a

rather isolated terrain with a very complex topography. Black bears, mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes and blacktail deer roam the area. Trout abound in the mountain streams, especially the middle fork of Stony Creek, the spectacular gorge of which carries sparkling water toward the Sacramento River. Valley oak, ponderosa pine, digger pine, knobcone and Jeffrey pines, white fir, alpine red fir and many lesser plant species interesting to the scientific and wilderness visitor can be found between the foothill country at 2,000 feet, which is along the aera's fringes, and Snow Mountain's two peaks about a mile higher.

Like many of the areas along the California coastal strip and those regions adjacent to it, where some 84% of the state's population resides, Snow Mountain is being threatened by incompatible land use. This includes a proposed ski development, plans for commercial logging and assaults by trail bikes and other motorized vehicles. It is important to point out that according to the U.S. Forest Service, a wilderness classification will have little impact on the local timber economy: "Timber values do not preclude wilderness establishment," declares the Service's report. The upper elevations, because of rather gentle terrain and openness of the plant cover, have been particularly abused by trail bikes according to the California Natural Plant Society.

This legislation, S. 2680, will provide this area of California with a needed wilderness preserve at a time when other natural resources in Mendocino County are being threatened by population pressure and urbanization. For the record, I am submitting a recent study on the Mendocino Coast, entitled "A Vanishing Resource", which was conducted by law students at the University of California, Davis, School of Law. This study shows what is taking place on areas not too far from Snow Mountain. It is my hope that Snow Mountain can be preserved before pressures from incompatible uses reach a crisis proportion as has happened on the California coastline.

Decisions on the preservation of wilderness areas call for recognition of quality, intangible, future generations and other forms of life. As mentioned, the wilderness values for man that are present at Snow Mountain are numerous: stress removal, personal achievement, spiritual, nature appreciation, aesthetic, quality recreation, fishing, creativity and scientific achievement. But a major value that must be emphasized is an ecological orientation; that man is a part of the biosphere and hence has responsibility thereof. "Wilderness areas," as one noted ecologist has stated, "are the only yardstick we have or can have of the long interaction of natural ecological laws in the absence of man."

In acting favorably on S. 2680, you will be saying that ecological recognition of Snow Mountain is more than survival; it is also recognition of quality for man and other forms of life. Wilderness provides an undisturbed area and habitat where animals and plants can live in a natural world without manmade modifications; many animals cannot survive without wilderness. In this sense, wilderness recognition and preservation may be the form of an ecological conscience and ethic in that it provides that plants and animals have "natural rights" of their own. It provides that man can recognize his responsibility as the dominant animal of the biosphere without measuring living things for his own interests or utilitarian values, i.e., that other living things may have a life of their own without man's interference.

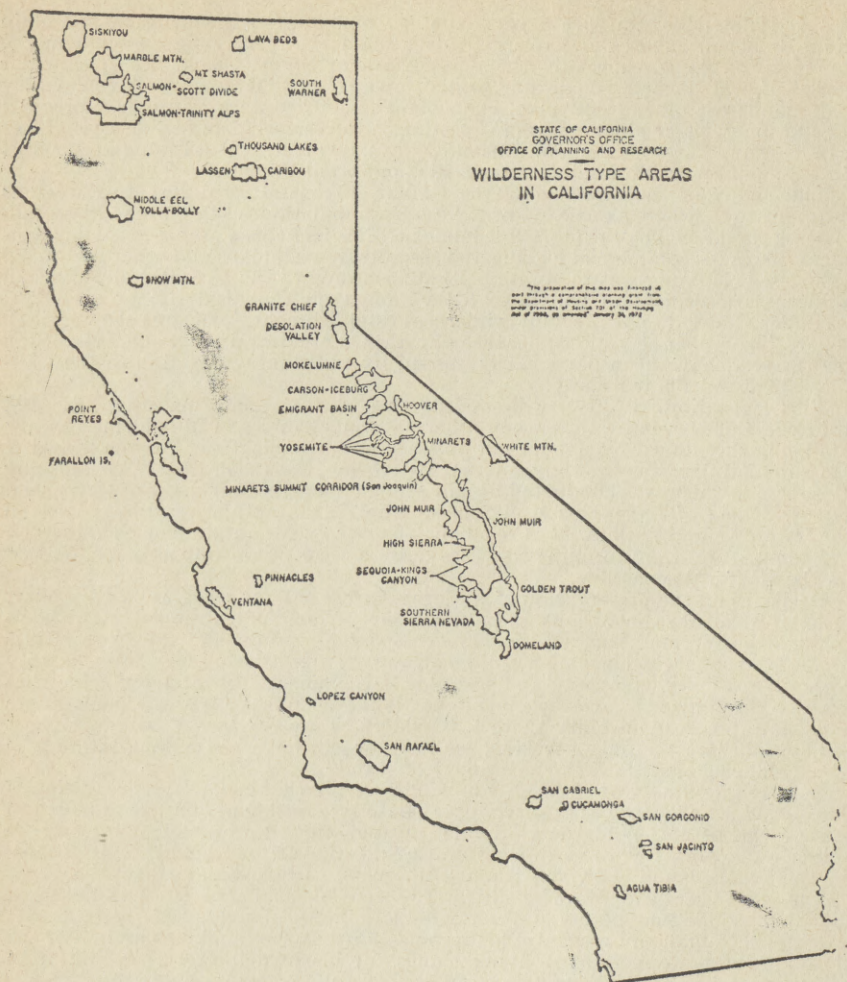
For these reasons, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I urge you to vote "aye" on S. 2680. Again, thank you for this opportunity to submit these remarks for the record.

Excerpt From—STATE OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND POLICY BY
JOHN S. TOOKER, DIRECTOR,

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

State Wildlife Protected Areas.—This map shows additional areas within the State that are protected as wildlife habitat.

Wilderness Type Areas in California.—These wilderness type areas are proposed as areas of critical concern to the State of California and are considered to have natural environmental qualities that need protection as scientific, scenic and educational resources for the people of the State. Some are already designated wilderness areas and some are proposed.



