

84
In 8/14
94-66/
PT. 4

1023

94-66/pt. 4
In 8/14
94-66/pt. 4

1976 OMNIBUS WILDERNESS HEARINGS

GOVERNMENT

Storage

DOCUMENTS

HEARINGS

BEFORE THE

FARRELL LIBRARY
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON

INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

H.R. 2975, H.R. 3508, AND H.R. 5893

MINGO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, MISSOURI

AND

H.R. 12821 AND H.R. 14530

MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST, MO., WILDERNESS STUDY
AREA, INCLUDING BELL MOUNTAIN, ROCKPILE MOUNTAIN,
PINEY CREEK, PADDY CREEK AND HERCULES GLADES (ALSO
KNOWN AS EASTERN WILDERNESS)

HEARINGS HELD IN WASHINGTON, D.C.
JULY 1, 1976

Serial No. 94-66

PART IV

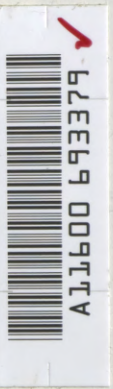
Printed for the use of the
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1976

78-822 O

AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO



COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JAMES A. HALEY, Florida, *Chairman*

ROY A. TAYLOR, North Carolina
 HAROLD T. JOHNSON, California
 MORRIS K. UDALL, Arizona
 PHILLIP BURTON, California
 ROBERT W. KASTENMEIER, Wisconsin
 PATSY T. MINK, Hawaii
 LLOYD MEEDS, Washington
 ABRAHAM KAZEN, Jr., Texas
 ROBERT G. STEPHENS, Jr., Georgia
 JOSEPH P. VIGORITO, Pennsylvania
 JOHN MELCHER, Montana
 TENO RONCALIO, Wyoming
 JONATHAN B. BINGHAM, New York
 JOHN F. SEIBERLING, Ohio
 HAROLD RUNNELS, New Mexico
 ANTONIO BORJA WON PAT, Guam
 RON DE LUGO, Virgin Islands
 BOB ECKHARDT, Texas
 GOODLOE E. BYRON, Maryland
 JAIME BENITEZ, Puerto Rico
 JIM SANTINI, Nevada
 PAUL E. TSONGAS, Massachusetts
 ALLAN T. HOWE, Utah
 JAMES WEAVER, Oregon
 BOB CARR, Michigan
 GEORGE MILLER, California
 THEODORE H. (TED) RISENHOOVER,
 Oklahoma
 JAMES J. FLORIO, New Jersey

JOE SKUBITZ, Kansas, *Ranking Minority*

Member

SAM STEIGER, Arizona
 DON H. CLAUSEN, California
 PHILIP E. RUPPE, Michigan
 MANUEL LUJAN, Jr., New Mexico
 KEITH G. SEBELIUS, Kansas
 ALAN STEELMAN, Texas
 DON YOUNG, Alaska
 ROBERT E. BAUMAN, Maryland
 STEVEN D. SYMMS, Idaho
 JAMES P. (JIM) JOHNSON, Colorado
 ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO, California
 VIRGINIA SMITH, Nebraska
 SHIRLEY N. PETTIS, California

CHARLES CONKLIN, *Staff Director*

LEE MCELVAIN, *General Counsel*

WILLIAM L. SHAFER, *Consultant on Mines, Minerals, and Public Lands*

MICHAEL C. MARDEN, *Minority Counsel*

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

JOHN MELCHER, Montana, *Chairman*

PHILLIP BURTON, California
 GOODLOE E. BYRON, Maryland
 JAMES J. FLORIO, New Jersey
 HAROLD T. JOHNSON, California
 THEODORE M. (TED) RISENHOOVER,
 Oklahoma
 HAROLD RUNNELS, New Mexico
 JIM SANTINI, Nevada
 PAUL E. TSONGAS, Massachusetts
 MORRIS K. UDALL, Arizona
 JAMES WEAVER, Oregon

SAM STEIGER, Arizona
 JOE SKUBITZ, Kansas
 DON H. CLAUSEN, California
 DON YOUNG, Alaska
 JAMES P. (JIM) JOHNSON, Colorado

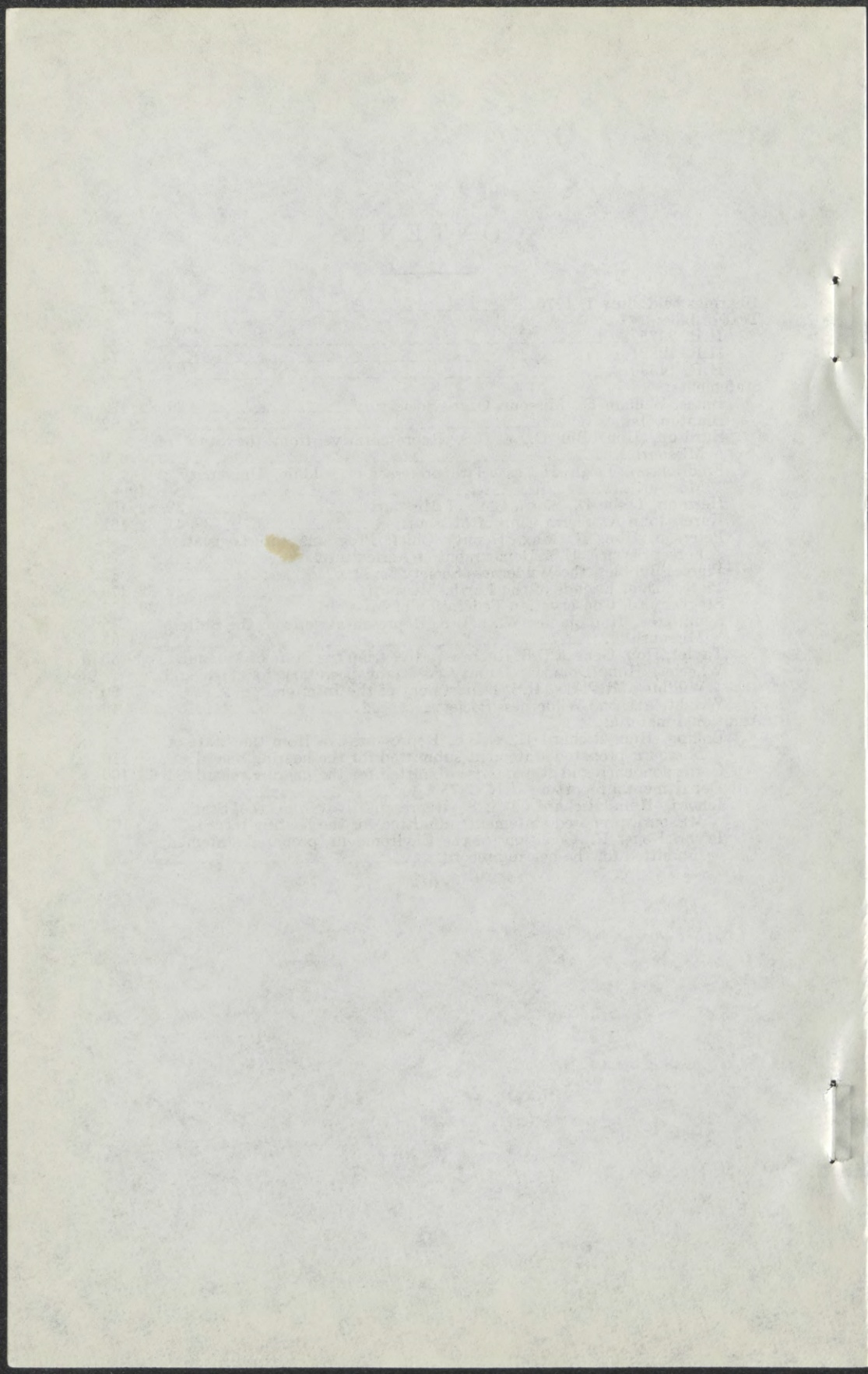
HARRY CRANDELL, *Consultant*

ROBERT L. TERRELL, *Minority Consultant*

NOTE.—The first listed minority member is counterpart to the subcommittee chairman.

CONTENTS

	Page
Hearings held: July 1, 1976-----	1, 73
Text of bills:	
H.R. 2975-----	2
H.R. 12821-----	74
H.R. 14530-----	76
Statements:	
Bates, William D., Missouri Ozark Society-----	39, 82, 172
Blanton, James R.-----	39, 82
Burlison, Hon. Bill D., a U.S. Representative from the State of Missouri-----	8, 9
Fredrickson, Leigh H., associate professor of wildlife, University of Missouri-----	8, 19, 82
Harmon, Leslie D., Sierra Club of Missouri-----	39, 82, 160
Karel, John A., Sierra Club of Missouri-----	39, 41, 82, 162
Peterson, Hon. R. Max, Deputy Chief, Programs and Legislation, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture-----	79
Pierce, Bubbles, the Wilderness Society-----	82
Pierce, Don, Friends of the Earth, Missouri-----	39, 82, 179
Stegner, Ed, Conservation Federation of Missouri-----	39, 177
Symington, Hon. James W., a U.S. Representative from the State of Missouri-----	94, 95
Taylor, Hon. Gene, a U.S. Representative from the State of Missouri-----	83
Wheeler, Hon. Douglas, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, U.S. Department of the Interior-----	55, 56
Wright, Art, the Wilderness Society-----	39, 46
Additional material:	
Bolling, Hon. Richard H., a U.S. Representative from the State of Missouri, prepared statement submitted for the hearing record----	110
Correspondence and statements submitted for the hearing record---	63, 160
Departmental report on H.R. 2975-----	5
Ichord, Hon. Richard, a U.S. Representative from the State of Missouri, prepared statement submitted for the hearing record----	101
Pryor, Roger R., Coalition for the Environment, prepared statement submitted for the hearing record-----	52



MINGO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, MO.

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1976

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 10:07 a.m., pursuant to notice, in room 2212, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. John Melcher (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mr. MELCHER. The subcommittee will come to order.

This morning we are meeting to hold public hearings for consideration of bills that would designate certain lands in Missouri for either wilderness classification or would ask for a congressional action for creating a study area for certain proposals.

The first bill, and the first proposal we are going to hear about, is Mr. Burlison's bill, H.R. 2975, to designate certain lands in the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Wayne and Stoddard Counties, Mo., as wilderness.

Without objection H.R. 2975 will be printed in the record at this point as well as the departmental report. The report is dated June 25, 1976.

[H.R. 2975 and the related departmental report follows:]

(1)

94TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2975

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 6, 1975

Mr. BURLISON of Missouri introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

A BILL

To designate certain lands in the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Wayne and Stoddard Counties, Missouri, as wilderness.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That (a) in accordance with section 3 (c) of the Wilder-
4 ness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 890, 892; 16
5 U.S.C. 1132 (c)), certain lands in the Mingo National
6 Wildlife Refuge, Missouri, which comprise (1) approxi-
7 mately one thousand seven hundred acres and which are
8 depicted on a map entitled "Mingo Wilderness—Proposed"
9 and dated March 1972, and (2) approximately six thou-
10 sand three hundred acres which are described in subsection

1 (b), are hereby designated as wilderness. The map, amended
2 to include the lands described in subsection (b), shall be on
3 file and available for public inspection in the offices of the
4 Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of the
5 Interior.

6 (b) The lands referred to in subsection (a) (2) which
7 comprise approximately six thousand three hundred acres
8 include—

9 (1) the Monopoly Lake area (excluding grass-
10 land areas) comprising approximately five thousand
11 acres which is east and north of the Ditch 6 road ex-
12 tending east as far as Ditch 4, north to the Westside
13 Auto Trail, and south to Ditch 11; and

14 (2) the area (excluding grassland areas) com-
15 prising approximately one thousand three hundred acres
16 which is in the southwest corner of the Mingo National
17 Wildlife Refuge and bounded on the east by the access
18 road adjacent to Mingo Creek and the diked, moist soil
19 area east of Ditch 10, and bounded on the south and
20 west by the service road.

21 SEC. 2. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect,
22 a map of the wilderness area and a description of its bound-
23 aries shall be filed with the Interior and Insular Affairs
24 Committees of the United States Senate and House of
25 Representatives, and such map and description shall have

1 the same force and effect as if included in this Act; except
2 that correction of clerical and typographical errors in such
3 description and map may be made.

4 SEC. 3. The wilderness area designated by this Act shall
5 be known as the Mingo Wilderness and shall be administered
6 by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the
7 applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas
8 designated by that Act as wilderness areas, and any
9 reference to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be deemed
10 to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior.



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUN 25 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This responds to the request of your Committee for the views of this Department on H.R. 2975, a bill "To designate certain lands in the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Wayne and Stoddard Counties, Missouri, as wilderness."

We recommend against the enactment of H.R. 2975 and recommend that the enclosed draft bill be enacted in lieu thereof.

H.R. 2975 would designate 8,000 acres of the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

The Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, located near Puxico, Missouri, was established in 1944 by approval of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission as a migration and wintering refuge for Canada geese, mallards, wood ducks, waterfowl in general, and other native wildlife. Most of the refuge lies in an ancient channel of the Mississippi River whose steep sides are formed by Gasconade limestone bluffs. In addition to migratory waterfowl, wildlife found in the refuge includes white-tailed deer, wild turkeys, such endangered or threatened species as the peregrine falcon, the osprey and the bald eagle, and a variety of poisonous snakes.

Section 3(c) of the Wilderness Act (approved September 3, 1964; 78 Stat. 890, 892; 16 U.S.C. 1132(c)), directs the Secretary of the Interior to review roadless areas of 5,000 acres or more in the national parks, monuments, other units of the National Park System, wildlife refuges, and game ranges and report to the President his recommendation as to the suitability of each such area for preservation as wilderness. The Act further directs the President to advise the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of

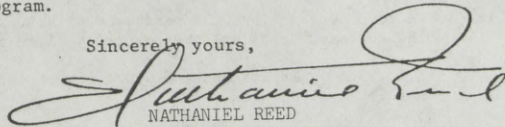


Representatives of his recommendation with respect to the designation of each such area as wilderness. A recommendation of the President for designation as wilderness shall become effective only if so provided by an Act of Congress.

In a November, 1973, message to the Congress, the President recommended that 1,700 acres of the refuge be designated as wilderness. The enclosed draft bill is identical to that proposal. This proposal has been incorporated in H.R. 3508 as section 1(a)(19). The additional 6,300 proposed for wilderness designation in H.R. 2975 encompasses lands and waters which must be actively managed if this refuge is to meet the objectives for which it was established. Because of the need for active management on this acreage, we cannot support the designation of this additional acreage as wilderness.

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

Sincerely yours,



NATHANIEL REED

~~Assistant~~ Secretary of the Interior

Honorable James A. Haley
Chairman, Committee on
Interior and Insular Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Enclosure

A B I L L

To designate certain lands in the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Wayne and Stoddard Counties, Missouri, 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 section 3(c) of the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 890, 892; 16 U.S.C. 1132(c)), certain lands in the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Missouri, which comprise about 1,700 acres and which are depicted on a map entitled "Mingo Wilderness - Proposed" and dated March 1972, are hereby designated as wilderness. The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of the Interior.

SEC. 2. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, a map of the wilderness area and a description of its boundaries shall be filed with the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and such map and 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 description and map may be made.

SEC. 3. The wilderness area designated by this Act shall be known as the "Mingo Wilderness" and shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, and any reference to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be deemed to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. MELCHER. Our first witness is the Honorable Bill Burlison, our colleague from Missouri.

STATEMENT OF HON. BILL D. BURLISON, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI; ACCOMPANIED BY LEIGH H. FREDRICKSON, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF WILDLIFE, GAYLORD MEMORIAL LABORATORY, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

Mr. BURLISON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MELCHER. I understand that you would like to have Dr. Fredrickson with you at the same time.

Mr. BURLISON. Yes.

Mr. MELCHER. If you wish, you may have the written testimony made part of the record as if read and summarize from it.

Mr. BURLISON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Burlison follows:]

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN BILL D. BURLISON
Tenth District, Missouri
Before the
House Subcommittee on Public Lands
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
July 1, 1976

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate very much the opportunity to appear before your distinguished subcommittee to discuss the addition of certain areas to the National Wilderness Preservation System. I have introduced H. R. 2975 in the 94th Congress which would designate 8,000 acres in the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge in Wayne and Stoddard Counties, Missouri, as a Wilderness area. I introduced the same bill in the 93rd Congress, but hearings were not held.

Established in 1944 after a period of unsuccessful drainage projects and ill-advised attempts at agriculture, the 21,646 acre Refuge lies along an ancient, poorly drained channel of the Mississippi River. Of the whole Refuge area approximately 8,000 acres qualify for wilderness protection as proposed in my bill. It includes two adjacent units, one of 3,000 acres and one of 5,000 acres. The smaller unit in the southwest corner of the Refuge includes a variety of bottomland forest types as well as Black Mingo Creek and Stanley Creek, meandering dark water swamp streams which wander deeply into the forested lowlands. The larger unit to the east contains Monopoly Lake, which, in a sense, is the heartland of the Mingo Wilderness, for it is here that the essence of the legendary "swampiest" Missouri is most authentically preserved. The area is of particular interest, in that it was subjected to intense

exploitation during the early part of the century and has since reverted to its natural swampy condition with mammals, birds, fish, and reptiles coming back as indigenous inhabitants.

Mingo stands as the richest community of plant and animal life that we can still protect as wilderness in Missouri. Following the retreat of the Mississippi River into its present channel, the old river bed between Crowley's Ridge and the Ozark Uplift became a magnificent cypress-Tupelo swamp. The classification of a portion of the swamp as a permanent wilderness will assure the preservation of a great variety of wildlife and vegetation for scientific values and aesthetic enjoyment in the future. Mingo Swamp is one of the few remaining wetland areas of sufficient size in the Mississippi drainage area to preserve a living example of a swamp.