D. Wilderness type areas identified by the resources agency

Established Wilderness Areas:

Marble Mountain (Siskiyou)
 Thousand Lakes (Shasta)
 Caribou (Lassen)
 Middle Eel Yolla-Bolly (Trinity-
 Tehama)
 Mokelumne
 Hoover
 Minarets
 John Muir (Madera-Fresno)

Established Primitive Areas:

Salmon-Trinity Alps (Siskiyou-
 Trinity)
 South Warner (Modoc)

Ventana (Monterey)
 San Rafael (Santa Barbara)
 San Gabriel (Los Angeles)
 Cucamonga (San Bernardino)
 San Geronimo (San Bernardino)
 San Jacinto (Riverside)
 Desolation Valley
 Dome Land (Tulare-Kern)

Emigrant Basin
 Agua Tibia (San Diego-Riverside)
 Monarch or High Sierra (Fresno)

Proposed Wilderness Areas:

Siskiyou	Pinnacles
Salmon-Scott Divide	Lopez Canyon (San Luis Obispo)
Mt. Shasta	Snow Mountain (Lake, Colusa, Glenn)
Lava Beds	Carson-Iceberg (Alpine-Tuolumne)
Lassen	Yosemite
Granite Chief (Placer)	Minarets Summit Corridor or San Joaquin
Sequoia-Kings Canyon	White Mountain
Southern Sierra Nevada (Tulare-Kern)	Golden Trout (Tulare)
Pt. Reyes	
Farallon Islands (San Francisco)	

TUCSON, ARIZ., May 18, 1972.

Hon. CLINTON P. ANDERSON,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR ANDERSON: This letter is to indicate my support for the proposed establishment of the Aldo Leopold Wilderness in the area of the Black Range in Southwestern New Mexico. I would appreciate this letter's being made a part of the record of the hearing before the Public Lands Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. I understand that the hearing was to take place today but that the record will remain open for a short time. The bill containing the subject proposal is S. 3256.

I understand that S. 3256 calls for a 188,179 acre wilderness as proposed by the Forest Service. I support this proposal as a minimum, but urge that the area be expanded to 231,737 acres as advocated by the conservation groups, including the Wilderness Society and others (see the Exhibit on Page 77 of the proposal published by the Forest Service).

It is important that the Aldo Leopold Wilderness be established because this action will be a step toward restoration of the original Gila Wilderness. The Mogollon Plateau, which includes both the present Gila Wilderness and the proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness is very important for its biological values. To do adequate honor to the preservation of these values the greater part of the Mogollon Plateau in New Mexico should be safeguarded as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The biotic dynamics of the Mogollon Plateau, including the Black Range and the proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness, is intensely interesting in scientific terms yet this aspect has not been adequately investigated nor have the flora and fauna been well studied from any point of view. It would be a genuine tragedy if this fascinating area were to be destroyed, damaged, or even just changed through the actions of man, particularly if this should happen before we really understand what is there.

A 231,737 acre Aldo Leopold Wilderness should be established for scientific reasons if for no other. The extension of the Forest Service proposal is necessary in order not only to take in all the surrounding country that is suitable, but also to place the boundaries at lower altitudes so as to include as much as possible of the rich vegetation in the 6,000 to 7,000 foot band.

I urge that the Subcommittee approve the extended Aldo Leopold Wilderness.

Respectfully,

HENRY M. ZELLER.

TUCSON, ARIZ., May 17, 1972.

Hon. CLINTON P. ANDERSON,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR ANDERSON: Please include this letter in the record for the hearing to be held May 18, 1972, concerning S. 3256, the proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness in Southwestern New Mexico.

As a long-time resident of the Southwest, I would like to support wilderness designation for the Aldo Leopold area. Due to pressures of overpopulation and industry, our few remaining natural areas continue to shrink. In the past, such exploitation of our irreplaceable resources was not alarming, for it appeared then that the land was limitless. Now, people are beginning to realize that the world we inhabit is finite, that our stewardship or lack of it will determine the kind of world our children will inherit.

People need wilderness. Through scientific study of undisturbed nature specialists can better gain an understanding of where man has been, where he should go. Wilderness is also a refuge where the average man, for very little expense, can find the quiet he badly needs and so rarely can find in his everyday world. Faced by an increasingly noisy and overcrowded world, this wilderness will be of even greater value to our children.

That is why I feel that, especially here in the Southwest where there are still natural lands to be saved, we should do everything in our power to preserve the land as a legacy for future Americans to enjoy. In view of this, the best interests of coming generations would be served by enlarging the proposal to 321,737 acres, as a number of groups have recommended.

Sincerely,

PETER WILD.

WESTERN WOOD PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION,
Portland, Oreg., May 11, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: Please include this statement in the hearing on S. 3256, to designate the Aldo Leopold Wilderness, Gila National Forest, New Mexico.

Western Wood Products Association is a trade association comprised of softwood lumber manufacturers in the twelve western United States. Members of this Association, as well as other segments of the national forest products industry, have long recognized the importance of, and the need for, wilderness. Our members in Arizona and New Mexico supported Forest Service Wilderness classification recommendations for Sycamore Canyon and the heavily timbered Mount Baldy Primitive areas. These, and other proposals, have always been individually evaluated with recommendations made on the merits of each particular area.

Wilderness, aesthetic, and scenic values are indeed vital considerations in public forest land management programs. Along with forage, water, recreation, and timber they are part of a large spectrum of natural resource necessities contributing to a better life for all of our people. Members of this Association believe that this spectrum of necessities can best be met through support and implementation of the Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960.

We believe that public lands are capable of accommodating a great variety of uses and needs. Uses that should be determined to be in the best interest of all this nation's citizens. Uses that recognize shelter, clothing, food, and water, as well as recreational needs, for us all. Uses that are accommodated by managing lands in a fashion that will yield the greatest net social benefit to local, regional, and national needs. Uses that are based upon need, rather than desire.

In the Forest Service Manual, Title 2300-Recreation Management; Title 2321 Establishment, Modification or Elimination; and Title 2321.1-Criteria, it is stated that "To merit recommendations of the Forest Service for inclusion in the national wilderness preservation system, the area involved must meet the tests of suitability and need."

"Availability" of the Black Range seems to be foregone, but we do strongly and urgently question 'suitability' and particularly, 'need'.

Title 2321.13, states "There must be clear evidence of current or future public need for additional formally designated wildernesses in the general areas involved."