A 1,700 acre area on Mingo National Wildlife Refuge has been proposed for inclusion in the Wilderness Preservation System by the Administration. This recommendation states that only the 1,700 acre designated natural area meets the criteria of the Wilderness Act, in that the existing dikes, ditches, and interior fencing necessary to implement management programs makes the works of man an obvious feature of the landscape. The Administration's study on this proposal also alleged that the remainder of the Refuge was not suitable for recommendation as wilderness as essential habitat management programs, including water management and manipulation, and cropland and timber management, are on-going programs throughout the rest of the Refuge. Although the intent of the proposal is good, the reasoning is not sound, as the 1,700 acre area mentioned is too

small to effectively preserve an example of the hardwood forest of the Mississippi lowlands. My bill recommending the 8,000 acres would assure protection for all the plants and animals present in the swamp area. The limestone bluffs are a traditional winter hibernation area for a great number of reptiles.

The swamp is a haven for birds and over 200 species have been recorded on the Refuge, including the endangered osprey which usually visits the swamp during migration. Thousands of ducks and geese stop over in spring and fall. The Refuge has 38 known species of mammals including the longtailed weasel, river otter, and swamp rabbit. The swamp rabbit in particular is dependent upon the Refuge as its last major stronghold in Missouri because of the destruction of its native habitat in the rest of the Bootheel. Also, the expanded acreage would allow for safety in preserving the unique good stands of typical swamp trees--bald cypress and water tupelo--now existing within the Swamp. Both trees are reverting to their former stature on Monopoly Lake, which as mentioned earlier, is the heart of the Mingo Swamp. Monopoly Lake is not a part of the Administration's 1,700 acre proposal because of the alleged concern respecting manipulation of the water supply.

The greatest value of Mingo Swamp is that it represents an example of a disappearing wetland ecosystem of the North American continent. To adequately preserve the integral parts of this forest ecosystem, a wilderness of 8,000 acres is necessary. Archaeological remains of old Indian camps and village sites indicate that Mingo has been a known wildlife area since long before historical times.

The Administration has also raised objections to an area of approximately 1,300 acres in the southwest corner of the Refuge. The acreage constitutes seven research natural areas designated by the Fish and Wildlife Service and represent the following forest types: Cypress-Tupelo, 80 acres; Elm, Ash, Maple, 80 acres; Pin Oak, 180 acres; Cherrybark Oak, 60 acres, Overcup, 45 acres; Oak-Hickory, 140 acres; and Willow Oak, 40 acres.

The fact that the Fish and Wildlife Service has recognized the sites as important and unique in designation as research natural areas lends credence to the argument for inclusion. In addition, specific biological values are present in the 1,300 acres south of the natural area. Denning sites for amphibians and reptiles are essential to the area. The acreage has a particularly good example of cherrybark oak as is evidenced by the designation of the Research Natural Area established by the Fish and Wildlife Service. Another site has a sizeable stand of black gum and the Ozark uplift has some good examples of yellow poplar. The area has a state champion willow oak plus numerous willow ~~oak~~ trees that approach 15 feet in circumference. The largest cherrybark oaks on the Refuge are found here. Inclusion of this area will in no way hamper the activities or access to it. If anything, it should serve to give better protection.

In summary, an 8,000 acre wilderness should be designated on the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge in order that a remnant of the once magnificent lowland hardwood wilderness of North America remains. An example of this ecosystem should be preserved for

future generations to enjoy. The Wilderness area would in no way conflict with the objectives of the Refuge and would act as a bulwark against unnecessary programs and development. The area contains features that have ecological, geological, archaeological, scientific, and aesthetic importance.

Among those on record in support of the bill and in opposition to the 1,700 acre recommendation of the Department are: Friends of the Earth, Izaak Walton League, Sierra Club, Southeast Missouri Sportsmen's Association, St. Louis Audubon Society, the Wilderness Society, Citizens Environmental Council, and the Garden Club of America.

Hearings on this legislation have been held by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee and it is my understanding that an omnibus bill containing a provision on Mingo will be reported out momentarily. We need to move swiftly in a concerted effort to approve this legislation so it may follow the proper channels to become law this year. The interest of the nation would be advanced by passage of the 8,000 acre Wilderness proposal. I respectfully request that the Committee give every consideration to inclusion of this program in its bill.

Thank you Mr. Chairman for your courtesy in permitting me this time before the Subcommittee.

Mr. BURLISON. First, let me express my appreciation to the chairman and the subcommittee for holding these hearings and permitting us to appear. As a former colleague of the chairman on the Interior Committee I know of the tremendous work and contribution that he and the members of the subcommittee are making in this area, and we commend you for it and express our appreciation for that work.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to very, very briefly outline the proposal, and then I want to call on Dr. Fredrickson to give the details.

Mr. Chairman, this is a proposal that we have been interested in for some years. It involves a fish and wildlife refuge area in my district in Wayne and Stoddard Counties. It is under the supervision and administration of the Department of the Interior and has been for many years.

In this refuge, 1,700 acres have been designated as a natural area by the Department, and the Department is recommending that this 1,700 acres be designated as wilderness area. My bill, and those who support it feel that 8,000 acres is the appropriate acreage that should be designated wilderness area.

As I mentioned, Mr. Chairman, I have with me Dr. Fredrickson, who is really an expert on this specific issue. He holds bachelor's and master's and doctorate degrees from Iowa State University in wetlands ecology. He is a scientist, he is an ecologist, he is an environmentalist, and I might say, Mr. Chairman, that he is also head of the Gaylord Laboratory, which is a Missouri State wildlife management area, which is adjacent to this area that we are speaking of. He is a professor at the University of Missouri, and in that capacity he does have charge of the Gaylord Laboratory.

Mr. Chairman, I would like for Dr. Fredrickson at this time to tell us what he knows about the proposal and his justifications for it.

Dr. Fredrickson.

Professor FREDRICKSON. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, I, too, commend you for holding these hearings for lands to be included in the wilderness on public lands. I feel particularly fortunate to have had the opportunity to work closely in Mingo Swamp since 1967 in my capacity as director of Gaylord Laboratory. I hold the rank of associate professor in the School of Forestry, Fisheries, and Wildlife on the Columbia campus of the University of Missouri. I have conducted my own research and have directed graduate research studies in Mingo Swamp since 1967.

I think that the Fish and Wildlife Service should be commended for protecting this area, because without the protection they have provided on the site since the mid-1940's we would not be here today discussing wilderness. I am here to urge you to seriously consider including 8,000 acres in this wilderness system.

First of all, I would like to point out that at one time we had a vast lowland hardwood forest that extended from Cape Girardeau southward along the Mississippi River in the States of Illinois, Kentucky, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana, and this forest

extended southward to the coastal marshes. The exact figures on the number of acres in this ecosystem is nebulous, but I would estimate it as around 27 million acres.

It so happens that these lands are also rich for agriculture. We had the demand for food and fiber, and these forests have been cleared, and in recent years they have been cleared at a fantastic rate. I would estimate that by 1985 less than 10 percent of this forest will be left in the country.

Missouri can give you a better idea in that we had 2.4 million acres of this forest, and we have now less than 100,000 acres left. The majority of this is in blocks of 600 acres or less, and the only good site we have left is the Mingo-Duck Creek area, which is a fine example of this ecosystem.

I might also say that naturalists in this country were influenced by this system, John Audubon particularly. He had a strong influence on this system or was strongly influenced by it. He did much of his artwork in the southern portions of this area.

If we look at other sites that are proposed, there are two that I know of on the White River Wildlife Refuge and on Big Lake, 1,808 acres. If we include 8,000 acres on Mingo. This comes to 0.05 percent of the total acreage that was once an ecosystem.

The Mingo site itself is a particularly exciting swamp. One of the reasons is that it has unusual topography for swamps in that it is located in the lowland between Crowley's Ridge and the Ozard Uplift. We have a variety of plant and animal species because of the differences in elevation.

I have been fortunate enough to take persons with other experience into Mingo Swamp, people from Audubon and the National Wildlife Federation, and so forth, and these people are always impressed with the system we have in Mingo. There is no question that the 1,700 acres that the Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed is a very fine area, but I think that there are other sites in the refuge that definitely warrant consideration for inclusion in wilderness.

The first one is the Monopoly Lake area. There is a 5,000-acre block on the refuge. It is what southwest Missourians think of when you say Mingo Swamp. This is the area that comes to mind. It is the best example of cypress and tupelo timber on the refuge.

Another very interesting swamp species is the planer tree, which is found on these sites as well.

It is my understanding that the Senate bill may have included Monopoly Lake, but they drew a boundary line at Ditch 10 on the northwest side of the area. I would encourage inclusion of the area beyond Ditch 10 for the following reasons: There are seven champion trees in this Monopoly Lake unit, and those champion trees line the area between the Westside Trail and the Ditch 10 area.

In the area to the south there is a gradual slope, and we have an excellent example of change in cypress-pine to oak-hickory highland forest. Because of this we have better examples of upland species that we do not find on the 1,700-acre site. Again, there are sites for reptiles that are particularly important on this Monopoly Lake area.

If the Monopoly Lake area is included in the wilderness, I think it is important that the Fish and Wildlife Service continue to manipulate water, and it is imperative in swamp systems that you not have static water conditions. The water must always be in fluctuation. The reason for this is that the animals and plants require this for plant establishment, for instance. It is also a particularly valuable process for producing foods necessary for the wildlife in the area.

The 1,300-acre block to the south of the 1,700-acre block that has been suggested for wilderness by the Fish and Wildlife Service, I think, should be included as well. For example, the Fish and Wildlife Service has designated two research natural areas within the 1,300 acres. These would include a cherrybark oak research natural area, and half of an overcup research area, and the other half lies within the 1,700 acres proposed by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

If this agency has recognized the splendid condition of these two forest types, I think it certainly supports our portion for inclusion of this area into the total wilderness proposal.

In addition, we have a very good example of blackgum timber, and also yellow poplar, which are along the bluffs on the Ozark side.

There are additional sites for reptiles which are very important. There may be some concern about the fields along the edge of this 1,300 acres, because it is a wandering boundary. I would submit to you that this would increase and enhance the value of the wilderness rather than detract from it.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has indicated they cut 2 million board-feet from the site in their view. This cut was probably conducted over 10 years ago. There were 2 million board-feet involved, because it was a very selective and light cut.

I think that the average person would find it impossible to find any differences between this site and the 1,700 acres that the Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed.

There was TSI work in the area. I think the same argument applies there, in that we would not have these fine examples of cherrybark oak and willow oak if it had not been done very selectively.

Mr. MELCHER. Doctor, how are they to manage the cherrybark oak?

Professor FREDRICKSON. What I am saying is that we have a system in which we have adequate acreages to have a mature-type forest, and also a forest where we could have management, by including 8,000 acres that I am recommending. The refuge still has at least 8,000 acres of timber that can be manipulated. This would give us what I feel is an extremely good balance of intensively managed versus untouched areas.

Mr. MELCHER. Is there any management? My question is, is there any management that is needed for this cherrybark oak area that you have included in your proposal?

Professor FREDRICKSON. No. I feel it is not necessary.

Mr. MELCHER. Is there anything in the 8,000 acres that would require management?

Professor FREDRICKSON. I feel that they should continue to manipulate the water levels on Monopoly Lake.

Mr. MELCHER. Would any of that manipulation be within this area?

Professor FREDRICKSON. No, the manipulation is outside the wilderness, the way the boundaries are drawn.

Mr. MELCHER. Why don't they want them in then? The Department's report is that they are only recommending 1,700 acres. Why doesn't the Department want them in there?

Professor FREDRICKSON. I think it is a matter of the people who reviewed the proposal. As a professional wildlife ecologist many, many of my friends are in the Fish and Wildlife Service, and if we polled them, I think we could find as many that would support my proposal as the current proposal. So I think it is a matter of the people who reviewed the proposal.

Mr. MELCHER. But all the areas, as far as you are concerned, the 8,000 acres, there would be no necessity of any management tools that would be restricted under wilderness classifications?

Professor FREDRICKSON. I feel that is true.

Mr. MELCHER. Are there any vehicles there?

Professor FREDRICKSON. There is no vehicular traffic. People can't use motors. They have to walk in. So there would be no threat to management on that side. It would remain the same.

Mr. MELCHER. Is there harvesting of timber in the area?

Professor FREDRICKSON. No. They have not cut any timber there since 1962.

Mr. MELCHER. Particularly on the 8,000 acres there has been no timber harvesting.

Professor FREDRICKSON. Not in the past 10 years.

Mr. MELCHER. Have there been any management tools they have used that would ordinarily be restricted by wilderness designation?

Professor FREDRICKSON. No, sir.

Mr. MELCHER. All right.

Professor FREDRICKSON. One other point I would like to make is that the protection given this site through the Wilderness Act, I think, has shown the potential for value just a few weeks ago in that a powerline company asked for permission of a right-of-way immediately adjacent to this 1,300 acres, and I think these types of things, the congressional protection is really an extremely valuable thing we could give to the 8,000 acres in Mingo, to have people go and see that that is the type of system we had in the northern region of the Mississippi Delta.

Thank you.

Mr. MELCHER. Is the 3,000 acres you propose for inclusion contiguous with the 5,000 acres?

Professor FREDRICKSON. Yes, it is. At the present time there is a road that runs between those two sites and I have proposed that it be included as two separate units. However, on the other areas, the Fish and Wildlife Service has a habit of closed roads, but in my proposal I propose it as two separate units, so if they want to leave the road open I think that is an agency decision.

Mr. MELCHER. Would it be identified in the map there by the light green being the 5,000 acres?

Professor FREDRICKSON. That is true.

Mr. MELCHER. And the darker green and the not-so-dark green would be the 3,000?

Professor FREDRICKSON. That is correct.

Mr. MELCHER. Thank you very much, Bill, and Dr. Fredrickson.

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Chairman, I understand a number of other witnesses are to follow in support of the proposal, as well as the administration witnesses to support their proposal. I would ask that Dr. Fredrickson remain here to be available to answer other questions.

Mr. MELCHER. All right.

Mr. BURLISON. You will be considering later this morning the eastern wilderness bills. I would like to state to the chairman that I am in support of those proposals, and I wanted that to reflect in the record.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to leave for insertion in the record my complete statement on the Mingo bill.

Mr. MELCHER. Your complete statement has been made part of the record, and Dr. Fredrickson's statement will be made part of the record here.

Mr. BURLISON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The prepared statement of Professor Fredrickson follows:]



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA

Gaylord Memorial Laboratory

Puxico, Missouri 63960

Telephone (314) 222-3203

Research in Wildlife Ecology

Physiology and Behavior

School of Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife

STATEMENT OF LEIGH H. FREDRICKSON
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF WILDLIFE

BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

July 1, 1976

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee, my name is Leigh H. Fredrickson, Associate Professor of Wildlife, School of Forestry, Fisheries, and Wildlife, University of Missouri - Columbia.

I am a professional wildlife ecologist; my speciality is wetlands. In my capacity as Director of Gaylord Memorial Laboratory, I have had the opportunity to work with the swamp ecosystem in southeastern Missouri and particularly on the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge since 1967. My close contact with the Fish and Wildlife Service on management of wetlands has been one of the most gratifying aspects of my position.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear here today and wish to commend the subcommittee for their interest in reviewing additional sites on public lands as wilderness.

My statements today are in support of an 8,000 acre proposed wilderness on Mingo National Wildlife Refuge.

The Department of Interior should be commended for preserving Mingo Swamp as an outstanding example of a lowland forest ecosystem. The protection provided by the Refuge System has allowed this area to gradually revert toward a splendid swamp system. Because of that protection, I am here today.

The Need for a Wilderness in the Lowland Hardwood Forest
of the South Central United States

The American Tradition and Wetlands

When Europeans first encountered the American Continent, wetlands, whether swamp, marsh, bog, or estuary, were obstacles to early settlers. Wetlands teemed with wildlife, but travel and farming were difficult. Because developed wetlands often had high economic values for agriculture or as industrial sites, clearing and drainage proceeded at any cost. Private and governmental agencies joined forces and through drainage, clearing, and filling reduced the wetlands of America to a fraction of their former area. The esthetic values of wetlands as well as their inherent values for maintaining water tables or for serving as natural reservoirs during floods were traded for economic gains to some individuals or industries. The deeply entrenched tradition that wetlands are waste lands has resulted in the decline of the lowland hardwood forest in the Mississippi drainage.

The swamp ecosystem has intrinsic values that warrant protection of a remnant of this once magnificent forest. Adequate soils and abundant water produce trees of immense proportions. The stratification of forest into shrubs, understory, and canopy provide numerous habitat sites for a great variety of animal species. The swamp is overwhelming to a naturalist unfamiliar with the complexities of the lowland hardwood forest. To identify over 20 types of oaks, several species of ash, maple, and elm, plus a great number of other trees, shrubs, and flowers is a formidable task. One need not identify all the plants and animals in a swamp to enjoy it. Those that do spend the time and effort to know the plants and animals develop a deep appreciation for this lovely bit of wild America. To fully protect a complete swamp system, a unit containing the characteristic swamp fauna and flora must be designated as wilderness.

Scattered blocks of habitat will not provide an example of the entire system. Mingo Refuge is unique in that a remnant of sufficient size remains with the essentials for a viable swamp system. Inclusion of 8,000 acres would preserve an example of the lowland hardwood forest for the present and for future generations to enjoy.

Decline of the Lowland Hardwood Forest of the Mississippi Valley

During the last two decades, lowland hardwoods in the south-central United States have disappeared rapidly. The remaining acreage in the Mississippi Delta hardwood ecosystem is an illusive figure. From USDA Forest Service reports, I have compiled the oak-gum-cypress lands left for 8 states in the mid-south. Obviously this figure is extremely poor because the information is so outdated in some states and these lands have been cleared so rapidly in the last few years. I would estimate that there were at least 27 million acres of this forest type at one time. Proposed wilderness areas within this forest type include 8,000 acres on Mingo NWR, 1,818 acres on Big Lake NWR, and 975 acres on White River NWR. This comes to 0.05% of the 27 million acres originally in this forest type.