"At least the following factors", the Forest Service is told, "must be considered in determining whether a proposed area is needed for wilderness: Location, size, type, and capacity of other wildernesses in the general vicinity and their distances from the proposed area". This includes not only national forest wilderness, but wilderness in national parks, national wildlife refuges and game ranges.

Does the Black Range—Aldo Leopold recommendation meet these specifications? We believe it does not.

The already established Gila Wilderness Area is only eleven miles from the Black Range. Although every acre on earth is unique, the Black Range does not contain anything that cannot be found in the nearby Gila Wilderness. It is, in effect, more of the same.

The Gila Wilderness, embracing 433,690 acres is much more than twice the size of the Black Range. It is, in fact, one of the largest in the United States. The Gila's size and character is such that its potential and capacity greatly exceeds the Black Range.

We think it is self-evident that no need can be demonstrated for wilderness on a local level.

But what if viewed regionally? In the Southwestern Region—Arizona and New Mexico alone have 679,436 acres of wilderness. Thus, regionally, we cannot see any justifiable need for still more wilderness.

Nationally, but including only National Forest lands, more than 14,000,000 acres are presently managed as wilderness. This included 58 wilderness and 30 primitive areas.

But this isn't all. Another 107 areas covering 910,551 acres have been set aside as archaeological, historical, geological and natural areas.

About half of the 187 million acre national forest system—or 96.7 million acres—are classified for multiple-use management. The big difference here is that the 96.7 million acres is not set aside, but is managed and available for recreation as well as for other uses.

Summing up, we find that over 15 million acres of national forest are already devoted exclusively to wilderness or special uses—and about one-third of the 15 million is timbered.

These figures we have mentioned do not reflect the millions of acres set aside in national parks and monuments. The question seems to be begging itself—how much can this nation afford in set-asides?

Housing is a national need with which the forest products industry is especially familiar. The Congress has recognized the needs of many of our people and has established a national goal of 26 million new housing units in ten years. Production facilities and processes are being modified to help meet the demand for low-cost, mass produced, housing. Production will have to increase somewhat over 70% of present levels if we are to meet the need and the goal. Our ability to meet the goal, and the demand, is seriously affected by efforts to set aside public timber lands having operable, commercial, timber volumes.

Now, there are those among us who will contend that the timber volume in the Black Range is not needed because it has never been included in productive timber acreage totals or calculated in annual allowable harvests. Such reasoning is shortsighted. The need is in the future, and not too distant either. The need is arising because of increasing population—whether we like it or not—and because of continuing erosion and diversion of productive timber lands into other uses.

We are all well aware that the amount of land on this earth is fixed—and that the number of people making demands upon that fixed amount of land is increasing every year. All of us continue to demand and extract amenities of the forest and other natural resources in our continuing search for a better quality of life and living.

This fixed land base, and our exploding population, adds urgency to our need to devote land to uses which will contribute the greatest long term benefit to all our people. Keeping management options open to permit the most desirable combination of uses, can best meet our urgent needs. Locking the Black Range up forecloses such options and denies existence of admitted vital necessities.

Nor is the Black Range apt to change substantially if it were removed from primitive area designation. The rugged character that predominates much of its area precludes any change in the foreseeable future on most of the area. We believe that it is not in the best interest of our nation to remove some of the management options available to the federal administrator by giving the Black Range wilderness status. We feel that full multiple use management provides the best balance of uses for the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run.

We think the "greatest good for the greatest number" is sound management philosophy. We think wise and productive land use can help meet national needs and goals.

We can find no need for more wilderness in New Mexico and we think that when members of the Senate Interior Committee examine all available factual evidence, it will not find any need for more wilderness.

It is our hope that the Committee will recommend that the Black Range be removed from its primitive area designation and that it be recommended for full multiple use designation rather than wilderness.

Sincerely,

ERWIN KULOSS, *Area Manager.*

WESTERN WOOD PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION,
Portland, Oreg., May 23, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: Please include this statement in the hearing record on S. 2680, the Snow Mountain Wilderness Bill, and on S. 3027, the Lopez Canyon Wilderness Bill. This statement is on behalf of the California Forest Practice Committee of Western Wood Products Association. WWPA represents the producers of 82 percent of California lumber outside the Redwood Region.

We have made field studies of Snow Mountain and have participated in the public involvement meetings which the Forest Service has conducted as a part of their multi-disciplinary study of the area. The multiple use plan presently in effect recognizes the most appropriate public benefits which can be enjoyed in perpetuity on this area. Wilderness was thoroughly considered and finally rejected as an appropriate use of Snow Mountain for the following reasons:

1. Eventual detriment to the big game population due to lack of pending needed habitat improvement.
2. Lost opportunities for scenic road development.
3. Loss of potential outdoor recreation use estimated from 10,000 to 18,000 visitor days per year.
4. Adverse impacts on local economy and government due to a reduction in timber harvest.
5. The area does not qualify for inclusion under the Wilderness Act of 1964 for two important reasons: (A) Kinds and amount of established use. (B) Private land inholdings.

The California Forest Practice Committee recognizes that the Forest Service has ample authority to protect and enhance the natural values of Snow Mountain, and they are exercising this authority. There is a large roadless scenic area which is complemented by a vehicle control zone. This type of coordinated management allows many recreational activities to take place without serious conflict among types of use.

All interested persons and publics had ample opportunity to be heard during the public involvement that was an integral part of the decisionmaking process which charted the course for the multiple use land management plan now in force. We urge the Subcommittee on Public Lands and the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to reaffirm the well-founded management direction for Snow Mountain by denying a superimposed wilderness as proposed in S. 2680.

The Lopez Canyon area is land largely suited for recreation and watershed management. There are many evidences of use which should preclude classification as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Constructed firebreaks, power transmission installations and conductors, as well as low standard roads are man-made intrusions on the area which do not conform to wilderness standards.

It can be argued that there are, in fact, examples of a variety of non-conforming uses existing in wilderness today, but we believe that this is no justification for degradation of quality in the present system by inclusion of substandard land. The potential is there through the proper application of land management techniques to create a very desirable recreation area which will provide much more needed public benefits. For these reasons, we oppose S. 3027.

Thank you for consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

ROBERT MABEN,
Chairman, California Forest Practice Committee.

SONOMA, CALIF.,
May 17, 1972.

Senator ALAN CRANSTON,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: I wish, as a constituent, to inform you of my strong support for the two Wilderness Bills affecting Northern California: The Lopez Canyon Wilderness—S. 3027 and the Snow Mountain Wilderness—S. 2680. I strongly desire that these two areas be protected by establishing them as dedicated wilderness

areas. It is my opinion that the "multiple use" of the area favored by the Forest Service would be highly detrimental to both the short and long range interests of the people of this area.

I sincerely hope that my letter can be placed in the hearing record to be held on 18, May.

Yours faithfully,

LEE E. TITUS, M.D.

ALBION, CALIF., May 18, 1972.

Senator ALAN CRANSTON,
*U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR CRANSTON: This is to tell you we are definitely in favor of the Snow Mountain Wilderness—S. 2680 and Lopez Canyon Wilderness—S. 3027. These two areas are excellent for wilderness protection. California needs wilderness areas available to its citizens within reach of large urban areas. We certainly urge a logging (any logging) ban, as well as banning road-building and related developments. Trail scooters and off-road vehicles must also be outlawed in these wilderness areas. We disagree with the Forest Service position of using these areas for "multiple use" as we have seen results of areas being used for multiple use. What use are forests after they have been destroyed by logging?

Please put our letter into the hearing record if possible. We certainly commend you for your sponsorship of these bills.

Concerned Citizens,

TERRALD M. JOHNSON.
JUDY A. JOHNSON.

ATASCADERO REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB FEDERATED,
Atascadero, Calif., May 11, 1972.

Senator ALAN CRANSTON,
*U.S. Senate, Committee on Labor and Public Welfare,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR CRANSTON: Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for the hearing record of the bill S. 3027, the bill to establish the Lopez Canyon National Wilderness Area.

In addition to being President of Atascadero Republican Women, I am also a Mother and a Real Estate Broker. My son is in the Air Force and during a conversation with him today, I mentioned your letter and request. Jeff replied, "Oh, hey, if you want additional testimony, ask some of the guys here. When I tell them I am from San Luis Obispo County, those who have been there tell me they think it is the most beautiful place they have ever seen!"

"The Appraiser" February, 1972 carried a speech by California Real Estate Commissioner Robert W. Karpe which was given before the open education session of the National Institute of Farm and Land Brokers in Las Vegas last January 22, 1972. Here is an excerpt which I think is pertinent to this: "I have a study that is currently being prepared for the Governor. A part of this study concerns roads and erosion, and takes an area where there was a particular subdivision of 4.5 square miles and with 7.2 miles of roads. In this area the forest land produced 75/1000 of a ton of sediment per acre per year. The grassland in that particular area produced 75/100 of a ton of sediment per acre per year. The agricultural land produced 15.1 tons per acre per year. The roads in that particular subdivision produced 151 tons of sediment per acre per year. The study says that in Tahoe and areas similar to that, roadbuilding is causing 500 times as much pollution as, for instance, sewage."

Many of us who live in San Luis Obispo County are "refugees" from other areas which have been destroyed by developers and so-called "progress". I have lived in Chicago and Akron, Ohio. I have seen first hand the "blunders in perpetuity" in Cleveland, Ohio and Los Angeles, California. Let us not repeat those mistakes in San Luis Obispo County. Let us preserve something for our children and grandchildren that is beautiful and lasting. Let them have something they can remember in the barracks as "the most beautiful place in the world"!

Thank you.

MARGARET WAGNER, *President.*

HORIZON TOURS,
S. Lake Tahoe, Calif., May 17, 1972.

Senator ALAN CRANSTON,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CRANSTON: I should like to applaud your efforts to pass S. 3027 and S. 2680 and include these two regions into wilderness status.

I live at Lake Tahoe, also a beautiful area but losing its appeal by overcrowding. Two additional wilderness areas will provide alternative areas and relieve some of our congestion.

I urge you to override Forest Service objections to these bills and expedite their passage.

Please include this letter in the hearing record.

Cordially,

WILBUR E. TWING.

GEORGIA PACIFIC CORP.,
Ukiah, Calif., May 15, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: We wish to register a strong protest to Senate bill S. 2680. We have followed closely the chain of events as the area concerned was first studied by the U.S. Forest Service, then designated as a multiple use area based on the study and public input.

The Forest Service people worked long and hard on the study and I know did not make their decision capriciously.

This turn of events was unacceptable to those who were proponents of the Wilderness lockup philosophy. They have now come up with this legislation which proposes to ignore the considerable work that has been spent on a reasonable management plan, and lock up the original study area, plus 10,000 additional acres.

No doubt you have been given considerable information which backs up the argument for multiple use management. I would like to give you my personal opinion as one who has spent all of his adult life in the management and enjoyment of our wild land resources. My neighbor and I took our horses and rode over the area one weekend last year. We came away with the impression that anything other than a multiple use management plan would not serve the best public interest.

The Snow Mountain area does not meet the Wilderness criteria as set down by the Wilderness Act. The area includes too many intrusions by man. It is a recreational area much needed by the close by urban multitudes. The weekend I spent on the area was in June before all the snow had melted and I was surprised at the many people using the area. We came upon people at nearly every bend in the trail. This intensive recreational use precludes its designation as wilderness.

From almost any vantage point on the area the works of man can be seen; the forest access road systems, the farm patchwork of the Sacramento Valley, and the recreational developments around nearby Clear Lake and Lake Pillsbury. It offers no unique Wilderness experience.

It does have some beautiful high altitude plateau country and some rugged picturesque canyon country in the Stoney Creek gorge. These are in the area designated as scenic vehicular control.

I have considerable contact with government and private land managers in California. I hear the same story everywhere. Accessible recreational facilities are jam packed. The State Park camping facilities have been booked up for the Memorial Day and July 4th weekends under their reservation system for some time. The Bureau of Land Management's facilities are used to the point where they are constantly concerned about resource damage around the limited developments.

We, of course, are concerned with the lack of management of the timber stands, outside the scenic areas which are largely decadent and producing little in the line of wood fibre. Without management this timber will either be burned by wild fires or in time die and be lost to the public who needs them for shelter and employment.

We hope that rational decisions will be made in Washington that will allow this portion of our north coast country to remain under proper management.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM F. SMITH, *Resource Manager.*

TUCSON, ARIZ., May 13, 1972.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: The Forest Service has an excellent proposal for the Aldo Leopold Wilderness. They have managed to exclude most of the privately owned land and developments in the area while keeping the boundaries on definable features. With a willingness to accept a good idea even if it's someone else's the Forest Service had included four additional areas which well deserve wilderness status.