Missouri--We once had 2.4 million acres in lowland forest in southeastern Missouri. Of this total, less than 100,000 acres remain in forest and of this total less than 50,000 acres are in blocks of 600 acres or more and are good examples of the forest system. The best site without question in Missouri is the publicly owned lands within the confines of Mingo National Wildlife Refuge and the state owned Duck Creek Wildlife Management Area. (Figure 1).

Arkansas--Twenty-seven eastern Arkansas counties were once a vast hardwood forest, but recent clearing for agriculture has reduced the hardwood forest from 4,301,000 acres in 1940 to 1,799,000 acres in 1970. One of the large blocks of

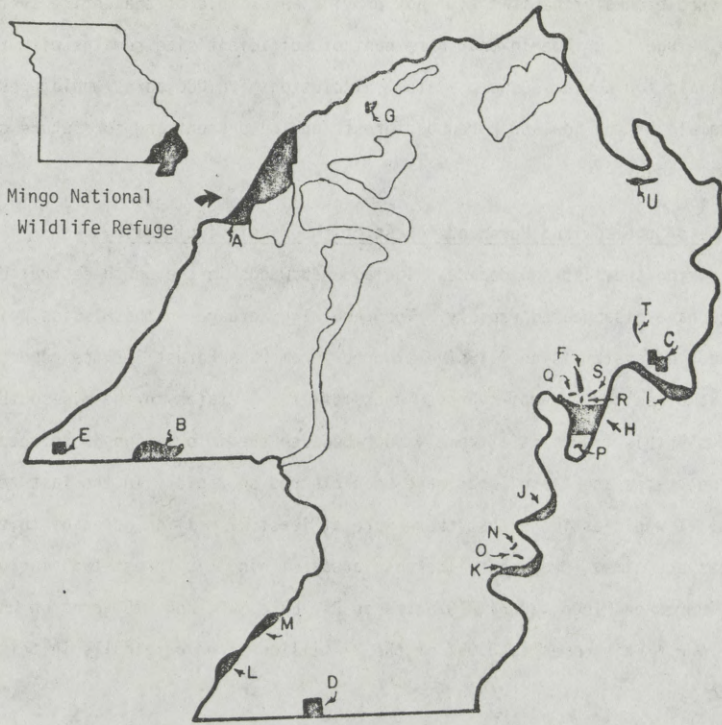


Figure 1. Location and approximate size of the more important tracts of swamp habitat that remain in southeastern Missouri

public land in Arkansas is the White River National Wildlife Refuge. Because of an on-going timber program on this refuge, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommended only 975 acres of the 112,400 acres for wilderness. Wilderness conservationists could find no more than 5,000 acres suitable for wilderness.

Mississippi--Western Mississippi once had a vast lowland forest between Tennessee and Vicksburg. Yazoo National Wildlife Refuge is one of the few remaining examples of this forest in the state.

Louisiana--The Atchafalaya Basin and the area near Catahoula Lake are examples of the remaining lowland hardwoods in Louisiana. Northern Louisiana has been losing its hardwood forest at the rate of 111,000 acres a year. Half of the 5 to 6 million acres were cleared by the late 1960's and only 10% will remain by 1985 if the clearing continues.

Clearly if this nation is to preserve an example of the lowland hardwood ecosystem for future generations to enjoy and to appreciate, action must be taken now to protect a remnant of this once magnificent wilderness. Designation of 8,000 acres on Mingo Refuge would provide an example of the type of lowland forest found in the northern reaches of the Mississippi Delta and preserve it in a state for future generations to enjoy.

MINGO SWAMP

History of Mingo Swamp

Following the retreat of the Mississippi River into its present channel, the old river bed between Crowley's Ridge and the Ozark Uplift became a magnificent cypress-tupelo swamp. Waters in the swamp fluctuated annually. During the summer the swamp held pockets of water in wet years but would be nearly devoid of water in drier years. The Mingo Swamp was a particularly ideal site for

baldcypress and water tupelo because water was trapped between the higher terrain of the Ozarks and Crowley's Ridge. The St. Francis River to the south and the Castor River to the east often overflowed into the Mingo Basin and flooded the timber in the swamp.

The Mingo ecosystem has been influenced by man for thousands of years. The prevalence of Indian artifacts throughout the area attests to the use of the swamp. Although Indians may have been present in concentrations, they probably had relatively little impact on the swamp. It was not until the pioneers appeared on the scene with modern tools that the Mingo Wilderness was disturbed.

Although pioneers first settled in southeastern Missouri in the 1780's, Mingo Swamp was avoided. Gradually some individuals moved into the periphery of the swamp to farm and to cut timber. In the early 1900's the magnificent cypress and tupelo were logged. Drainage was attempted by the Mingo Drainage Company in 1918-1920, but the venture was a failure. Concurrently, farms were established throughout the swamp but these too proved unsuccessful because of poor drainage and soils depleted by rowcrops. After row cropping was no longer economical, the swamp was used as open range for livestock. Wildfires often roared through the swamp and left additional scars.

Mingo Swamp has been protected since it became a part of the National Wildlife Refuge System in the 1940's. Although timber cutting and timber stand improvement have been conducted on the refuge, many areas have recovered and are reverting to their former state.

The Natural Features of Mingo Swamp

The nearly flat basin of the swamp is broken by low sand ridges. The slight variation in elevation caused by the ridges in the swamp provides a substrate

for a great diversity of swamp vegetation that has a variable tolerance for water. Baldcypress and water tupelo are dominant in low sites. Overcup oak is found in zones on higher ground surrounding the cypress. Higher sites have pin oak, willow oak, cherrybark oak, swamp white oak, swamp chestnut oak, swamp cottonwood, water locust, and drummond red maple as well as many other species.

The diversity of plant and animal species is greatly increased by the adjacent limestone out-croppings on both sides of the swamp. The diversity of substrates and the associated vegetative cover provide suitable habitat for an amazing diversity of animal species. In spring when the leaves first appear, Mingo Swamp is a virtual fairyland. The higher ground is carpeted with a great variety of spring wild flowers including bloodroot, spring-beauty, jack-in-the-pulpit, violets, anemone, trillium, dutchman's breeches, ginger, and trout-lilies. In wet sites, logs with their floating gardens of mosses and flowering plants provide an endless variety of contrast with the soft green of new cypress leaves.

The limestone bluffs are a traditional winter hibernation area for a great number of reptiles. In mid-April and mid-October snakes become obvious swamp residents as they move from or to their wintering quarters. The western cottonmouth, canebrake rattlesnake, and southern copperhead all are found here. Other common residents are the colorful western mudsnake, black rat snake, western ribbon snake, and speckled king snake as well as five species of water-snakes. Mole salamanders are but one of the nine species of salamanders recorded for the area. The unusual *Amphiuma* and *Siren* are both found on the Refuge. The 12 species of frogs and toads that live in the swamp are most evident by the cacophony of their calls. As darkness approaches their songs are often deafening. Turtles abound in the swamp. In cool weather, hundreds of these cold-blooded

creatures can be seen basking in the sun. Others are seen as they move overland to select sites in which to deposit their eggs.

The swamp is a haven for birds. Over 200 species have been recorded on the Refuge, including the endangered osprey which usually visits the swamp during migration. In winter, waterfowl use the mast in flooded timber and feed on farm units and moist soil units. Eagles and other raptors are attracted to the waterfowl concentrations. Bald eagles are most common, but an occasional golden eagle is seen. Many passerine species spend the winter in the swamp. In spring the forest is alive with birds from forest floor to the canopy. As the nesting season approaches, the swamp is never quiet as the males of each species advertise their presence on their chosen territory. At night whip-poor-wills and chuck-will's-widows are heard calling and break the monotony of the continuous drone from frogs, toads, and insects. Barred owls and red-shouldered hawks are common raptors. Hooded mergansers and wood ducks nest in goodly numbers in natural cavities and in nest boxes. Prairie, blue-winged, cerulean, worm-eating, prothonotary, Kentucky, yellow-throated, and parula warblers are found easily. White-eyed and warbling vireos, pileated woodpeckers and indigo buntings are but a few of the common birds on the refuge. Mingo Swamp was one of the few areas with a remnant flock of wild turkeys in Missouri. As the timber has matured and with protection from hunting, turkeys have increased and are now seen in numbers.

The Refuge has 38 known species of mammals. Beaver populations have increased rapidly during the last 5 years and now have an obvious impact on water manipulation. Deer, raccoons, opossum, and squirrels are seen regularly. The swamp is one of the few remaining areas in Missouri where swamp rabbits are found in numbers. Bobcats are seen occasionally in the winter and river otters are increasing in abundance.

Proposed Wilderness Area on Mingo Refuge

An adequate wilderness to preserve the features of Mingo Swamp should include an area of 8,000 acres. If the Ditch 6 road is to be kept open, the proposed area would be divided into two Units (Figure 2). Unit I should include the present 1,700 acre Natural Area plus an additional 1,300 acres contiguous to this area on the south. A second unit should be located between Ditches 4 and 6 and extend between Ditch 11 on the south and the road at the northern edge of the refuge.

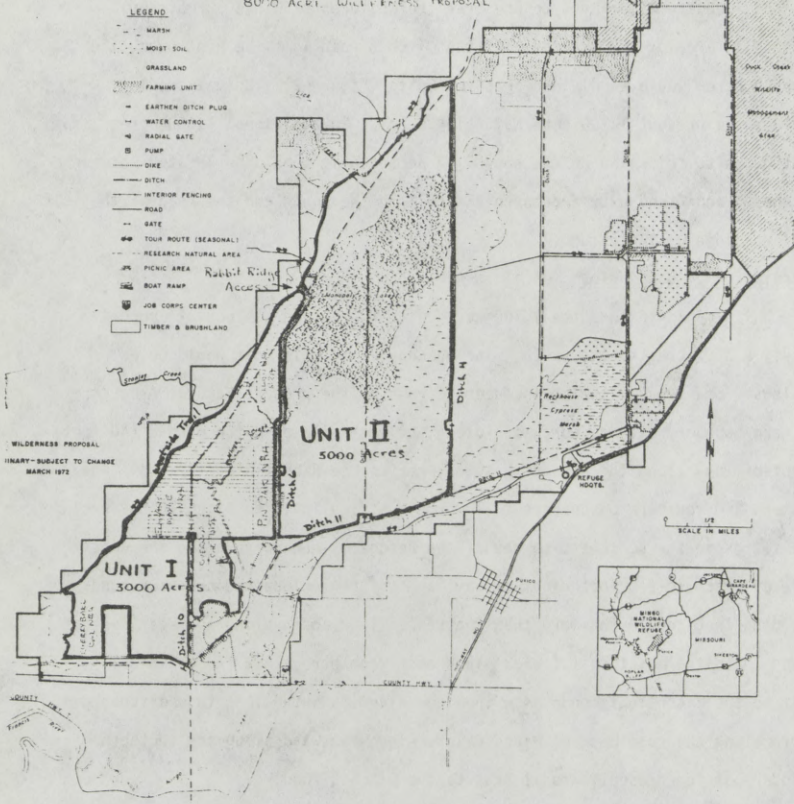
Description of Boundaries

Unit I. To include the 1,700 acre Natural Area and a block of approximately 1,300 acres to the south. The boundaries of this unit would be as follows: Starting at the southeastern corner of the present Natural Area, the eastern boundary extends northward along the west side of Ditch 6 road (40 foot right-of-way) along the present Natural Area to the Rabbit Ridge Access. The western and southern boundaries follow the Westside Trail to Ditch 10 but exclude the fields in the southwest corner of the Refuge. Then north along the west side of Ditch 10 (40 foot right-of-way) and not to include the area surrounding the plug in Ditch 10 (no more than 2 acres). Then south along the east side of Ditch 10 to the moist soil field. Then east from here along the moist soil unit to the ditch that connects with Mingo River. North along this ditch and north along the road west of Mingo River. Then eastward along the southern boundary of the present Natural Area to the Ditch 6 road.

Unit II. The Monopoly Lake area would include the following area: The western boundary would be along the east side of Ditch 6 road (40 foot right-of-way) to the Rabbit Ridge Access starting immediately opposite the southern boundary of the present Natural Area but excluding the area around the plug in Ditch 6 (no more than 2 acres). From the Rabbit Ridge Access, northeast along the Westside Trail to the Ditch 4 road but excludes the small fields in the

MINGO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

8000 ACRES. WILLFERNESSE PROPOSAL



northwest corner of the Refuge. Then south along the west side of Ditch 4 to the north side of Ditch 11. Then southwest along the North Side of Ditch 11 to a point where the extension of the southern boundary of the Natural Area would intercept with Ditch 11 but excluding the area around the Ditch 5 plug (no more than 2 acres plus an access road of not more than 50 foot right-of-way from the plug in Ditch 11). The plug in Ditch 6 could be moved to a point just north of the intersection of Ditches 6 and 11 so that it will be outside the proposed Wilderness.

Because the Fish and Wildlife Service has closed roads on other refuges with wilderness designation, the extension of the southern boundary of the Natural Area to intercept with Ditch 11 would allow the Ditch 6 plug to be moved to this new location outside the proposed Wilderness if that agency wished to do so.

Features of the Proposed Wilderness

Unit I. The present Natural Area of 1,700 acres proposed as wilderness by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is part of this 3,000 acre unit. The Natural Area contains good examples of overcup oak, willow oak, pin oak, and the elm-ash-maple complex. However, good examples of baldcypress, cherrybark oak, and water tupelo are lacking. By including the additional 1,300 acres to the south of the Natural Area, the best example of cherrybark oak on the Refuge would be included. This area also contains the former state champion willow oak tree (Figure 3) as well as a large number of this oak species that approach 12 feet in circumference.

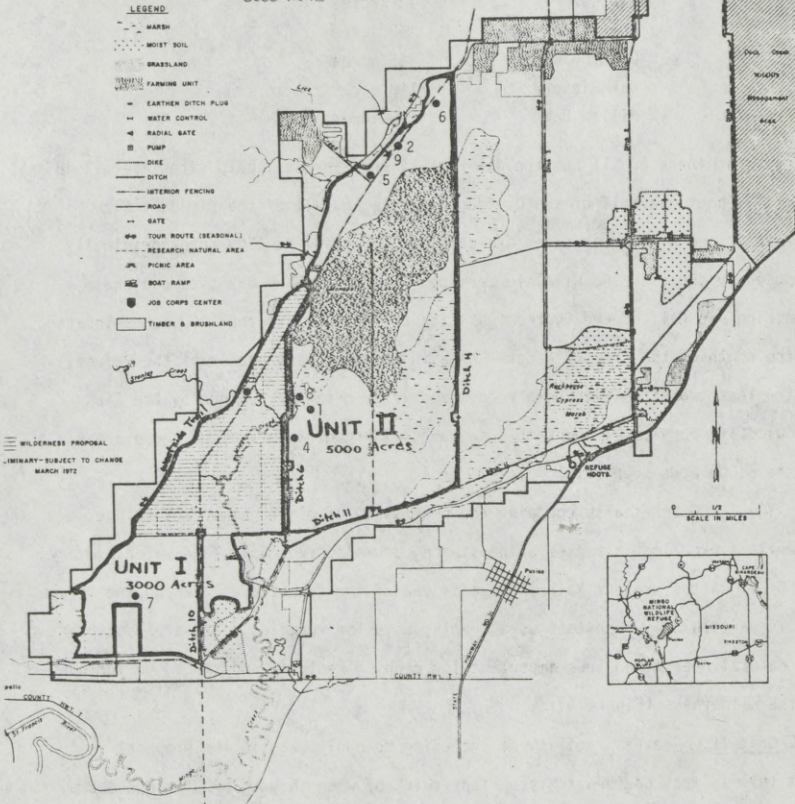
The Fish and Wildlife Service has designated seven Research Natural Areas on Mingo Refuge that represent the following forest types:

Figure 3. Champion trees on an 8,000 acre proposed wilderness area on
Mingo National Wildlife Refuge.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Buttonbush (State Champion) | 5. American Hornbeam (State Champion) |
| 2. Swamp Cottonwood (State Champion) | 6. Overcup Oak (State Champion) |
| 3. Devil's Walking Stick
(State Champion) | 7. Willow Oak (State Champion) |
| 4. Water Hickory or Bitter Pecan
(State Champion) | 8. Planertree (State Champion) |
| | 9. Drummond Red Maple (National Champion) |

MINGO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

8000 ACRE WILDERNESS PROPOSAL



Cypress-Tupelo	80 acres
Elm, Ash, Maple	80 acres
Pin Oak	180 acres
Cherrybark Oak	60 acres
Overcup Oak	45 acres
Oak-Hickory	140 acres
Willow Oak	40 acres

Five of these or all but the Oak-Hickory and Cypress-Tupelo sites are within Unit I. About one half of the Overcup Oak site and all of the Pin Oak, Elm-Ash-Maple, and Willow Oak sites are completely within the 1700 acres originally proposed by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The Cherrybark Oak site and the remaining one half of the Overcup Oak site are both within the 1300 acres located to the south of the present Natural Area in the southwest corner of the Refuge. If the last two sites have been recognized as important or unique by the Fish and Wildlife Service, I think this supports my argument to include these areas in the 8,000 acre proposal.

The 1,300 acres also contains the best stand of black gum on the Refuge as well as excellent examples of persimmon, drummond red maple, and water hickory. Fry Bluff on the present Natural Area is one of the finest overlooks on the Refuge and is particularly important as a denning site for reptiles. The area south of the Natural Area is no less important for denning reptiles and should be included in the wilderness (Figure 4).