Page 21 of the proposal for Aldo Leopold Wilderness contains the statement "In order to obtain a boundary of the highest standard, some areas possessing Wilderness characteristics were left out." This statement points out the difference in our point of view and that of the Forest Service. We are more interested in giving wilderness status to qualifying land than in perfect boundaries.

We also feel some of the reasons given for excluding areas are not required by the Wilderness Act. We feel it is important to us to include in wilderness some varied habitats. Conservationist additions O and N contain gentle terrain which the Forest Service objects to because of easy motorized access. It seems important to us to solve the jeep problem and preserve some terrain other than rugged steep slopes. In referring to areas J and D the Forest Service objects to Wilderness status because of the possibility of mineralization. If it's really mineralized and a claim is being kept up that is a good reason, but just the possibility is not. In area J the existence of Hillsboro Peak Fire Lookout should cause no more problem than the Lookout at Reeds Peak, in the Forest Service recommended wilderness. Evidence of past logging, if the land is returning to the natural climax vegetation, is not sufficient reason to exclude an area from wilderness status. For this reason we feel the Forest Service objection to exclusion 6, areas L, M, and O should be reconsidered.

With either the conservationist additions or the boundaries the Forest Service supports, Aldo Leopold Wilderness deserves Wilderness Status. It will be fitting Tribute to name this Wilderness after Aldo Leopold.

Sincerely,

DR. AND MRS. CHARLES COSTON.

DENVER COLO., May 11, 1972.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: Please add this letter to the hearing record on S. 1198 concerning the study of the Indian Peaks area in Colorado.

The Wilderness Workshop of the Colorado Open Space Council and the entire Colorado Open Space Council support the study of the Indian Peaks area. We are frankly disappointed at the statement by the Forest Service at the hearings you held. The Forest Service has repeatedly emphasized the amount of information that they have about the state's roadless areas. This was especially evident when they were asked to extend the current Roadless Area Inventory. On many occasions they said that there was ample information available without even field studies. We realize that there is a difference between the selection of candidates for wilderness study and a complete wilderness study as is being requested in Indian Peaks. However, since Indian Peaks has been specially managed for several years the 18 months, mentioned in the bill, should be ample time.

We hope that the committee and Congress will approve S. 1198 and direct the Forest Service to do the study.

Cordially,

CHARLES A. WANNER.

RESOLUTION—LOPEZ AREA, EDNA FARM CENTER

Whereas there is proposed legislation to create a wilderness area in the watershed lands above Lopez Lake, and

Whereas the water supply in Lopez Lake is important to the environment and economy of the County of San Luis Obispo, and

Whereas proper protective maintenance of the watershed area is essential, and

Whereas it is important that protective maintenance, adequate and programmed as economical as possible, be enacted: Therefore be it

Resolved, That no public funds be used to acquire private lands in the watershed area, and such private lands be offered tax benefits and zoning aids to encourage that they be retained in an open space condition; and be it further

Resolved, That public lands in the proposed wilderness area be managed for maximum watershed purpose with proper programming for fire protection to assure preservation of the necessary vegetation cover.

By action of the Edna Farm Center at its regular meeting May 4, 1972 this resolution is to be directed to U.S. Senator Cranston, Senator Frank Church, Chairman Senate Interior Committee, Congressman Talcott, and San Luis Obispo County Supervisor Mankins.

This resolution is also directed to the San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau Legislative Committee, and the San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau Board of Directors for endorsement.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution which was adopted by the Edna Farm Center at a regularly scheduled meeting held in San Luis Obispo on May 4, 1972.

By WILLIAM E. FROOM, *Center Chairman*.

The above resolution has been read and endorsed by the Chairman of San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau Legislative Committee on May 16, 1972.

ELMER MEHLSCHAU,
*Chairman, Tax and Legislative Committee,
San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau.*

ARROYO GRANDE, CALIF., *April 8, 1972.*

HON. BURT L. TALCOTT,
*House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: There is, in San Luis Obispo County, an area known as Zone 3, which is a zone of the countywide Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Zone 3 encompasses the watershed of Lopez Lake and all that area below the dam that derives direct benefit from the Lopez Project. There is a Zone 3 Advisory Committee that acts as a liaison between the residents and taxpayers of Zone 3 and the County Board of Supervisors. The Advisory Committee was presented with the proposal that the watershed of Lopez Lake be classed as a "wilderness area".

The residents of Zone 3 are entitled to the best possible protection of the Lopez watershed. These people appreciate the interest and concern of the residents of San Luis Obispo County. They feel, however, that the ultimate disposition of the watershed should rest principally with them, the investors. The lake has become a popular recreation area for people outside San Luis Obispo County. No doubt there has been an economic advantage to the county in general and to the Zone 3 in particular. Zone 3 Advisory Committee has not taken a stand as to whether the watershed is to be classed as Wilderness Area, Scenic Area, or left unclassified. It has not been clearly indicated which is best. Advocates of each classification contend theirs is best.

The county in cooperation with Zone 3 Advisory Committee, is working on a zoning ordinance that would be very restrictive as to use of the Lopez watershed. Perhaps this ordinance is the best control. It would permit fire control, but would restrict development other than recreational.

The original Zone 3 was much larger than the present boundaries. Because of lack of cooperation of those on the fringe, the zone size was reduced to the present smaller size. The concerned citizens who voted a \$12,000,000 bond issue to finance a water supply are those who derive a direct downstream benefit. Now there are those outside the Zone 3 boundaries who wish to dictate to those who are directly concerned, by deciding for us whether our watershed shall be protected from fire or whether we may be allowed to have any control over the area that feeds our lake and our assured water supply.