Unit II. The desirability of including Monopoly Lake in the proposal is that this is what southeast Missourians think of when they think of Mingo Swamp. To exclude this area from a wilderness proposal is like excluding Mt. Rainier from Mt. Rainier National Park. It is in this area that the magnificent stand of baldcypress and water tupelo were located. At present there are good remnants of both species that are reverting to their former stature. In fact, the Fish and Wildlife Service has designated 80 acres as a cypress-tupelo Research Natural

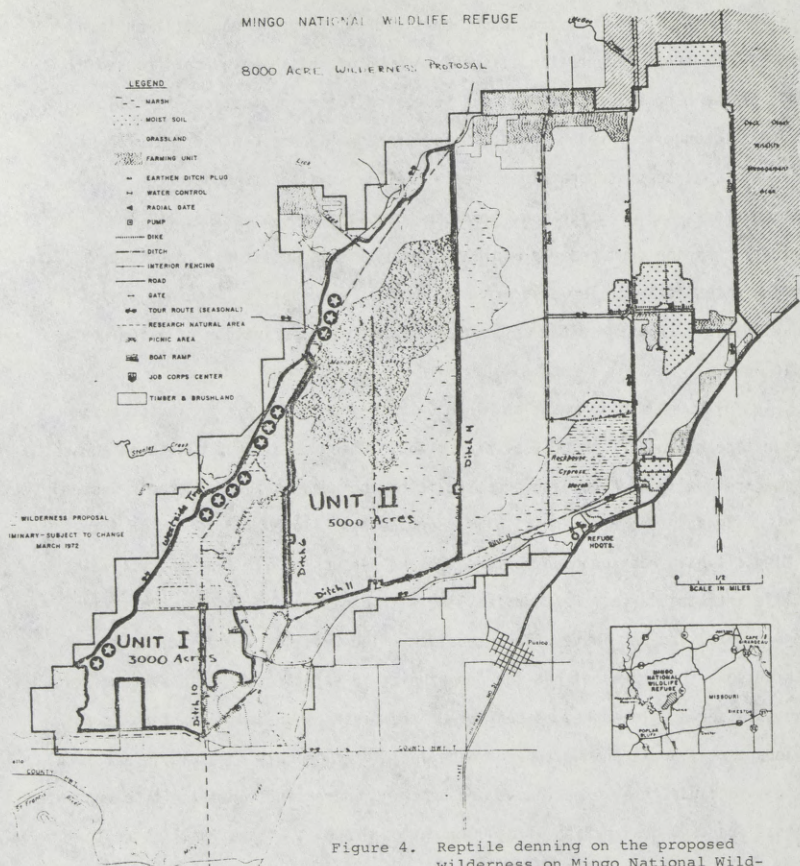


Figure 4. Reptile denning on the proposed wilderness on Mingo National Wildlife Refuge

Area within this unit. Several champion-sized water tupelo can still be found here. Baldcypress regeneration is good on much of this area. Scars caused by man's misuse become less obvious each year, and future protection will allow nature to change the area back to its former magnificence. Other features of this unit include state champion trees as follows: planertree, overcup oak, water hickory, swamp cottonwood, American hornbeam, and water tupelo. The national champion drummond red maple is found in this unit too. Important denning sites for reptiles also occur along the Ozark uplift (Figure 4).

I believe that these two Units qualify under the definition of wilderness as follows:

1. Although man's impact on Mingo Swamp was obvious, his influence becomes less noticeable with each year of protection. Other areas that have been abused by man are now in or have been proposed to be included in the Wilderness System.

Because the Fish and Wildlife Service has allowed me freedom of access on Mingo, I have had the good fortune to take persons of all ages and all walks of life into this area. Persons familiar with other famous natural sites find Mingo as exciting and leave with enthusiasm. The real joys come from contacts with persons that have not had the opportunity to experience a wild system first hand. To see a wild turkey, a beaver, or the blaze of an indigo bunting is an obvious thrill and a unique type of experience that is only possible in a natural system. Because these experiences are becoming increasingly difficult to encounter in this country, designation of 8,000 acres on Mingo is another small step to assure that future generations can experience what others have in the past.

2. One can find solitude on Mingo Swamp and have a unique outdoor experience. The wetland character of the swamp makes travel difficult; hence, few people penetrate the swamp during much of the year.

3. The area is of sufficient size to preserve its unimpaired condition. The 8,000 acres would provide habitat for all animal species indigenous to the swamp.

4. The area does contain features of ecological, geological, scientific, archaeological, and aesthetic importance.

Maintaining the Mingo Wilderness as a Natural Swamp System

In my view, classification of this 8,000 acres of Mingo Refuge as Wilderness does not preclude the manipulation of water to duplicate the water regime of the swamp in the natural state. I would like to emphasize that water fluctuations are imperative to maintain a viable swamp system. Our research has gained new insight into the importance of water fluctuations. Constantly changing water levels are a key factor in stimulating production of aquatic invertebrates so important for breeding birds and for the reestablishment of some wetland plants such as cypress and tupelo. Because of the disruption of the Mingo system by man, manipulation of water is a necessary and justifiable part of the Mingo Proposal.

Impact of Wilderness on the Mingo Refuge Program

Forest Management. Mingo Refuge has nearly 22,000 acres. If 8,000 acres become wilderness then 14,000 acres are still available for management. Obviously not all 14,000 acres are in forest but probably 8,000 acres are available for this type of management. I feel that this gives the Refuge an acceptable balance to provide a complete diversity of wildlife habitats. The most critical needs for native fauna are habitats with mature forest. The 8,000 acre proposal would provide this type of habitat. Surely out of the total acreage that was once in the lowland forest in North America, we can afford to designate this small area as wilderness.

Public Use. The Wilderness Act does restrict motorized access to wilderness areas, but the public may still use the area. Fishing, hiking, hunting, and nature study are all compatible uses of wilderness. Public or commercial developments such as power lines, pipe lines, roads, bridges, etc., could not be built. For example, a power company recently requested a right-of-way adjacent to the 1300 acre area. Designation of part of Mingo Refuge as wilderness would have no effect on the manner in which Mingo is presently used by the public. The auto tours are outside the boundaries of the proposed area and all access points now open to the public would be unaffected by the wilderness designation.

Migratory Waterfowl. The Refuge serves as an important stopover area for dabbling ducks. Few diving ducks, other than ring-necked ducks, stop. Food for waterfowl is available on farm units, moist soil units, flooded timber, Monopoly Lake, and Rockhouse Cypress Marsh. The proposed wilderness will have little if any effect on food production. Flooded timber will still be available for waterfowl on the proposed area and the water level manipulations necessary to duplicate swamp conditions will result in good food production for waterfowl. Mallards and wood ducks are two of the primary species using the Refuge and both readily feed on acorns and other mast.

The Refuge has some low-lying pasture land that could be converted to row crops if necessary if additional food is needed.

My experience with this system leads me to the conclusion that the proposed wilderness will not affect the food available for waterfowl.

Breeding Waterfowl. At one time 77 of the 153 nest boxes on the Refuge were in the 8,000 acre area. Many of these boxes on Monopoly Lake that had serious predation by black rat snakes and by starlings were removed, but 28 boxes still remain. Because nest boxes should be checked at least once annually, the restriction on motorized access would make it desirable to move the remaining

nest boxes to areas outside the proposed wilderness. Boxes that can be conveniently checked without the use of an outboard motor could remain. More nest boxes could be added outside the wilderness area. Wood duck populations cannot be moved, but experience on Mingo has shown that both wood ducks and hooded mergansers will respond to the boxes at the new sites. Some ducks from boxes on Monopoly Lake would be expected to nest in boxes in other parts of the Refuge, so production would not drop in proportion to the number of boxes removed from Monopoly Lake.

A recent study on the Refuge showed that twice as many cavities suitable for wood duck use were available on unmanaged timber areas than on areas with timber management. As the timber matures on the proposed area, more cavities will be available for wood duck and hooded merganser nesting. Hence, the wilderness area would be good management for breeding waterfowl at this latitude. The natural water fluctuations on the wilderness area would also be conducive to production of aquatic foods for breeding birds.

Summary

In summary a two-unit 8,000 acre wilderness should be designated on the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge for the following reasons:

1. Only a remnant of the once magnificent lowland hardwood wilderness of North America remains. An example of this ecosystem should be preserved for future generations to enjoy.
2. The area can meet the requirements of the Wilderness Act. This is clear from wilderness designations already approved by the Congress.
3. Wilderness would not conflict with Refuge objectives and would act as a bulwark against unnecessary programs and developments.

4. The area contains features that have ecological, geological, archaeological, scientific, and aesthetic importance.

5. In as much as the Refuge possesses no legislative protection which would prohibit public and commercial developments such as highways, bridges, and transmission towers, the application of the Wilderness Act assumes tremendous importance because it does prohibit such developments.

Mr. MELCHER. Thank you.

Doctor, if you will stand by then, we will, first of all, hear from the Missouri Forest Products Division and the Mining Association of Missouri. Are both of those gentlemen here?

Is Mr. Marbaker here? Is Mr. Ross here?

Miss COCKAYNE. They are not here.

Mr. MELCHER. And Mr. Marbaker is not here either.

I received a telegram from Mr. Ross, executive director of the Missouri Forest Products Association, Jefferson City, Mo., stating that they were only informed as of June 29 of the hearing and that the time was too short for them to prepare testimony and to be here.

Without objection the hearing record will allow for inclusion of their statements at this point when they are prepared and received.

[The prepared statements of William E. Marbaker, Mining Industry Council of Missouri, and Gerald Ross, Missouri Forest Products Association, have been placed at the end of the hearing record.]

Mr. MELCHER. May I inquire when Mr. Marbaker and Mr. Ross asked to be witnesses?

Miss COCKAYNE. They did not ask. Their names came from Congressman Symington's office yesterday, but I did not talk to the individuals.

Mr. MELCHER. I see. Apparently there was not enough time for them. Without objection their statements, when received, will be made part of the record as I have indicated.

The next witnesses are Mr. John Karel, Ozark chapter of the Sierra Club; Mr. Les Harmon, eastern Missouri group, Ozark chapter, Sierra Club; Mr. William Bates, Ozark Society; Mr. Jim Blanton; Mr. Don Pierce, Friends of the Earth; Mr. Ed Stegner, Conservation Federation of Missouri; and Mr. Art Wright, representing the Wilderness Society.

All of you who have prepared written statements may place them in the record at this point, and I would ask that each of you please provide for us the most pertinent information that you think should come before us and I will let you establish how you want to do that.

A PANEL CONSISTING OF JOHN KAREL, OZARK CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB OF MISSOURI; LES HARMON, EASTERN MISSOURI GROUP, OZARK CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB OF MISSOURI; WILLIAM BATES, OZARK SOCIETY OF MISSOURI; JIM BLANTON; DON PIERCE, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH, MISSOURI; ED STEGNER, CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI; AND ART WRIGHT, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Mr. KAREL. My names is John Karel. I live in Columbia, Mo.

The Ozark chapter of the Sierra Club is grateful for this opportunity. We wish to make our testimony as brief as possible and, in the main, defer to the expertise and the proposals presented here earlier by Dr. Fredrickson.

I think there are several points that should be brought out. We think it is extremely important that the full 8,000 acres be designated as wilderness, and this 8,000 acres will protect a more viable and more complete representative sample of the ecosystems at stake here than any smaller proposal would.

We would also like to take the opportunity to point to the record of the transcript of the wilderness hearings held June 28, 1972, in Puxico by the Fish and Wildlife Service in which the overwhelming testimony was in favor of the larger area for designation as wilderness.

I would also like to take the opportunity for Mr. Roger Pryor, of St. Louis, vice president of the Coalition for the Environment, who was unable to attend, but who has asked me to submit his letter on the Mingo Wilderness proposal for the record.

Mr. MELCHER. Without objection, Mr. Pryor's letter will be made part of the record.

[The prepared statements and letter of Mr. Roger Pryor follow:]



Sierra Club

Ozark Chapter

P.O. Box 12424
Olivette, Mo. 63132

TESTIMONY

before the Public Lands Sub-committee of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

CONCERNING

H.R. 2975 (Mr. Burlison) "To designate certain lands in the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Wayne and Stoddard Counties, Missouri, as wilderness."

SUBMITTED BY

The Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club

July 1, 1976

The Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club, consisting of over 1,700 members in the states of Missouri and Arkansas, is grateful for the opportunity to testify today in support of Representative William Burlison's bill to designate 8,000 acres of the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge as a unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System. The Ozark Chapter has been dedicated for several years to the protection of this superb area and is grateful to participate in this final stage of securing wilderness protection.

It is widely recognized that the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge represents a natural ecosystem of national significance. As you may be aware, the drainage, cultivation, and elimination of the vast lowland cypress/tupelo and-hardwood swamps of the lower Mississippi River Valley has been remorseless and nearly complete. Mingo remains one of the few significant remnants of this once

widespread ecosystem. Certainly in Missouri it is the very last such remnant. For a discussion of historical, biological, and aesthetic values at state, we refer to the Mingo section, pages 2-3, of our attached brochure, Wilderness in Missouri.

Conservationists have proposed that 8,000 acres of this 21,646 acre refuge be designated as wilderness. The Fish and Wildlife Service proposes only 1,700 acres. We are confident of the logic and desirability of our proposal and refer to the enclosed map.

The biggest discrepancy between citizen and agency proposals is the inclusion of Monopoly Lake east of the ditch 6 road. Conservationists' support for this inclusion follows substantial research and consideration.

Monopoly is a natural basin. Periodic fluctuations of water levels occurred historically and helped to maintain the characteristic cypress/tupelo swamp community. Now, however, drainage and ditching of feeder watersheds outside the refuge have altered these natural cycles. Responding to these external disruptions, the Fish and Wildlife Service has wisely taken steps to actively support the cyclic water fluctuations in the swamp. This management has not created an artificial system; it has in fact retained a natural system that would have been otherwise lost. We commend the agency for its stewardship in this preservation.

Protection of Monopoly water levels is accomplished partly through control of earthen plugs on the dike paralleling ditch 6 road and at the intersection of Ditch 5 and Ditch 11. In recognition of the necessity for agency access to these plugs for perpetuation of the

natural swamp ecosystem, they have been excluded from the citizens' proposal.

Our proposal will not curtail existing Fish and Wildlife Service capability to support Monopoly water levels; neither will it curtail existing public uses of the lake for fishing and canoeing.

What wilderness designation for Monopoly certainly will do is permanent agency resolve to perpetuate the swamp ecosystem in a natural condition. We recognize the generally excellent record of the Fish and Wildlife Service on this refuge, but insist on Wilderness Act protection in light of several ill-advised refuge timber sales in past years, as well as the recurrent potential for impairment of existing values by road construction, power line approval, or other disruptions.

In the parcel south of the Black Mingo Natural Area, managed fields, moist soil units, and public use facilities are specifically excluded from the citizen proposal, and are conveniently managed from existing accesses. The virtual elimination of the lowland hardwood ecosystem in the lower Mississippi River Valley has made the retention and protection of available remaining stands a critical resource priority.

This hardwood component is an integral part of the Mingo Wilderness, containing a number of identified state and national champion tree specimens, as well as several Research Natural Areas. The latter have been designated by the Fish and Wildlife Service itself in obvious recognition of outstanding natural values.

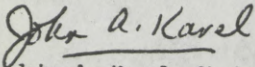
In summary, the 8,000 acres wilderness will preserve one of the richest, most beautiful, and fastest disappearing ecosystem types on the

continent. The need for human assistance in maintaining the wilderness character of a natural system is admittedly unusual, but we point out that the history and overwhelming natural significance of the Mingo Swamp render acceptance of this human responsibility logical and imperative.

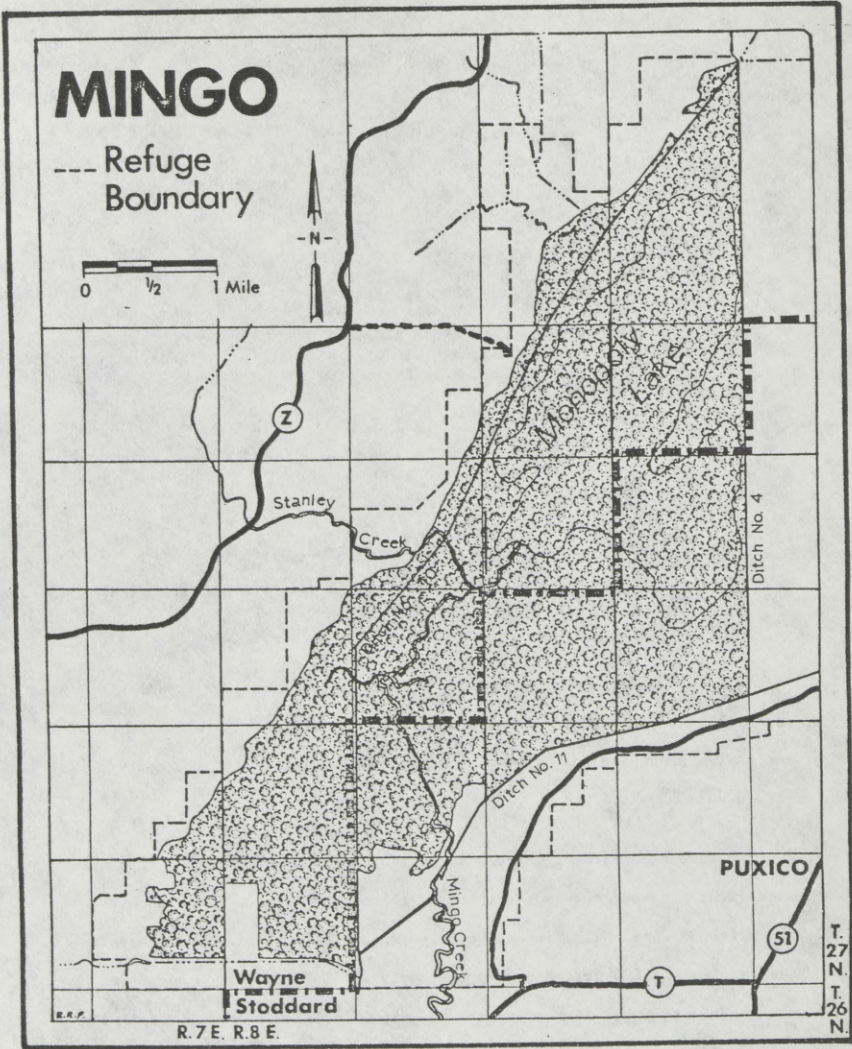
Finally, we would draw your attention to the virtually unanimous public support for the 8,000 acres, two-unit proposal reflected in the record of wilderness hearings conducted June 28, 1972, in Puxico, Missouri.

We will be grateful for whatever prompt consideration and attention you can give H.R. 2975.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John A. Karel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John A. Karel, Chairman
Wilderness Committee



The Wilderness Society

1901 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20006 (202) 293-2732

STATEMENT OF A. T. WRIGHT

BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS
OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

RELATIVE TO WILDERNESS DESIGNATIONS
IN THE MINGO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
PUXICO, MISSOURI, H.R. 2975, H.R. 5893

July 1, 1976

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee, my name is A. T. Wright, Staff Consultant, The Wilderness Society, 1901 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

The Wilderness Society is a forty-year old national non-profit membership organization dedicated to the preservation of wilderness and wildlife habitat and to the expansion and protection of the national park, forest and wildlife refuge systems.

We are here today in strong support of an outstanding 8,000 acre wilderness proposal developed by conservation organizations in Missouri for the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge. Two separate units of wilderness are proposed--the 5,000 acre Monopoly Lake area and a 3,000 acre Mingo Creek area. This proposal is represented by H.R. 2975 filed by Representative Bill Burlison in whose district the Refuge is located. We commend Mr. Burlison and the conservationists of his state for their public spirited action in

making sure that Missouri is well represented in the National Wilderness Preservation System established by the Wilderness Act of 1964. H.R. 5893, an omnibus bill, also constitutes an 8,000 acre proposal.

Even though we think it needs substantial improvement, we wish to commend the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for its 1,700 acre proposal. We believe that the Service is well motivated and sincere in its objections to the inclusion of the Monopoly Lake area. The Service has management considerations involving water levels in the lake which it believes cannot be accomplished under the Wilderness Act. However, we assert that Section 4(c) of the Act permits the control of water levels if such control is directed at the maintenance of a natural water regime essential to the native swamp ecosystems of the region. This is the case in Monopoly Lake. By regulating water levels, the Service is not managing an artificial hydrological regime but a natural one--one which is crucial to the swampy forests of this area and the fish and wildlife sustained by it. The natural water regime of the Refuge had been destroyed many years ago by dam construction and other developments in the rivers and waterways outside the Refuge. The Service deserves high praise for its early recognition of the urgent need to protect the normal life-giving ebb and flow of waters in the Refuge swamp and for taking the necessary steps to do so. We wish to strengthen the Service's hand by wilderness designation for Monopoly Lake which will forestall recurring pressures for road construction through the Refuge, the construction of power lines, pipelines and the like or ill-advised timber sales which could be damaging to the Refuge and its wildlife.

The Service also objects to the inclusion of about 1,300 acres to the south of its own proposal on the grounds that it is a forested area which is part of an approved forest management plan and has been selectively cut within the past twenty-eight years. It is also asserted that no more cutting is anticipated in the foreseeable future but that management options should remain. These are not adequate reasons for denial of wilderness protection. Indeed, it points up the need for wilderness so that the Service might never again cut timber from a remnant oak-gum-cypress forest. Such forests in the Mississippi Delta are now largely decimated from their original extent of about 27 million acres. The decimation of the lowland hardwood forest ecosystem is strong reason for protecting every possible acre with wilderness designation. The Service's desire for retention of management options in this southerly area clearly poses a threat of additional cutting in the future. Therefore we urge the Subcommittee to recommend the protection of the Wilderness Act for this area as well as the others. Please note the fact that other portions of the Mingo Refuge suffered man-made disturbances from which substantial recovery has been made by natural processes, so much so that wilderness designation is now greatly feasible. This applies to the southwest portion except for the moist soil units, managed fields and public use facilities included therein, none of which do we recommend as wilderness.

The Wilderness Society, with respect to this southerly portion, may differ in a small way with other conservationists in that we would not exclude from wilderness about 200 acres located between Ditches 6 and 10.

This small acreage is contiguous with areas proposed for wilderness immediately west and north and contains almost one half of a Research Natural Area, the balance of which is proposed for wilderness by the Fish and Wildlife Service and others. There is an access road on the west side of Mingo Creek which we recommend be excluded from wilderness as well as moist soil units maintained for waterfowl purposes. Much of the lower reach of Mingo Creek would then be in wilderness as well as its upper reach. Motorboat use is not permitted anywhere in the Refuge so there would be no loss of motorboat use on this portion of Mingo Creek. We commend this small addition to your attention.

As part of our plea for approval of an 8,000 acre proposal we wish the Subcommittee to know that it is dealing with one of the few remaining remnants of a once vast ecosystem of lowland forests in the Mississippi drainage. It is unique and it is priceless. More and more we boast that while man is easily capable of ecological destruction, he is also able to lend nature a helping hand. The Fish and Wildlife Service has been doing so without benefit of wilderness protection. This is risky in view of economic or developmental pressures which might be lurking in the background. Here is an opportunity to seal our bargain with nature. Put Monopoly Lake and the 1,300 acre area to the south of the Service proposal in the National Wilderness Preservation System by approving an 8,000 acre bill.

Attached to our statement is a map and a description of the boundaries of the wilderness areas comprised of the Monopoly Lake Unit at about 5,000 acres and the Mingo Creek Unit of about 3,000 acres.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

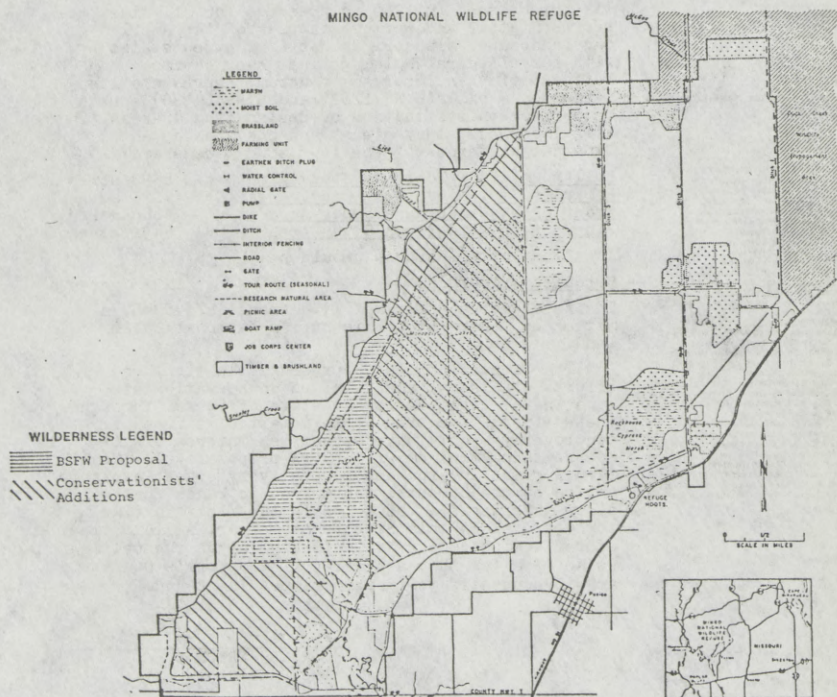
Mingo Wilderness Boundary Description

1.) The Mingo Creek Unit comprising approximately 3,000 acres (excluding grassland areas) consisting of the land and waters west of Ditch 6 and adjacent road to the West Side Auto Trail as far north as Rabbit Ridge Access Road to Ditch 10 (Section 9-USGS 7 1/2 Quads-McGee, Puxico, Wappapello) and bounded on the south by the service road, excluding farm and moist soil units adjacent thereto and excluding also the one mile Access Road to the picnic ground and boat ramp on the west side of Mingo Creek; and

2.) The Monopoly Lake Unit (excluding grassland and farm units) comprising approximately 5,000 acres east of Ditch 6 and adjacent road, to its connection with Ditch 10 and northward to the aforesaid Rabbit Ridge Access Road to Ditch 10, there being bounded by the West Side Auto Trail northward to the connection of Ditches 10 and 4, said Ditch 4 to constitute the east boundary of the Monopoly Lake wilderness south to its connection with Ditch 11, which constitutes the southern boundary of the proposal.

Along an Ancient Mississippi Channel

The 21,646-acre Mingo National Wildlife Refuge is located in southeast Missouri on the edge of the Ozark Mountains, along an ancient Mississippi River channel. The refuge's main function is to provide a resting and feeding area for migrating ducks and geese. The refuge contains 207 species of birds, including such threatened species as the bald eagle, peregrine falcon and osprey. Wild turkey, beaver, deer, gray and fox squirrels, swamp rabbits, bobcats and gray foxes also inhabit the refuge. Reptiles and amphibians abound, along with fish populations of bass, crappie and blue gill. The refuge has a 90,000-acre watershed which receives a 50-inch average annual rainfall. Three major impoundments provide some 6,500 acres of water surface for waterfowl. Although much of the refuge area was logged in the early 1900's, bald cypress and water tupelo have regenerated successfully. Various species of oak in large stands produce heavy acorn crops for wildlife.



COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

ST. LOUIS REGION

6267 DELMAR BOULEVARD / ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63130
PHONE (314) 727-0600

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT, Dr. David E. Bedan
VICE PRESIDENT, Leo A. Drey
VICE PRESIDENT, R. Roger Pryor
SECRETARY, Mrs. Walter Lausless
TREASURER, Ellen Schmitz Livingston
Dee Aylward
Mrs. John D. Bartley, Jr.
Larry A. Brown
Al Bruns
Robert P. Ciampoli
Ken Cohen
Harold K. Donnelly
Vera T. Falk
Jo Gallo
David Garin
Robert E. Goetz
Lewis C. Green
Mrs. Lewis C. Green
Gary D. Harvey
Alfred Kahn
Mrs. Warren Lammert, Jr.
Gus Lumpe
Richard B. Parker
Joan Schlaepfer
Dr. David Schlessinger
Al Schneider
Robert E. Scott
Harry J. Shelton, Jr.
Mrs. Dorothy M. Siusser
Barry Thalden

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Ben Senturia, Jr.
DITOR
Paul A. Camp
OFFICE MANAGER
Joan Grad

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

American Camping Association
American Society of Landscape Architects
Audubon Society, St. Louis
Christ Church Cathedral
Conservation Federation of Missouri
South Side Division
Environmental Corps of
St. Louis University
Environmental Response
Ethical Society of St. Louis
Florissant Action Team for the Environment
Grassroots Garden Club
Ladue Garden Club, Conservation
Committee
Legal Aid Society
Manchester United Methodist Church
Social Concerns Committee
National Council of Jewish Women
St. Louis Section
Open Space Council
Residential Betterment Section of the
Community Development Agency
St. Charles Enthusiasts for a Natural
Environment
St. Louis Organic Garden Club
Sheet Metal Workers, Local 36
Sierra Club, Eastern Missouri
Group, Ozark Chapter
Sierra Club, Piasa-Palissades
Group, Great Lakes Chapter
Webster Groves Nature Study Society
Wild Canis Survival & Research Center

STATEMENT ON MISSOURI WILDERNESS for HOUSE INTERIOR SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS July 1, 1976

The Coalition for the Environment/St. Louis Region is in complete agreement with the goals set forth in legislation by Representative James Symington to protect certain parts of the Mark Twain National Forest as wilderness. The Coalition for the Environment is composed of nearly 1000 individual members in the St. Louis area as well as two dozen affiliate organizations.

The National Wilderness Preservation System was established in 1964 to preserve for all time representative and worthy examples of the American landscape. Missouri is one of the few states with large federal holdings that has, so far, been left out of this important program. Representative Symington's bills (H.R. 12821 and H.R. 14530) seek to correct this situation by designating 4 areas as "wilderness study areas" and one area as an "instant wilderness." The four study areas are:

<u>Bell Mountain Wilderness Study Area</u>	8533 acres
<u>Rockpile Mtn. Wilderness Study Area</u>	4170 acres
<u>Paddy Creek Wilderness Study Area</u>	6888 acres
<u>Piney Creek Wilderness Study Area</u>	8432 acres

The "instant wilderness" would be:

<u>Hercules Wilderness</u>	12325 acres
----------------------------	-------------

The total acreage for all five areas is 40348, a mere 2 or 3 percent of Missouri's National Forest land.

The present bill(s) represents the tireless efforts of Missourians: citizen conservationists, landowners, legislators and state officers. Through these efforts the present legislation is free of controversy - only narrow, selfish interests will oppose these minimum wilderness proposals. The Coalition for the Environment respectively urges favorable action by the Subcommittee on Public Lands that will allow this legislation to reach the floor in time for approval in this Bicentennial Year. At this time of reflection on our Nation's beginnings the setting aside of a few thousand acres of Missouri's Ozarks as wilderness is most appropriate. Thank you.

R. Roger Pryor
R. ROGER PRYOR
Vice President

Mr. KAREL. Thank you very much.

Mr. BLANTON. Mr. Chairman, I am James R. Blanton of Springfield, Mo. I am a graduate student in business at the University of Missouri, and I am here to speak as a private citizen. I have no expertise in biology, but I would like to endorse and express my support for the full acreage mentioned by Mr. Karel in the Mingo area for inclusion in the national wilderness preservation system, and I will yield to other speakers.

Thank you.

Mr. WRIGHT. Mr. Chairman, I am Art Wright, staff consultant to the Wilderness Society, and we are here today in strong support of an 8,000-acre wilderness proposal developed by conservationists and conservation groups in Missouri. This would be two separate areas, the 5,000-acre tract and the 3,000-acre Mingo area.

We commend Bill Burlison for his support of a fine bill. We wish to commend, also, the Fish and Wildlife Service for the 1,700-acre proposal, but it is inadequate. This inadequacy has to do with the fact that the Service felt they could not regulate the level of the water in the Monopoly Lake area.

The Service has management considerations involving water levels in the lake which it believes cannot be accomplished under the Wilderness Act. However, we assert that section 4(c) of the act permits the control of water levels if such control is directed at the maintenance of a natural water regime essential to the native swamp ecosystem of the region. This is the case in Monopoly Lake. By regulating water levels, the Service is not managing an artificial hydrological regime, but a natural one—one which is crucial to the swampy forests of this area and the fish and wildlife sustained by it.

The natural water regime of the refuge has been destroyed many years ago by dam construction and other developments in the rivers and waterways outside the refuge. The Service deserves high praise for its early recognition of the urgent need to protect the normal lifegiving ebb and flow of waters in the refuge swamp and for taking the necessary steps to do so. However, the agency objects to the inclusion of about 1,300 acres to the south of its own proposal on the ground that it is a forested area which is part of an approved forest management plan and has been selectively cut within the past 28 years.

It is also asserted that no more cutting is anticipated in the foreseeable future, but that management options should remain. These are not adequate reasons for denial of wilderness potential. Indeed, it points up the need for wilderness so that the Service might never again cut timber from a remnant oak-gum-cypress forest.

Such forests in the Mississippi Delta are now largely designated from their original extent of about 27 million acres. The designation of the lowland hardwood forest ecosystem is strong reason for protecting every possible acre with wilderness designation.

The Service's desire for retention of management options in this southerly area clearly poses a threat of additional cutting in the future.

As Leigh Fredrickson has said, these three refuges total, and they are all representative of the same ecosystem, 145,000 acres. The Fish

and Wildlife Service, for the three of them, proposes about 3 or 4 percent of this total, which is about 4,400 acres, and conservationists, themselves, are only asking in all three of these refuges for about 15,600 acres, which is about 11 or 12 percent of the acreages in these same three great refuges.

They all have the same kind of ecosystem which needs protection. The White River Refuge at one time provided 40 percent of the timber harvested in the entire national wildlife refuge system, and the Service today is proposing a 973,000-acre wilderness.

The Wilderness Society, with respect to this southerly portion, may differ in a small way with other conservationists in that we would not exclude from wilderness about 200 acres located between ditches 6 and 10. This small acreage is contiguous with areas proposed for wilderness immediately west and north and contains almost one-half of a research natural area, the balance of which is proposed for wilderness by the Fish and Wildlife Service and others.

There is an access road^d on the west side of Mingo Creek which we recommend be excluded from wilderness as well as most soil units maintained for waterfowl purposes. Much of the lower reach of Mingo Creek would then be in wilderness as well as its upper reach.

Motorboat use is not permitted anywhere in the refuge, so there would be no loss of motorboat use on this portion of Mingo Creek. We commend this small addition to your attention.

Mr. Chairman, we have a map of the wilderness area attached to our statement. I would like to show you the 200 acres that we feel ought to be in the wilderness proposal. It is this area here east of Mingo Creek and just shy of the unit here that exists right there, and you can see this dotted area, which is a research area which would otherwise be excluded from wilderness if this portion does not go in.

Mr. STEGNER. Mr. Chairman, my name is Ed Stegner.

I want to only say that I would like for our organization to be on record as supporting the 8,000-acre Mingo Wilderness area, and I would say this, that my organization, the Conservation Federation of Missouri, is made up primarily of 30,000 hunters and fishermen—they are not all hunters and fishermen, but a large majority of them are. If we didn't feel we could have the wilderness and the primary purpose of this waterfowl refuge, we could not have supported it, but we do support it.

Mr. BATES. My name is Bill Bates. I am here representing the Ozark Society, a citizens' organization interested in conservation issues affecting the Ozark Highlands.

We also would wish to express our support for the full 8,000-acre Mingo Wilderness area as necessary in order to protect the unique values here. We appreciate the opportunity to speak.

Mr. HARMON. I am Les Harmon. I live in St. Louis, and work at McDonnell-Douglas Corp. I am chairman of the eastern Missouri group, Ozark chapter, Sierra Club. We consist of approximately 1,000 members.

We would also like to go on record in full, strong support of the full 8,000 acres in Congressman Burlison's bill.

Thank you.

Mr. PIERCE. Mr. Chairman, my name is Don Pierce. I live in Columbia, Mo. I am the Midwest representative for the Friends of the Earth, and the coordinator of the Missouri Friends of the Earth.

Recognizing the excellent testimony of all the other people on this panel, I see no reason to repeat what has been said already. Missouri Friends of the Earth would like to support the full 8,000-acre proposal for the Mingo Wilderness.