Sincerely,

J. O. PENCE, O.D.

RESOLUTION—ARROYO GRANDE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB OPPOSING PROPOSED
WILDERNESS CLASSIFICATION OF LOPEZ CANYON

Whereas legislation has been introduced to establish Wilderness Classification for Lopez Canyon, and

Whereas such classification of this area would defeat its own stated purpose of protecting the area from misuse by attracting crowds of visitors who would over-use and destroy the scenic beauty of the area, and

Whereas the Lopez Canyon comprises an important portion of the watershed of Lopez Lake, which is the main water supply for the southwesterly portion of San Luis Obispo County, and in which nearly twenty million dollars of local, State and Federal monies have been invested, and

Whereas a fire denuding the Lopez Canyon would cause deposition of silt and debris in Lopez Lake causing irreparable damage to the lake and serious reduction in the capacity of the lake and

Whereas the U.S. Forest Service has recommended that Lopez Canyon be classified as a Scenic Area, which would be amenable to more flexible control by the Forest Service and would give the necessary protection to the wild-life and scenic beauty of the area without the handicaps presented by Wilderness Classification, and

Whereas the area in question does not qualify for Wilderness Classification under requirements of the Wilderness Act of 1964: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Arroyo Grande Sportsmen's Club reaffirms its stand taken May 21, 1969 opposing the establishment of a Wilderness Area in Lopez Canyon, and be it further

Resolved, That the Arroyo Grande Sportsmen's Club supports and recommends the establishment of a Scenic Area in Lopez Canyon as proposed by the U.S. Forest Service, and be it further

Resolved, That we request that public hearings be held in San Luis Obispo County whereby citizens of this area may present their views concerning these proposals.

Adopted by the Arroyo Grande Sportsmen's Club on January 19, 1972.

DAVID W. HOOK, *Chairman, Board of Directors.*

RESOLUTION NO. 971 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF ARROYO GRANDE, CALIF.

Whereas legislation has been introduced to establish Wilderness Classification for Lopez Canyon; and

Whereas such classification of this area would defeat its own stated purpose of protecting the area from misuse by attracting crowds of visitors who would over-use and destroy the scenic beauty of the area; and

Whereas the classification of Lopez Canyon as a wilderness area would cause limitation of roadways resulting in interference with fire protection throughout the area; and

Whereas the Lopez Canyon comprises an important portion of the watershed of Lopez Lake, which is the main water supply for the City of Arroyo Grande and other communities in the southwesterly portion of San Luis Obispo County, and in which nearly twenty million dollars of local, State and Federal monies have been invested; and

Whereas it has been estimated that denuding of an area by fire causes a loss of approximately 40,000 cubic feet of soil per section of land, and such a loss in the case of Lopez Lake could displace more than 30 acre feet of water storage capacity; and

Whereas a fire denuding the Lopez Canyon would cause deposition of silt and debris in Lopez Lake causing irreparable damage to the Lake and serious reduction in the capacity of the Lake, which would not only damage the water supply for Arroyo Grande, Pismo Beach, Grover City, Oceano and Avila Beach, but also reduce flood damage protection afforded to the City of Arroyo Grande by Lopez Lake; and

Whereas the United States Forest Service has recommended that Lopez Canyon be classified as a Scenic Area, which would be amenable to more flexible control by the Forest Service and would give the necessary protection to the wild-life and scenic beauty of the area without the handicaps presented by Wilderness Classification; and

Whereas the area in question does not qualify for Wilderness Classification under requirements of the Wilderness Act of 1964: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the City Council of the City of Arroyo Grande opposes the establishment of a Wilderness Area in Lopez Canyon; and be it further

Resolved, That this City Council supports and recommends the establishment of a Scenic Area in Lopez Canyon as proposed by the United States Forest Service, and be it further

Resolved, That this City Council requests that public hearings be held in San Luis Obispo County whereby citizens of this area may present their views concerning these proposals.

On motion of Councilwoman Thompson, seconded by Councilman Talley and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES: Council Members Schlegel, Thompson, Wood, Talley and Mayor Levine.

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted this 8th day of February, 1972.

Attest:

KENNETH LEVINE, *Mayor*.

POLLY KINGSLEY, *City Clerk*.

I, Polly S. Kingsley, City Clerk of the City of Arroyo Grande, County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 971 is a true, full and correct copy of said resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Arroyo Grande at a regular meeting of said Council held on the 8th day of February, 1972.

Witness my hand and the seal of the City of Arroyo Grande affixed this 9th day of February, 1972.

[SEAL]

POLLY KINGSLEY,

City Clerk of the City of Arroyo Grande.

SAN LUIS OBISPO SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.,
San Luis Obispo, Calif., February 22, 1972.

The United States Forest Service has said they want to continue to manage this area. They have suggested that a designation of "Scenic Area" would be more appropriate. We heartily agree. We need true conservation coupled with management. We can have this combination with a "Scenic Area" classification.

Very truly yours,

JACK FERRIS, *President*.

CALIFORNIA WATERWAYS RECREATION ASSOCIATION,
Santa Margarita, Calif., February 29, 1972.

Senator ALAN CRANSTON,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

HON. SENATOR CRANSTON: Members of California Waterways Recreation Association voted unanimously to oppose the proposed Wilderness Area in Lopez Canyon.

We are most interested in keeping our few remaining hunting and recreation areas for easy access to all ages. Removal of roads would not only prevent full use but would make the area a potential fire problem.

As you know the proposed Lopez Wilderness Area is watershed for Lopez Lake. Fire damage to the area could cause pollution to the lake, water supply for the people of zone five.

With the population growth potential in this state in mind we feel it is very unwise to remove from the public, access and full use to land which is already theirs.

I am enclosing a copy of this organization's Aims and Objectives.

Our organization would support a Scenic Designation for the Lopez Area.

Sincerely,

ALYCE PORTER, *Secretary-Treasurer*.

HI-RIDGE LUMBER Co.,
Yreka, Calif., May 15, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: Hi-Ridge Lumber Company respectfully requests that our letter be made part of the record of your hearings on S. 2680 and S. 3027 scheduled for May 18, 1972.

Our company purchases all of its timber supply from National Forest timber sales. We did submit testimony at the time the Forest Service studied the Snow Mountain area. Subsequently the Forest Service designated two scenic areas and a vehicle control area. This decision was based upon testimony developed at a public meeting and subsequent written statements. S. 2680 as proposed would nullify the public involvement, and we urge that a local hearing be held in the area before further consideration of S. 2680.

The area covered by the proposed S. 3027, Lopez Canyon, does not qualify for inclusion as wilderness under the 1964 Wilderness Act. If recreational or scenic use would be the preferred management decision, then the Forest Service multiple-use planning process can implement such program and an Act of Congress would not be needed.

Very truly yours,

GERHART BENDIX.

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY,
Washington, D.C., May 23, 1972.

Dear Mr. Chairman: I have read the testimony of Lee Wilson, Harold Miossi and the Resolution of the City of San Luis Obispo in favor of S. 3027. I favor the enactment of the legislation and associate myself with the above testimony.

With every good wish, I am
Sincerely,

GEORGE MCGOVERN, *Senator.*

ELKHORN RANCH,
Bozeman, Mont., May 18, 1972.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Along with thousands of other thoughtful citizens we are anxiously watching the outcome of this consideration period while your committees are forming the bills to be presented to the Senate on the four National Parks, eight Wildlife Refugees and two National Forest areas for WILDERNESS designation.

In representing our two guest ranches, who are celebrating their fiftieth year ownership and operation, and our conservation minded guests and friends, I wish to express our concern.

We feel that the position taken by the National Parks in excluding valuable acreage from proper protection by insisting on enclaves, buffers and thresholds, and by adhering to a short sighted policy of inholdings, is fraught with grave dangers, especially in the matter of buffers and thresholds. These marginal areas we feel are most crucially in need of protection. Instead of helping the conservation purpose of the Wilderness designation, by withholding protection on their edges, it would invite violation "slop overs".

We wish to thank you and your committee for the thought and care you are taking in forming these important bills and in working for their successful passage.

Sincerely,

Mrs. ERNEST MILLER, *Chairman of the Board.*

PISMO BEACH, CALIF.,
May 16, 1972.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I request that this letter be included in the Hearing Record for S. 3027, the bill to establish Lopez Canyon Wilderness.

The need to establish a Wilderness Area in the Lopez Canyon is great when one looks at the public use of the other two wilderness areas in the central California coast. The extensive use of the Ventana and San Rafael Wilderness indicates the public need for this type of area, and the Lopez Canyon qualifies for preservation as a Wilderness Area. The need for the preservation of the Lopez Lake watershed, which supplies water to the town I live in, is best satisfied by the establishment of a Wilderness Area, which will prevent further road building.

which in the past in this area has caused the greatest erosion. The safety of the watershed as far as fire is concerned is best considered by looking at the two wilderness areas mentioned above, both which are partly in watersheds supplying Carmel and Santa Barbara. Fires have been controlled in these areas without roads and I would guess that the number of incendiary fires in these wilderness areas is much lower than that located close to roads, as shown by the fire last fall near Santa Barbara, apparently set by person(s) traveling by motor vehicle.

These are the practical reasons for the preservation of this area as the Lopez Canyon Wilderness Area. Other reasons could be put forth for the need to preserve this area of scenic beauty in the face of development of many areas along the California central coast.

Thank you for allowing me to present my views.

Yours truly,

TIMOTHY A. GASKIN.

DAVIS, CALIF., May 16, 1972.

Hon. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Senate Public Lands Subcommittee,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: Please include this letter in the hearing record for S. 2680, on Snow Mountain Wilderness, hearings for which are scheduled for May 18, 1972.

I strongly urge you to favorably consider S. 2680 which would designate a 37,000-acre Snow Mountain Wilderness in Mendocino National Forest.

Much of the rest of Mendocino National Forest, with the exception of the Yolla Bolly Wilderness, is covered with roads and has been or will be logged. Since wilderness according to the Multiple Use Act of 1960 is a legitimate use of the national forest land, I feel it very proper that portions of National Forests be classified as wilderness.

Wilderness in itself serves multiple functions. In addition to its value for protecting water quality and providing wildlife habitat, it can also provide the opportunity for humans to enjoy the unspoiled landscape and to escape from the pressures of urban life.

At present there is no other wilderness, except the Yolla Bolly, in the northern coast range. I believe that Snow Mountain would be a valuable addition to our National Wilderness Preservation System. If preserved in its natural state as wilderness, it would allow future scientific study of ecosystems from which we have much to learn. According to the California Native Plant Society, there are many rare and botanically interesting species in the area. These should be undisturbed as much as possible, and wilderness designation offers the best protection.

On clear days I can see the outline of Snow Mountain and St. John from Davis. I hope that future generations will also be able to look towards Snow Mountain and St. John and be assured that they are still relatively natural and undisturbed, protected under the Wilderness Act. I have hiked in the Snow Mountain area and in other parts of Mendocino National Forest and think it indeed fortunate that Snow Mountain has remained as unspoiled as it has when surrounded by land greatly influenced by man.

My concern for Snow Mountain began in 1969 when I attended the December meeting held by the Forest Service concerning the future management of the area. I know that many local citizens feel that wilderness classification will offer the best protection for the land. I think that the decision of Mendocino National Forest to allow timber cutting and vehicular use in parts of the area does not provide adequate and complete protection.

Snow Mountain needs statutory protection under the Wilderness Act. I think that wilderness is the highest and best use of this area.

I hope you share the concern of many people for Snow Mountain, and act favorably on S. 2680, the citizen-initiated wilderness proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

ALISON BINDER.

AMERICAN FOREST PRODUCTS,
North Fork, Calif., May 16, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: Your subcommittee on Public Lands will conduct hearings on S. 2680—Snow Mountain Wilderness Area and S. 3027—Lopez Canyon Wilderness Area.

The Snow Mountain Area was studied by the Forest Service. After public participation and testimony, it was designated into categories other than Wilderness to provide use to many more people than it ever could as Wilderness.

The Lopez Canyon Area fails to meet the standards and definition of Wilderness as specified in the Wilderness Act of 1964.

For these reasons I feel that S. 2680 and S. 3027 should not be given favorable consideration by your subcommittee.

Very truly yours,

J. C. DOZIER, *Area Forester.*

NEW MEXICO WILDERNESS STUDY COMMITTEE,
Albuquerque, N. Mex., May 21, 1972.

SENATOR HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Interior Committee,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: I have done much field study work on the Black Range Primitive Area (Proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness) prior to the Forest Service's hearing. The Forest Service was extremely conservative in drawing their boundary for this worthy area. I was amazed at the wildness of this area and the lands far out beyond what the conservation groups proposed. It was difficult for us to draw a boundary. Much more could have been included in our proposal but we were looking for an identifiable boundary. The additional areas in the conservation groups proposal are equally as wild as lands in the Forest Service's proposal.

There are a few rotten stumps in Morgan Creek which were cut about the turn of the century. These will soon be gone.