Mr. MELCHER. Thank you all very much.

Now I did have one question, and I think it has been pretty well answered, but I will ask it again of Mr. Wheeler, too, when he testifies right after you people.

There has been no timber harvesting for 20-odd years you have testified, Mr. Wright?

Mr. WRIGHT. Yes.

Mr. MELCHER. Dr. Fredrickson testified the last timber harvesting was in 1962. Is that correct?

Professor FREDERICKSON. On the refuge. I am not sure when the harvesting was in that particular site.

Mr. MELCHER. I see. I will get that from Mr. Wheeler. He ought to know exactly.

Mr. WRIGHT. The 28-year figure I used I extracted from the fish and wildlife testimony at the Senate hearing.

Mr. MELCHER. Now, we had scheduled people who can't be here, Mr. Marbaker for the Mining Industry Council, Missouri, and I want to ask whether there are any known minerals in the proposed area. Does anybody know?

All right. Thank you all very much. I thank you and commend you for your very candid and brief testimony. It serves a purpose.

Now, Mr. Wheeler, will you come forward.

STATEMENT OF DOUGLAS WHEELER, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR; ACCOMPANIED BY JERRY CLAWSON, MANAGER, MINGO WILDLIFE REFUGE

Mr. WHEELER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MELCHER. Your testimony will be placed in the record as if read at this point. I think we will have a few questions of you and then you can stress the points that you think are significant.

Mr. WHEELER. Yes, sir.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Wheeler follows:]

STATEMENT OF DOUGLAS WHEELER, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE HOUSE INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE, ON H.R. 2975, A BILL TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN LANDS IN THE MINGO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AS WILDERNESS, July 1, 1976.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to appear before your Committee today to discuss establishment of wilderness on the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge in Missouri.

Mingo Refuge is situated in an ancient channel of the Mississippi River bounded on two sides by limestone bluffs and rolling hills. It was an almost unpenetrable jungle when first visited by explorers and trappers. About 1900, loggers moved in and by 1930, all merchantable cypress, gum and oak were gone. Land developers followed the logging, trying unsuccessfully to clear and drain. In 1944 in the center of the old swamp area, the 21,646 acre Mingo National Wildlife Refuge was established. Since then, the area has been recovering from previous misuses under extensive management and protection. Some trees on the refuge are now the largest of their species in Missouri.

The refuge is a significant wood duck production area, a goose wintering area, and a goose and duck migration area. Resident wildlife have prospered including white-tailed deer and the rather rare swamp rabbit. Some farming and grazing are done for wildlife improvement with other local benefits.

The area we proposed in a November 1973 message to Congress for wilderness status is in the southwest part of the refuge. It is a triangular 1,700 acre area bounded on all sides by roads. An old drainage ditch

and Mingo Creek run through it and although heavily logged earlier, this lowland forest with ridges and swamp edges has been protected from cutting since 1944. Four Research Natural Areas are within the proposed wilderness area. So far as is known, there are no significant mineral values in the area. Some iron mining was done in the vicinity in early years but was unprofitable. Limestone is not unique to the refuge area; however, there is no commercial demand for refuge sources.

In 1972, 130,000 visitors fished, hunted, observed and studied wildlife, walked a boardwalk into the swamp, hiked and drove the auto tour over the refuge. With wilderness designation more people will, we believe, derive pleasure from the limited recreation afforded by the wilderness area. At present there are about 1,000 visitors annually to the 1,700 acre area we propose for wilderness. Fishermen on Mingo Creek make up most of this visitor use.

A public hearing on the wilderness proposal was held June 28, 1972, in Puxico, Missouri; over 100 persons attended. Twenty-three made statements and 195 letters and 4 petitions were received for the hearing record. In the letters and petitions, 27 supported the 1,700 acre proposal and the remainder felt that a larger 8,000 acre area should be designated wilderness. This proposed 8,000 acre area would extend the 1,700 acre proposal both south and north, including Monopoly Lake.

Monopoly Lake contains a swamp ecosystem that is probably unique in the central United States. The water levels within the lake are controlled by means of plugs placed in ditches that drain the area. Manipulation

of water levels is planned and programmed as part of the refuge management program and results in the production of tremendous amounts of natural waterfowl foods, particularly millets and smart weeds, and the creation of outstanding waterfowl habitat. An improved fishery is an ancillary benefit which accrues from the water level manipulation.

If the refuge is to meet the objectives for which it was established and acquired (primarily for a migration and wintering refuge for Canada geese and mallards), continued management of the water in Monopoly Lake is required. Management of water levels is in consonance with and necessary to the perpetuation of the ecosystems found in the swamp.

The area south of the 1,700 acre proposed wilderness which has been recommended by many for wilderness status is largely in timber, and it is part of an approved forest management plan. Nearly the entire area has had timber selectively cut from it within the past 20 years. In 1963-1965 approximately two million board feet were cut from the area, and a harvest was also made in 1954. The area was part of a Timber Stand Improvement Program conducted in the mid-Sixties. The area retains evidence of these operations, and while we do not anticipate any additional timber cutting from the area at this time, future management options should remain open to effectively meet refuge objectives.

In addition, there are fenced fields in this unit, a diked, moist soil area, vehicle trails and some public use facilities. Because of the potential need for management and the presence of nonconforming features, we do not feel the area should be designated wilderness.

H.R. 2975 would designate the larger 8,000 acre area on Mingo as wilderness. Mr. Chairman, we believe the nonconforming features of the timber area south of Monopoly Lake preclude it from qualifying as wilderness. Furthermore, wilderness designation on this unit would restrict future timber cutting or other management activities aimed at benefiting the wildlife resource and perpetuating the objectives of this national wildlife refuge.

With regard to Monopoly Lake, the water manipulation essential to maintaining the swamp ecosystem must be continued. Such planned water level control could be interpreted as contrary to the intent of wilderness designation. Should this Committee deem otherwise, we would urge that the legislation clearly recognize the need for and approval of continued water management in the lake. It should be pointed out that other than continued water level manipulation, there are no other features or uses of the lake which would preclude it from qualifying for wilderness designation.

This concludes my prepared statement, Mr. Chairman. I will be glad to answer any questions you might have. Thank you.

Mr. MELCHER. First of all, how long has it been since there has been any timber harvesting in the proposed 8,000 acres?

Mr. WHEELER. 8,000 embraces the entire area shown in three shades of green. The timbering occurred in the southwestern portion, from 1963 to 1965, and about 2 million board-feet were harvested.

Mr. MELCHER. That would be in the area that is the middle shade of green?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes, sir.

Mr. MELCHER. In the southwestern portion, which is approximately 2,000 acres or less?

Mr. WHEELER. About 1,300 acres.

Mr. MELCHER. 1,300 acres.

Now, would the Service anticipate a timber sale from there any time within the next 20 years?

Mr. WHEELER. I think the answer is probably not, although we cannot give you a definitive answer to that question. One of the things that was recognized by the earlier testimony is that whether or not there is a sale of merchantable timber, there is perhaps a need for additional cutting to maintain the natural qualities that make this area so attractive.

This occurred as a part of our timber improvement program, and I can say we do foresee the need for additional timber management in this area.

Mr. MELCHER. You do see some within 20 years?

Mr. WHEELER. Perhaps management within 20 years. Sale is problematic, but it is conceivable that a sale could occur.

Mr. MELCHER. Would there be any foreseeable mineral extractions in the area if it were not designated as wilderness?

Mr. WHEELER. We think not. Our survey of this area as an adjunct to the wilderness study reveals there may be some commercially feasible deposits of limestone, but that is about it. There is very little demand for it at this time.

Mr. MELCHER. Is there anyone present in the room representing the USGS?

Mr. TERRELL. John Wells is present.

Mr. MELCHER. John, has the geological survey participated in a review of the proposed 8,000 acres?

Mr. WELLS. No, we have not made any study of the area at all.

Mr. MELCHER. If it were designated as wilderness, would you study it or not?

Mr. WELLS. It is really not laid out as a policy so far as I know.

Mr. MELCHER. Might we inquire why there has been no study of this area?

Mr. WELLS. We have not been—the geological survey has not been requested to make a study by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Mr. MELCHER. Thank you.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce Mr. Jerry Clawson, who is with me. He is manager of the Mingo Wildlife Refuge.

Mr. MELCHER. That is fine, because my next question could be answered best by someone working in the area.

If the 8,000 acres were included in the wilderness system, and you, of course, reviewed your proposal which leaves the road between the two darker shades of green and the lighter shade of green, would it present some management problems to you?

Mr. CLAWSON. We are really talking about three areas.

Mr. MELCHER. I understand that.

Mr. WHEELER. On the Monopoly Lake area we must continue water management. That is our concern there.

Mr. MELCHER. What would you need to do that would be restricted under the act within that area then?

Mr. CLAWSON. A deliberate manipulation of water levels is necessary. Such activity would not be consistent with the wilderness concept.

Mr. MELCHER. How do you do that?

Mr. CLAWSON. By placing and removing plugs in the ditches that drain the area.

Mr. MELCHER. Would those plugs be within the area or outside?

Mr. CLAWSON. They would have to be excluded. We draw a line around one, and the other we would move, if necessary. Right now one of them is in the area.

Mr. MELCHER. If the Wilderness Act permits necessary water manipulation to continue and be allowed, would it then still present you with a management problem?

Mr. CLAWSON. No. Then we could manage the way we currently are, and the way we foresee management for the future.

Mr. MELCHER. Would you then favor that inclusion if that area is designated as wilderness?

Mr. CLAWSON. It would remove our opposition to it.

Mr. WHEELER. There is another question, Mr. Chairman, if I could intervene, and it is really a basic question of definition of wilderness. This is an area which, although now it appears to closely resemble its original state, it is not naturally maintained, and it is subject to manipulation. Only by a very long stretch of the imagination could one say this is an area where man's work is not evident.

Throughout the area there are ditches, drainage creeks, impoundments, roads, and all sorts of things associated with our management of the refuge which in the judgment of the Department do not fall within the definition of wilderness provided to us by the Congress in 1964, and the fact that the water is manipulated, even though the control structures may exist outside the refuge, suggests to me that this is not a natural area, but an area in which water is manipulated for another purpose, and it is an important objective of the wildlife refuge that that water be manipulated for these considerations.

Mr. MELCHER. I think we understand that, and so frequently in eastern designations, while we do include them under the broad 1964 act, we do write into the language in reports and then designate a certain area as being classified as wilderness. We do write in an explanation that would not be found under the parent act.

Mr. WHEELER. I think this is what has happened with respect to Mingo and vicinity.

Mr. MELCHER. I think the issue before us is can we designate the proposed area as wilderness without interfering with the manage-

ment of it, the proper management of it, and then I think if that can be resolved, then the issue is whether or not, by designating it as wilderness, we are precluding timber harvesting or mining operations that would be against the public interest.

Apparently there is no proposed mining in the area, though we do not have a USGS survey of it, and there is no proposed timber harvesting or likely to be any happening in the next 20 years or perhaps longer, although we do recognize your point, Mr. Wheeler, that some types for management's sake you might have some selective tree removal.

Mr. WHEELER. That is what happened during the period we discussed earlier, in the middle 1960's.

Mr. MELCHER. Thank you very much.

Mr. WHEELER. Thank you.

Mr. MELCHER. Does staff have any questions?

Mr. CRANDELL. Just one question, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Wheeler, does the 1972 mining law apply to this area?

Mr. WHEELER. No, the refuge is acquired lands, and the 1872 mining laws are not applicable.

Mr. TERRELL. Do you believe the authority is lacking in the Wilderness Act to regulate the water in the area?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes. Absent a new enactment by the Congress I do not believe this area qualifies as a wilderness area under the 1964 act.

Mr. TERRELL. I think the act says the President can recommend the use of water, reservoirs and the whole bit.

Mr. WHEELER. It is not section 4(c) of the act which was cited earlier as authority for that. I think the guiding principle has to be whether this is an area in its natural state where the works of man are not visible. Under neither of these criteria does this area qualify.

Now, the question of continuing management is one the Congress could address and accommodate, by saying that, notwithstanding the requirement of manipulation, we will call this wilderness.

Mr. TERRELL. All right.

Mr. MELCHER. Thank you very much, both of you. We appreciate your testimony.

Mr. WHEELER. Thank you.

[Whereupon, at 10:40 a.m. the subcommittee proceeded to the consideration of other business.]

[Additional material submitted for the hearing record follows:]



August 16, 1976

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL
G. Richard Mode, Chairman
101 Alpine Street
Morganton, North Carolina 28655
704-584-1868

CHAPTERS

Blue Ridge Chapter
Winston Salem, N.C.

Daniel Boone Chapter
Boone, N.C.

Foothills Chapter
Forest City, N.C.

Land of the Sky
Asheville, N.C.

Northwest Chapter
Hickory, N.C.

Pisgah Chapter
Hendersonville, N.C.

Table Rock Chapter
Morganton, N.C.

The Honorable John Melcher, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands
1224 Longworth Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

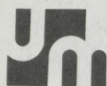
Congressman Melcher,

North Carolinians have spoken loudly in support of legislation that would protect those areas of the Tar Heel state that are especially unique. One such area is being considered for Wilderness designation by your committee now. Let me urge you to support the designation of the Swanquarter National Wildlife Refuge as a Wilderness area. Hope you'll make this letter a part of the hearing record for H.R. 5893 and 3508. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

G. Richard Mode

cc: The Honorable Walter Jones



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA

Gaylord Memorial Laboratory

Puxico, Missouri 63960
Telephone (314) 222-3203Research in Wildlife Ecology
Physiology and Behavior

School of Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife

July 21, 1976

Congressman John Melcher
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands
% Interior and Insular Affairs
Rm. 1328 Longworth
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Melcher:

I would like to add two comments to my statement concerning
Congressman Burlison's Bill 2975 for wilderness on Mingo Refuge.

In my view, the Fish and Wildlife Service's reluctance to have suggested a larger area than 1700 acres for wilderness on Mingo Refuge is related to that agency's official interpretation of the Wilderness Act. As I said, it is not difficult to find individuals within the Fish and Wildlife Service that favor a larger area. The agency's official interpretation seems to revolve around their desire to have specific wording in the legislation on each area with regard to management needed to maintain the character of a wilderness. I believe that the Fish and Wildlife Service's interpretation is in error and that the Wilderness Act clearly provides a mechanism whereby an area can be managed to maintain its wilderness quality.

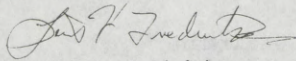
My position from the beginning has been that the Mingo area does qualify for wilderness as set forth in the legislation. This is clear from other areas established as wilderness in the eastern United States. I also maintain that water manipulations are imperative on Mingo to maintain its wilderness character just as the Fish and Wildlife Service does. If these types of manipulations are currently acceptable, and they are on other wilderness areas, then the Mingo Bill does not need special wording to authorize the management the Fish and Wildlife Service desires.

I would like to make one other point in relation to management. In some cases the best management is to avoid any manipulations. The 1300 acres in the cherrybark site on the refuge is a good example of this situation because our research has indicated that natural phenomenon within this site are adequate to maintain the wildlife populations endemic to Mingo Swamp. Without question we could increase the desire-

ability of the area for certain species by practices that would destroy its wilderness character, but only to the detriment of other species.

Thank you again for the opportunity to present my views to your committee.

Sincerely,



Leigh H. Fredrickson
Director

LHF:vc

Hickman High School
1104 North Providence Road
Columbia, Missouri 65201
July 15, 1976

John Melcher, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands
U. S. House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Hon. Melcher:

We were pleased to see the positive results on the hearings for Missouri Wilderness legislation and would like to have our expression of support placed on the record and urge you to continue to push this legislation until it becomes law. Establishment and maintenance of wilderness areas is vital at this point in time and they are a valuable biological resource which must be protected.

Thank you for the positive action.

Yours truly,

Karl L. Breitenbach

Karl L. Breitenbach
President, Biology Club
Hickman High School

BIOLOGY CLUB



SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI 63701

CAPE GIRARDEAU (314) 334-8211
IN ST. LOUIS 241-0195

15 July 1976

Hon. John Melcher, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands
United States House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Melcher:

The Biology Club of Southeast Missouri State University would like the record of hearings on H.R. 2975 and H.R. 14530 to reflect the unanimous support of this organization for the legislation under consideration. As students of biology and residents of Missouri we have long recognized the need for preservation of significant portions of wilderness in the State.

H.R. 2975 and H.R. 14530, as currently proposed, represent an important step in the acquisition of areas of unique natural quality to be set aside for future generations. Missouri at this time has no acreage administered under the Wilderness Act of 1966, and we feel that immediate action must be taken to safeguard the precious wilderness heritage outlined in these proposals. Not only Missourians, but all citizens of the United States will lose the opportunity to experience the distinctive quality of Ozark and Midwestern wilderness, the likes of which cannot be duplicated anywhere on the face of this continent.

The legislation under consideration by your Subcommittee must be approved by the House with all possible speed. Deterioration of the six areas included is eminent, and only rapid Congressional action can curtail damaging exploitation on land which should belong to the whole of the nation.

Faculty and students from this institution can readily attest to the unique quality of the concerned lands, particularly the Dingo, Bell Mountain and Rockpile areas. Failure to safeguard these acreages will not only destroy the value of these ecosystems as necessary educational tools for the study of natural history and ecology, but significantly reduce the aesthetic appeal of the areas as well.

Therefore we ask that the Subcommittee on Public Lands use all haste in approving H.R. 2975 and H.R. 14530, and that the members of the subcommittee join Representatives Durlison and Synington in their efforts to assure passage of this legislation.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Rick Borchelt".

Mr. Rick Borchelt
Chairman, SEMO Biology Club

cc

Walnut Crest, R.D. 7
Columbia, Missouri 65201
July 15, 1976

John Melcher, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands
U. S. House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Sir:

I was pleased to see the positive outlook on the Wilderness areas concept and would like to have my support for the proposed areas placed on the record.

Wilderness areas are a needed resource and will benefit present and future generations of Missourians.

Thank you for the good work.

Yours truly,

Jane Rines

Jane Rines

July 16, 1976

John Melcher, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands
U.S. House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sir:

It was impossible for our club to be represented at the July 1 hearing on the two Missouri Wilderness bills, H.R. 2975 and H.R. 14530, before your subcommittee.

However, we hope this letter will be made part of the record, showing that the 350 families of the Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club wholeheartedly support the two measures.

The Ozarks are being stripped of timber and are being converted to cattle pastures at an appalling rate. One trip through the hills will convince you that our children and grandchildren may never know what the Ozarks once looked like unless we save some small patches, as these bills provide.

We strongly commend the Missouri congressmen who are supporting the bills.

Sincerely,

R. B. Hayes

cc:

Rep. William Burlison
Rep. James Symington
Rep. Richard Bolling
Rep. Richard Ichord
Rep. Gene Taylor

R. B. Hayes
Conservation chairman
Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club
P.O. Box 8165
Kansas City, Mo. 64112

CEDAR MOUNTAIN, N.C., August 13, 1976.

Hon. JOHN MELCHER,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: It has come to my attention that the Swanquarter National Wildlife Refuge has been proposed as wilderness in omnibus wilderness designation bill HR 5893 and 3508. This prime undeveloped wetlands should be protected from abuse so common to so called "waste" marsh land. This area provides for an estuarine ecosystem necessary for sport and commercial fisheries, boasts breeding grounds for numerous waterfowl and acts as a stop-over point for flying-through birds. As one of the few remaining wild marsh lands, wilderness designation would provide Swanquarter with the protection it needs. I urge you to support the wilderness designation of Swanquarter in HR 5893 and 3508.

Sincerely,

 RICHARD R. MAGGI

SUMTER, S.C., August 23, 1976.

Hon. JOHN MELCHER,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: We are writing to express support for the Swanquarter Wilderness proposal included in the bills HR 5893 and 3508, which we also support. We ask that this letter be made a part of the hearing record for HR 5893 and 3508.

Sincerely,

 DAVID F. TATE.
 LINDA F. TATE.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Chapel Hill, August 30, 1976.

Hon. JOHN MELCHER,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I wish to state my strong support for the current proposals (HR 5893 and 3508) to designate Swanquarter N.W.R. as a National Wilderness area. From personal visits to the Refuge, I can state that Swanquarter is a unique area, fully worthy of further protection. The scientific and educational values of the Refuge are deserving of the fullest legal protection.

Please make this letter part of the hearing record for H.R. 5893 and 3508.

Sincerely,

 P. D. TILLMAN.

[Western Union Mailgram]

GRANDVIEW, Mo., June 30, 1976.

Representative JOHN MELCHER,
Chairman, Subcommittee of Public Land,
Washington, D.C.

I am voicing my support of H.R. 12821 that will designate several areas in Missouri as wilderness land area. I would also like to ask that the bill be amended to include the Irish Wilderness, these areas should be set aside for future generations as well as for their genetic value for developing better trees through hybridization. They could also be possible sources of lumber in an emergency situation. I would like to receive a reply about the hearings if at all possible.

Respectfully yours,

LAURA MICHELE TWITE.

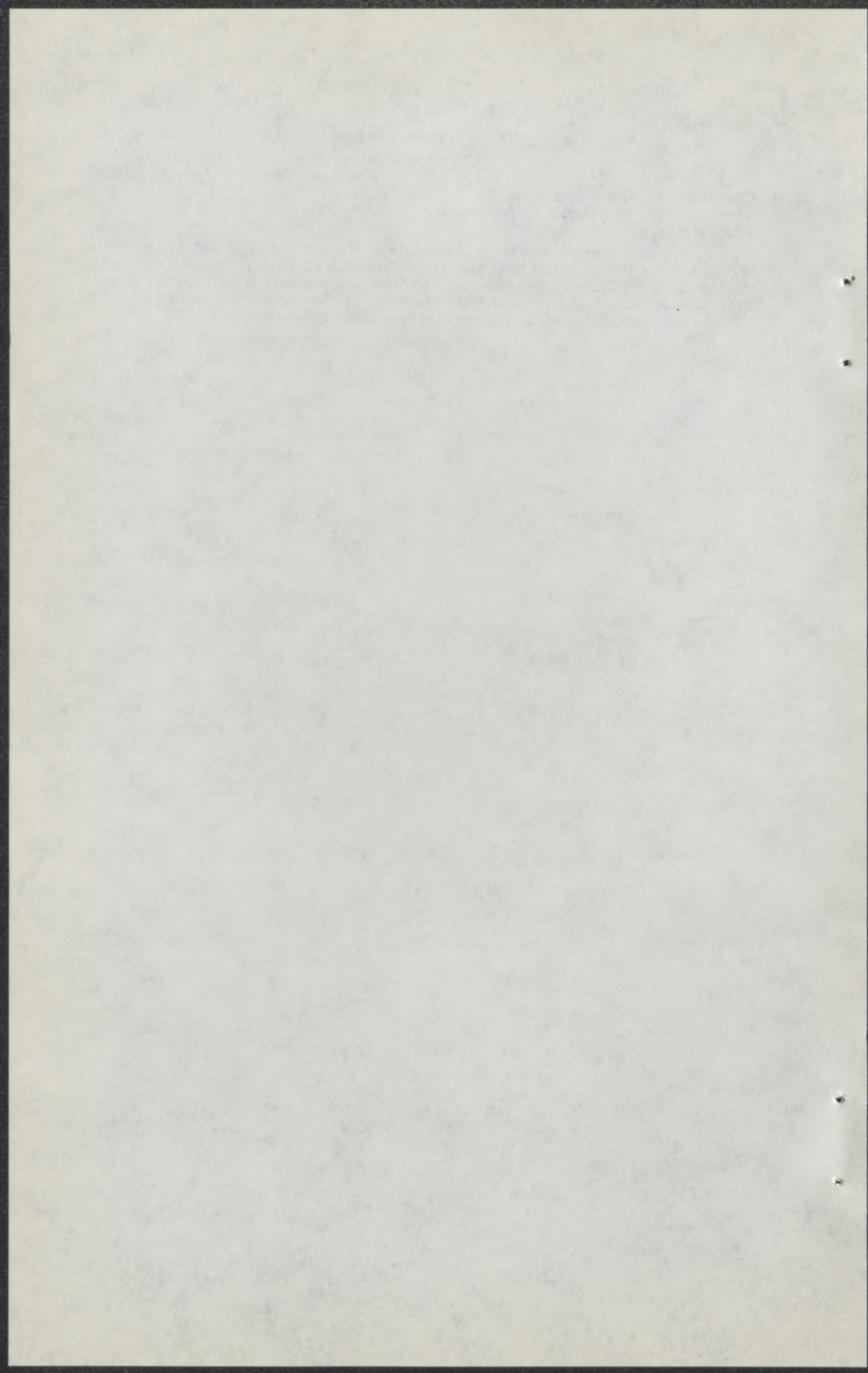
[Western Union Telegram]

MISSOURI FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION,
Jefferson City, Mo., June 30, 1976.

Congressman JOHN MELCHER,
Chairman, House Interior Subcommittee,
Washington, D.C.

The Missouri Forest Products Association Requests additional hearings be scheduled for House Bill 14530 and House Bill 12821. House Bill 14530 was introduced June 23, our office did not find out hearing was scheduled for July 1 until p.m. June 29. One day to prepare and travel to Washington does not allow us time to present testimony at the currently scheduled hearing.

GERALD E. ROSS,
Executive Director.



MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST, MO., WILDERNESS
STUDY AREA, INCLUDING BELL MOUNTAIN, ROCK-
PILE MOUNTAIN, PINEY CREEK, PADDY CREEK AND
HERCULES GLADES (ALSO KNOWN AS EASTERN
WILDERNESS)

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1976

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 10:45 a.m., pursuant to other business, in room 2212, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. James Weaver presiding.

Mr. WEAVER. The subcommittee will now consider H.R. 12821 by Mr. Symington, and H.R. 14530 by Mr. Symington and Mr. Bolling, to provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness, and to designate one area as wilderness.

[The bills, H.R. 12821 and H.R. 14530, follow:]

94TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 12821

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 25, 1976

Mr. SYMINGTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That in furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act
4 (78 Stat. 890), the Secretary of Agriculture shall review,
5 as to their suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as
6 wilderness, the following lands as generally depicted on
7 maps appropriately referenced, dated March 1976:

8 (1) certain lands in the Mark Twain National For-
9 est, Missouri, which comprise approximately eight thou-
10 sand five hundred and thirty acres and are generally
11 depicted on a map entitled "Bell Mountain Wilderness
12 Study Area";

1 (2) certain lands in the Mark Twain National
2 Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately four
3 thousand one hundred and seventy acres and are gen-
4 erally depicted on a map entitled "Rockpile Mountain
5 Wilderness Study Area";

6 (3) certain lands in the Mark Twain National
7 Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately eight
8 thousand four hundred and thirty acres and are gen-
9 erally depicted on a map entitled "Piney Creek Wil-
10 derness Study Area", and whose study must be com-
11 pleted five years from the effective date of this Act; and

12 (4) certain lands in the Mark Twain National
13 Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately six
14 thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight acres and are
15 generally depicted on a map entitled "Paddy Creek
16 Wilderness Study Area", and whose study must be com-
17 pleted five years from the effective date of this Act.

18 SEC. 2. The areas designated for study pursuant to
19 section 1 shall be administered, and the studies shall be
20 conducted, in accordance with the applicable provisions of
21 the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890) and the Act of January
22 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2096), except that any reference in such
23 provisions to the effective date of such Acts shall be deemed
24 to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

94TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 14530

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 23, 1976

Mr. SYMINGTON (for himself and Mr. BOLLING) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness; and to designate one area as wilderness.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That in furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act
4 (78 Stat. 890), the Secretary of Agriculture shall review,
5 as to their suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as
6 wilderness, the following lands as generally depicted on
7 maps appropriately referenced, dated March 1976:

8 (1) certain lands in the Mark Twain National For-
9 est, Missouri, which comprise approximately eight thou-
10 sand five hundred and thirty acres and are generally

1 depicted on a map entitled "Bell Mountain Wilderness
2 Study Area";

3 (2) certain lands in the Mark Twain National
4 Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately four
5 thousand one hundred and seventy acres and are gen-
6 erally depicted on a map entitled "Rockpile Mountain
7 Wilderness Study Area";

8 (3) certain lands in the Mark Twain National
9 Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately eight
10 thousand four hundred and thirty acres and are gen-
11 erally depicted on a map entitled "Piney Creek Wil-
12 derness Study Area", and whose study must be com-
13 pleted five years from the effective date of this Act; and

14 (4) certain lands in the Mark Twain National
15 Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately six
16 thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight acres and are
17 generally depicted on a map entitled "Paddy Creek
18 Wilderness Study Area", and whose study must be com-
19 pleted five years from the effective date of this Act.

20 SEC. 2. The areas designated for study pursuant to
21 section 1 shall be administered, and the studies shall be
22 conducted, in accordance with the applicable provisions of
23 the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890) and the Act of Janu-
24 ary 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2096), except that any reference in

1 such provisions to the effective date of such Acts shall be
2 deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

3 SEC. 3. In furtherance of the purpose of the Wilderness
4 Act (78 Stat. 890), the following lands as generally depicted
5 on maps appropriately referenced, are hereby designated as
6 wilderness and, therefore, as components of the National
7 Wilderness Preservation System—

8 (1) certain lands in the Mark Twain National
9 Forest, Missouri, which comprise twelve thousand three
10 hundred and twenty-five acres and are generally depicted
11 on a map entitled "Hercules Glades".

Mr. WEAVER. Our first witness is Mr. Max Peterson, Deputy Chief, Programs and Legislation, Forest Service.

STATEMENT OF HON. R. MAX PETERSON, DEPUTY CHIEF, PROGRAMS AND LEGISLATION, FOREST SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE; ACCOMPANIED BY RICHARD K. GRISWOLD AND MARSH E. LEFLER

Mr. PETERSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. WEAVER. Do you want to read your statement?

Mr. PETERSON. We will comment on it.

Mr. WEAVER. All right.

Mr. PETERSON. First, we are recommending that the Bell Mountain and the Rockpile Mountain areas, which we show on the maps, first Bell Mountain and then Rockpile Mountain—be designated as wilderness study areas. We have modified boundaries primarily to provide opportunities for better boundaries for management of the areas. We are assuming that the study of these areas might well lead to a recommendation that they be designated as wilderness, and we would like to have study boundaries that would lend themselves to interim protection under the Wilderness Act and later designation as wilderness.

We are recommending that the Hercules area, which the bill would designate as an instant wilderness, be designated instead as a wilderness study area.

The reason for this is that this area has not been subjected to hearings such as is required under the 1964 act for primitive areas. It has not been subjected to draft and final environmental statements, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. Our experience in making other instant areas in the East would indicate the great wisdom of allowing for specific public involvement of the local people, for notification, and for the orderly processing of the recommendation so that it does not surprise anybody.

The other two areas that are in the bill, Piney Creek and Paddy Creek, are areas where we have not reached the point in our land management planning where we feel that we are ready to specifically recommend them as wilderness study areas. However, we have no strong objection to the study of these areas should Congress so desire.

We would prefer to complete the land management planning process as it is now ongoing. This approach is now reflected in pending legislation before Congress, that is, the approach of using land management planning as a basic vehicle for determining future management of an area. We would rather complete that process before the areas move to the study category.

This is a brief overview of our position on the five areas.

Mr. WEAVER. You mentioned that former bills included private lands in the periphery. There are now in the present bill—they have been eliminated, resulting in a cogwheel-shaped area. Would this make it more difficult to manage?

What difficulties would you run into in preserving this land as wilderness with this cogwheel situation?

Mr. PETERSON. I think typically what we run into is that you get nonconforming developments on private land that is partly enclosed by wilderness which will detract from the surrounding wilderness opportunities.

So our experience in managing wilderness nationwide would indicate that we need good topographic boundaries. Section lines very seldom make good boundaries for the purposes of managing a wilderness area.

Mr. WEAVER. Would you prefer that private lands be considered in the study, if indeed such a bill were reported, that would make this a study of the wilderness as opposed to instant wilderness?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes, sir, that is essentially what we are suggesting. With Rockpile Mountain it appears to us that those private lands on the north, would be a logical part of defensible and manageable boundaries.

So we would like to study those areas along with the adjacent national forest land.

Now, the Eastern Wilderness Act would not place any restrictions on the management of that private land during the study period. The study bill gives us no authority that we do not presently have as far as acquisition of those lands, so we think the influence on the private land would be minimal during that period. We believe that during the study we should at least have the opportunity to look at those kinds of boundaries.

We do recognize that in this part of the country, any study of private land will cause local concerns. We might as well face them at that time rather than face them after the establishment of the wilderness.

Mr. WEAVER. As one who is not from Missouri, can you briefly tell me what those lands are like?

[Laughter.]

Mr. PETERSON. Well, it depends on the area, but typically in Missouri, you have valley areas which have been farmed and homesteaded, interspersed with ridges of various kinds.

Mr. WEAVER. Piney bluffs?

Mr. PETERSON. Piney bluffs, depending on the area, and some are rounded ridges. They can be quite steep, however, and quite sharp. Typically, you had farming in the valleys, and during the 1930's, when we acquired a lot of this land, we acquired only the uncultivated lands.

Mr. WEAVER. Is this land purchase—

Mr. PETERSON. Yes.

Mr. WEAVER. What is the Forest Service doing now with respect to management of these lands included here.

Mr. PETERSON. These lands generally do not have intensive management at the present time. They are managed primarily for wildlife, recreation, etc. These areas are generally quite attractive.

For example, in the Rockpile area, there are some fairly spectacular rock outcrops from an igneous formation and streams that are clear streams generally. These flood after rains.

Mr. WEAVER. Generally, it is a recreation area now. How many people come there? Is it heavily populated?

Mr. PETERSON. These first two are southwest of St. Louis, which is a fairly heavy population center.

Mr. WEAVER. How far away are they from St. Louis?

Mr. PETERSON. You are talking about—three of them are within a hundred miles of St. Louis, and the other two are just south of Springfield, Mo., which is another population center. So they are quite popular for recreation purposes.

The Mark Twain National Forest is one of our heavy recreation areas. Generally, our management of these proposed study areas is directed toward management for wildlife. There is some proposed timber harvest in two of the areas. This entire forest was already cut over when we acquired it, so the current timber harvesting has generally been thinning and improvement types of cutting.

Mr. WEAVER. Is there a regeneration of trees?

Mr. PETERSON. Some regeneration cutting. Yes.

Mr. WEAVER. What types of trees are there?

Mr. PETERSON. There is oak, hickory and short-leaf pines.

Mr. WEAVER. Is it mainly the hardwoods?

Mr. PETERSON. No, it has a lot of pine.

Mr. WEAVER. But you are restocking the forest?

Mr. PETERSON. We get natural regeneration from both the hardwoods and the short-leaf pine, but there is some planting.

Mr. WEAVER. Thank you, Mr. Peterson.

Does staff have any questions?

Mr. CRANDELL. No questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. WEAVER. Thank you very much, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. PETERSON. Could I add one thing?

Mr. WEAVER. Yes.

Mr. PETERSON. One thing I did not mention in my statement is that this is one of the most active parts of the country right now for lead mining. One of the things we do not know about these areas right now is the mineral situation. So we would determine this as part of the study. This is another reason we would rather not designate any area as wilderness without some study. We think at least the people ought to know what is there.

Mr. WEAVER. Are there lead mines there now?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes, sir. One of the largest lead mining areas in the world is in Missouri.

Mr. WEAVER. There are lead mines in the national forest, but not in the wilderness study areas?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes, not in the study areas, but adjacent to these areas.

Mr. WEAVER. My understanding is that we may need all our lead mines to hide in when the next holocaust hits, so we had better be concerned about that.

Is that all, Mr. Peterson?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes, sir. I will stand by if you want me to.