There is also a fading two track trail in Morgan Creek. I think the hikers or livestock walking side by side are keeping this double track trail open.

The above mentioned fading sign of mans activities should not cause Morgan Creek to be excluded from the proposed Aldo Leopold Wilderness. Neither should the Hillsboro Peak fire lookout tower prevent the 3,300 acres in addition "J" from receiving Wilderness protection.

Please give careful consideration for our conservation groups proposal for a 231,737 acre Aldo Leopold Wilderness.

Respectfully Yours,

MILO M. CONRAD, *Director.*

TUCSON, ARIZ., May 19, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: We understand that a wilderness proposal will soon be before you for the Aldo Leopold Wilderness in southwestern New Mexico. It is our hope that your subcommittee will stand in favor of official wilderness status for this very unique and beautiful part of our southwest. Moreover, we hope that the larger size wilderness as recommended by various conservation groups will be the one chosen (213,000 acres). The smaller size wilderness proposed by the Forest Service would protect much of this wilderness, but many "fringe" areas of great ecological import would not be included under the F.S. plan.

The Aldo Leopold is part of what was once the very much larger Gila Wilderness, the first one set aside in the U.S. back in 1924. It should never have been severed, but the Forest Service actually cut the Gila Wilderness in half back in the 30's with its North Star Road. After that, the portion west of the road retained the title, Gila Wilderness and that east of the road contains the country proposed for the Aldo Leopold Wilderness. Through the years, bit by bit, the Gila Area has been attacked by mining, lumber and cattle interests, all intent on breaking up the two remaining areas for their use. The point is that due to bad management in the past, the Gila Wilderness, including the Aldo Leopold, has been broken into various pieces, which in turn are now threatened by the interests mentioned. Wilderness status for the Aldo Leopold would halt this piecemeal erosion into an area that was once part of the Gila Wilderness. It should now regain that protection that was taken from it.

Ecologically, the area is unique. Bird life is rich and varied reflecting Mexican species, not found north of the area. Plant life has representatives from the Sonoran Desert, the Rocky Mountains, the Mexican Plateau, the Chihuahuan Desert and others. It is not unusual to find a canyon containing rich cacti alongside Douglas Fir, tall pines and Cottonwood trees. At least one native trout, the Gila Trout, lives in the Aldo Leopold. It survives in a few small streams on the north side of the area. It is found nowhere else. Altitudes range from 5000 to over 10,000 feet with views from the higher peaks taking in the Rio Grande Valley to the east, Old Mexico to the south and higher peaks of the Gila Wilderness to the west.

The traditional awe-inspiring beauty of the southwest is for the first time (during the 70's) under intense pressure by overpopulation for accelerated development. We now have smelters clouding the skies, power plants polluting once beautiful four corners, urban sprawl and all the rest. At the least we can begin to set aside those areas that have long been eyed for wilderness preservation and certainly we can give wilderness status back to an area that had it in the first place- especially when it qualifies for it and especially when it is part of the Gila, that most unique region of New Mexico.

Please include this as part of the hearings record.

Sincerely,

CLARA TIBBETS.
JOE TIBBETS.

SALINAS, CALIF., May 19, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee Public Lands, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

Dear SENATOR CHURCH: We strongly urge that 830,000 acres of Wilderness within the 847,000 acres of Sequoia and King's Canyon parks be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System and that wilderness boundaries be brought to existing roads and developments. Large acreage set aside for "enclaves" are not in keeping with the wilderness idea and facilities for maintaining the surrounding wilderness do not need elaborate facilities in these enclaves.

Livestock grazing on certain lands does not per se exclude them from wilderness status; it should be recognized as temporary non-conforming use. The Wilderness Act does not disqualify lands because of such usage.

West of the General's Highway are sections of land which are de facto wilderness and should be so included; there is no conflict with the existing road corridor into Mineral King Valley.

We urge that these 830,000 acres be given protection under the National Wilderness Preservation System.

We ask that this be made part of the Hearing Record.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. FRED A. BACHER, Jr.

PITTSBURGH, PA., May 21, 1972.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman of the Public Lands Subcommittee,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As an associate of The Wilderness Society, it has been recently brought to my attention that areas within four National Parks, eight wildlife refuges, and two National Forest areas are currently before your Subcommittee.

I feel that all of the proposed areas are worthy of inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and urge you to recommend their inclusion to Congress.

Along with other conservationists, I see significant problems in the National Park proposals. The Park Service's habit of trying to set wilderness boundaries $\frac{1}{8}$ mile back from park boundaries serves only to prevent worthy land from attaining wilderness designation. The Park Service also proposes to delete from wilderness protection numbers of small areas throughout all five of the parks that are under consideration. These enclaves are detrimental to the very concept of wilderness and also pave the way for more elaborate facilities. The Wilderness Act provides for minimum, essential, administrative facilities; all non-wilderness enclaves should be opposed.

I hope that you will recommend these changes in the Park Service's proposals and will support the inclusion of all the areas under consideration for wilderness designation. In these days of technological development and progress it is necessary to preserve a few areas of pristine wilderness. The time for action is *now*.

Sincerely yours,

BARBARA BRUNO.

WILDERNESS PRESS,
Berkeley, Calif., May 13, 1972.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I strongly support the Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon wilderness bills by Senator Cranston.

As a publisher of books about the wilderness, I am very aware of the growth in wilderness use. As a backpacker myself, I am by personal experience aware of the overuse of some areas, such as Desolation Wilderness near Lake Tahoe. There is not going to be any diminution in the demand for wilderness as long as city life retains the characteristics that sometimes drive up the wall the most stable among us. This demand for wilderness will be met by more overuse of existing wilderness areas, to the point where they lose the attributes that have made them so attractive, or it will be met by the creation of new wilderness areas.

I think both Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon qualify for inclusion in the federal wilderness system under the Wilderness Act of 1964. Although these areas have felt man's impact, and the impact of his machines, they can revert to a wilderness status if they are given federal protection. I do not agree with those who would withhold wilderness status from any place where man's impact is visible. I am not such a purist that I can't wait for nature to heal the few scars in Snow Mountain and Lopez Canyon.

I know that the tens of thousands of owners of Wilderness Press trail guides would join me in urging favorable action on Senator Cranston's bills.

Sincerely,

THOMAS WINNETT.

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