Mr. WEAVER. I appreciate that.

The Chair would like to call now a panel consisting of Mr. John Karel, Mr. Les Harmon, Mr. William Bates, Mr. Jim Blanton, Mr. John Pierce, Mr. Ed Stegner, Dr. Leigh Fredrickson, and Ms. Bubbles Pierce.

I am not aware of what the time constraints are that we are under here, but the Chair would prefer that your statements be included in the record, and that you summarize and make the main points you wish to make, if that is satisfactory to all of you.

Mr. KAREL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[All prepared statements have been placed at the end of the hearing.]

Mr. WEAVER. Have you designated who would like to go first?

Mr. KAREL. I will proceed first, Mr. Chairman.

A PANEL CONSISTING OF JOHN KAREL, OZARK CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB, MISSOURI; LES HARMON, EASTERN MISSOURI GROUP, OZARK CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB, MISSOURI; WILLIAM BATES, OZARK SOCIETY, MISSOURI; JIM BLANTON, MISSOURI; DON PIERCE, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH, MISSOURI; DR. LEIGH FREDRICKSON, GAYLORD MEMORIAL LABORATORY, MISSOURI; AND BUBBLES PIERCE, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Mr. KAREL. I am John Karel I am a graduate student in forest, fisheries and wildlife at the University of Missouri. I am chairman of Ozark chapter, Sierra Club in Missouri.

Again, we are grateful for the opportunity to speak before the subcommittee, and would like to present our written testimony for the record, but summarize in as brief a digress as possible our oral comments.

I would like to present for you consideration during our talk these pictures of several of the areas. One is of Hercules, one is Rockpile, one is Bell Mountain, and one is Paddy Creek.

I would like to submit for the record a letter from Roger Pryor, of the Coalition of the Environment, who was unable to attend, and also a copy of a collection of editorials from Missourians endorsing these areas, as well as large-scale maps outlining in some detail the proposals as they have been developed.

Mr. WEAVER. We will place those in the committee files on this bill. Continue, Mr. Karel.

Mr. KAREL. Mr. Chairman, the State of Missouri is one of the few States now remaining in the country, as far as we know, that has not one unit of area designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. This is a State that has also 1½ million acres of national forest land. We have previously had areas included in proposed legislation in the Eastern Wilderness bill that lead to the Public Law 93-622. Those areas were excluded. Missourians were chagrined at this being left out of this historic legislation, and we have been determined since that time to redress this problem and to develop proposals which are administratively viable, as well as being acceptable to the legitimate concerns of the private landowners in the immediate areas.

We have worked hard on the development of these boundaries, and we feel confident that the legislation before you now represents the consensus of Missourians on these areas.

I would like to very briefly address myself to two of the areas that I am most familiar with, and those are the Bell Mountain and

Rockpile Mountain areas in the St. Francis Mountains. The St. Francis Mountains are not well known nationwide. However, they are a geographical area of extreme interest. They are one of the oldest mountain ranges on the continent of North America. They have massive exposure of Precambrian rocks, consisting of granite and felsites. Very little of this geographic region has remained in a natural condition, and Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain are examples of areas that have maintained their natural characteristics.

Mr. WEAVER. Are those in the westernmost portion?

Mr. KAREL. They are within a couple of hundred miles of St. Louis. The whole range lies in the State of Missouri.

Mr. WEAVER. Yes; I understand.

Mr. KAREL. We feel we have a special responsibility because of this to preserve representative samples of this area for the American people.

The two areas are, geographically, Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain, and they are generally in the southern part of the State.

I would like to address, if I could, very briefly some of the problems mentioned by earlier witnesses regarding the boundaries. I think the cogwheel effect that is presented on this boundary is really not nearly as administratively difficult as it may appear. The basic boundaries follow logical topographic outlines of the Bell Mountain mass, and also Lindsay Mountain. The private land along Shuting Creek and below here already have existing access by road, and I would point out earlier proposals, the ones rejected in the last Congress, did include substantial amounts of private land, including lands even outside the purchase unit.

This is the reason that we got kicked out of the last legislation, frankly, and what we discovered in going down and talking to people who lived in the area was that their objections were not so much to the wilderness concept, but to the idea of having thousands of acres of private land included in the boundaries.

They like the idea of preserving the mountains around the valleys, and we reached common agreement on these boundaries. There is road access in there now.

One of the families that lives right here [indicating on map] has specifically endorsed the area, the Townsends and the Tates, and they see no problems with protecting the area around their homes.

Mr. WEAVER. From your pictures, I wish I were in Missouri now sitting beside this stream.

If you would forgive us, and you can stay seated there, although if one person would get up, I would like now to call the Honorable Gene Taylor, Representative from Missouri, to testify on the bill.

Mr. Taylor?

STATEMENT OF HON. GENE TAYLOR, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Mr. TAYLOR. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. WEAVER. Welcome to the subcommittee.

Mr. TAYLOR. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate having the opportunity to appear before the subcommittee this morning to

testify on the Missouri Eastern Wilderness legislation, H.R. 12821 and H.R. 14530. As crowded as the committee calendars are right now and with legislation time at a premium, I am specially grateful that you have made time to consider the merits of this legislation. Your action certainly reflects the depth of your concern for preserving worthy wilderness area as a resource, used and appreciated by all generations.

This legislation contains two wilderness areas located within my congressional district of southwest Missouri; the Hercules "Glades" Wilderness Area located in Taney County, and the Piney Creek Wilderness located in Barry and Stone Counties.

The Hercules Glades Wilderness is one of the largest wilderness areas in Missouri, being made up of some 13,000 acres of the Mark Twain National Forest. Its main unique attraction, from which it gets its name, are its glades.

The glades are the rocky slopes with shallow soils that produce tall prairie grasses. A variety of plant and animal species living in harmony with this environment and which are not common elsewhere in the Ozarks. Presently some 9 percent of the area is in glades. It is estimated that before man arrived on the scene, 70 percent of the area was in open glade prairie or semiprairie condition.

As you are aware, during the last Congress, I was opposed to the instant designation of the Glades Wilderness. The original proposal called the designation of 16,648 acres which included 3,680 acres in private ownership. No public hearings on the proposal were held in the local area surrounding the wilderness but as the people came to learn the details of the proposal they became violently opposed. Many were concerned over the loss of the designated private lands from the tax rolls supporting their local schools and a great many were opposed to the "conditional" condemnation authority given to the Forest Service.

The affected private landowners, many of them owning land which had been passed down through their family for several generations, were not interested in selling their land to the Forest Service and not interested in making exchanges. At that time, I made a pledge to the people of Taney County that I would oppose the adoption of any wilderness proposal that included the involuntary taking of private land.

The boundaries of the Glades Wilderness Area as recommended in the legislation now before the subcommittee have been substantially revised from the original proposal. All 3,680 acres of private land have been eliminated from the proposal, including a troublesome 40 acres inholding which was a sticking point in the compromise for some time. With the elimination of all private land, the local people have no objection to the designation of the Forest Service land as protected wilderness and I can now give my support to the inclusion of the Glades Wilderness into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The Glades Wilderness does indeed have exceptional natural attributes which are well worth preserving. As the boundaries are now drawn, I believe this area can be protected and be used to its

best advantage. And, importantly, I think the people of Taney County will now welcome visitors from outside the county and will treat them as they would good neighbors.

The Missouri Eastern Wilderness legislation proposes that the Piney Creek Wilderness Area be studied to determine its suitability for inclusion into the National System. It is my understanding the 8,430 acres of Piney Creek area is heavily forested and contains stands of oak, hickory, and pine native to the area. One of its unique attributes is the fact that it contains the entire watershed of Piney Creek. I believe this area deserves a careful study. However, I will reserve my approval on the designation of this area until after I have had the opportunity to assess the costs and benefits to be reported by the recommended study.

I thank the committee for its attention and concern. I am confident you will carefully assess the merits of this legislation and act with the speed which the present circumstances require.

Mr. WEAVER. Thank you very much, Mr. Taylor. You perhaps have heard the Forest Service testify a few minutes earlier that they believe that they would recommend a study bill instead of an instant wilderness bill. How would you react to that?

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Chairman, I have consulted with the Forest Service from time to time, and have never received any definitive recommendation from them, pro or con, and this has been a very troublesome thing to me. It is one that has caused a great deal of anxiety because of the people in the local area whom I felt an obligation to protect, especially their right to own their private land, and I have come down on the side of an instant wilderness area.

I promised the people who support this that I would do it. I do not believe that there is very much indication that there is forest product there that would be worthy of delaying this project, and so I am in favor of the instant wilderness area for the Hercules Glades.

I would have wanted more indepth study on the Piney Creek proposition.

Mr. WEAVER. Thank you. The gentleman from California.

Mr. CLAUSEN. I do not have a question, but was intending to compliment the gentleman. There is no doubt where you stand.

Mr. TAYLOR. It took a while to make up my mind.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Is that not sort of typical of the people from Missouri?

Mr. TAYLOR. We do not look into too many things.

Mr. CLAUSEN. I say that in the most complimentary terms. Because what you have done in your testimony has not only been comprehensive, but it has been historical in its presentation. You have given us the kind of insight of what can happen when you have advocates on the one side proposing something and those that are attempting to protect what in effect are their own constitutional property rights, and now you have come around to a point where you have a position where you protected your people, and you are now essentially on the side of the advocates, and I guess that is what the process is all about.

Mr. TAYLOR. Thank you very much, Mr. Clausen. I believe we have brought together a compatible situation that sees the aspirations of both sides. I think the private property owners will be happy with this. I think the people sincerely interested in the preservation of this area are going to be happy with it, and I think we are going to live in peace and harmony on it, and I do not believe the Forest Service is being damaged in this particular project. On the Piney Creek, I would want to take a more indepth look.

Mr. CLAUSEN. I have the privilege of serving with Mr. Taylor on the Public Works Committee, and I know how he operates.

Mr. WEAVER. I also thank the gentleman for his excellent testimony.

Does the gentleman from Missouri have any questions?

Mr. ICHORD. Mr. Chairman, I have no questions. I would like to compliment the gentleman on his statement.

Mr. WEAVER. I appreciate your appearing before our subcommittee, and thank you for your excellent testimony.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Do you want to stay with us for a while?

Mr. TAYLOR. I have another committee meeting.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Thank you very much.

PANEL OF MESSRS. KAREL, HARMON, BATES, BLANTON, PIERCE, STEGNER, FREDRICKSON, AND MS. PIERCE—Resumed

Mr. MELCHER [presiding]. Please proceed, Mr. Karel.

Mr. KAREL. Thank you very much.

Basically, I think that we have brought to a conclusion the essential points of the testimony that we needed to bring out orally, although we would be very anxious and willing and ready to answer questions that may develop about our chapter's testimony, following a brief presentation from the rest of the panel.

We have here today people who are expert in various aspects of the proposals before you, and we would like to give each of those people a chance to speak very briefly to the aspects that they are most expert in.

I would like to introduce Mr. Bill Bates, from Springfield, Mo., representing the Ozark Society.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Could I ask, Mr. Chairman, one question of Mr. Karel just to get clarification, because I came in just at the end of your testimony.

Mr. KAREL. Yes?

Mr. CLAUSEN. I think it was on the Bell Mountain study wilderness area, and correct me if I am wrong, that you indicated that previously there had been a lot of opposition, and that you now had worked out what in effect was an acceptable arrangement so that there is no problem as far as the local people or the local officials are concerned? Is that correct?

Mr. KAREL. Yes, sir. I might take the opportunity to point out that the original proposal for the Bell Mountain wilderness, as indicated in the administration's Forest Service legislation in the 93d Congress, H.R. 10469, was the occasion for the formation of a landowner organization specifically organized to oppose the Bell

Mountain wilderness area. The name of the organization was the Bell Mountain Mineral Heritage Association. That organization has since, after meeting with us over a period of several years, or since that time, has come to a position of dropping their opposition to it. We are very proud and grateful for the opportunity this has given us to have insight into their problems as well as to demonstrate to them some of the values of the wilderness, and I think we have reached an accommodation.

Mr. CLAUSEN. On the map, I see white areas, and I assume those are inholdings of private land.

Mr. KAREL. Yes, those are private lands. They are forest lands. There is no habitation on them. There is no active farmland, or any improved land whatsoever, and they are just absentee-owned forest land which they saw as an acceptable compromise for the exclusion of the areas they were concerned about.

The pasture land is in the valley at the base of the mountain.

Mr. CLAUSEN. You say those are Forest Service-owned?

Mr. KAREL. No, they are forested, but privately owned. There are 290 acres of that.

Mr. CLAUSEN. My final question is, do you know whether or not they have had the mineral studies by the agencies?

Mr. KAREL. I do not know if the U.S. Geological Survey has actually studied it, but we do have access to testimony submitted in the Missouri Department of Natural Resources which secured an estimate of the mineral potential in the areas, Bell Mountain, Rockpile Mountain, Paddy Creek, Hercules, and so forth. In that information, which is submitted to the committee by the testimony of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the negative drilling results some years ago, and lack of interest since then, are discouraging. Essentially, we have a pretty clean bill, we assume, by this letter.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Mr. Peterson, could you respond to that?

Mr. PETERSON. There has been no official mineral survey either by USGS or the Bureau of Mines. There has been some evaluation locally of the area, but there has been no formal survey as envisioned by the Wilderness Act.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Thank you.

Mr. MELCHER. Mr. Bates?

Mr. BATES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I again am representing the Ozark Society, and I would like to speak briefly.

I will submit my testimony, but I would like to speak briefly about two areas, the Hercules Glades area and the Piney Creek area, both of which are located in southwest Missouri, south of Springfield and within the Seventh Congressional District. Both of the areas are Mr. Taylor's.

I would like to present the committee with a map which I will hold up to show just the amount of area which has been eliminated from the Hercules Wilderness. The red area on this map is an area of private land that at one time was included in the boundary, and now has been completely excluded from the wilderness, leaving us with an area which has no private inholdings of land, and according, again, to evaluations by the Missouri geological survey, no known mineral resources.

The Hercules Glades Wilderness is the area being proposed as an instant wilderness area, and I think that deserves some comment.

It is a very popular area. It has been used heavily for recreational purposes for many years, and has long been considered for this type of protection. It was considered by Congress during its deliberations on the Eastern Wilderness Act, and was eliminated from that act, and it was considered as an instant wilderness area, but was eliminated simply due to one of the problems that existed with the boundaries. Those problems have now been solved.

I would like to comment on one statement made by Mr. Peterson of the Forest Service, when he stated that Hercules had not been subjected to hearings, and as a result, there had been no public involvement, that it had not received public exposure, and that he did not want to surprise anyone.

I would like to point out that this area has received a great amount of publicity and public exposure locally.

Due to problems that existed with the inclusion of the 3,000 acres of private land, it was very controversial. It was the subject of meetings in the area of Taney County, where it is located. It was the subject of discussion due to the loss of revenues to a local school district, or school system, that would have taken place had these lands been eliminated.

The boundaries were changed by conservationists. We came up with new proposals, and since that period of time, we have promoted our ideas in the area itself, locally and regionally.

It is the subject of one chapter of the Time-Life series, a book on the Ozark wilderness, which has received national attention.

It has been the subject of various magazine articles in recreational magazines. It has been highly publicized by the press, and I could provide the committee with copies of some of these. I would just like to show you briefly—these are newspapers—and this is the Springfield, Mo., newspaper which is the largest regional newspaper in the area, and covering the area of Taney County, which contains the wilderness.

This is from April 11, 1976, a front page picture, or pictures, and a full page article, "Hercules Glades, Does Wilderness Need Permanent Protection Against the Abuse of Man?" This is the type of exposure it has received.

The Easter Sunday editorial page, an editorial endorsement entitled, "Need To Save Wilderness Must Be Seen."

This has been followed by other major articles and features in the Springfield newspaper, and Sunday papers all receiving circulation throughout the area. It has been the subject of numerous articles in Taney County papers, including the Benton Beacon.

The Ozark Mountaineer, which is published in Forsythe, Mo., the county seat of Taney County, contains an article "To Save a Glade." This gets wide circulation in the area of Hercules.

I would venture to say there is hardly anyone in the area who is not familiar with the proposal. These articles have produced very favorable responses by local landowners. Our organization has met with members of the Bradleyville school board, which was con-

cerned about the private inholdings of land. We have also had meetings with landowner organizations and leaders in the area to discuss our problems.

We think that it deserves instant status. It was considered by the last Congress. It was eliminated because of the boundary problems, and we also hope that that could be worked out.

Certainly, we feel it is deserving, and it has received all of the public exposure that it needs.

On the Piney Creek area, I would just speak briefly, and of course, we support it at the acreage figure which is contained in the legislation. We feel that it needs to be a study area at the present time, due to the fact that there are four serious management activities planned for a start, planned to commence in fiscal year 1977, which could possibly eliminate the wilderness option from part of this land.

There are various activities, including during the next few years planned timber cuts which would take place in the area and although limited in scale they could take place under area one designation which might be one of the recommendations they would make during the unit planning process.

We appreciate very much the opportunity to speak before this committee. I would be happy to answer any questions regarding my testimony if there are any, and if not, I would like to introduce Mr. Don Pierce, of the Missouri Friends of the Earth.

Mr. MELCHER. Mr. Pierce?

Mr. PIERCE. My names is Don Pierce. I live in Columbia, Mo., and I am representing the Missouri Friends of the Earth. I would like to support the Missouri Wilderness legislation that we are talking about here today.

Some of the things that have not been mentioned in the previous testimony are some information I obtained from the Department of Natural Resources, both about mining and timber.

As far as the mining is concerned, the State geologist has stated that in none of the proposed areas in the current legislation is the wilderness potential very good, and as— I mean the mineral potential—and on the timber question, the Department of Natural Resources claims that less than one-half of 1 percent of the national forest in Missouri would be proposed here as wilderness.

I would like to talk about the Paddy Creek area, closest to Columbia. This is it up here on the map [indicating].

It is a very unique wilderness area. There are two streams that flow through Paddy Creek, Little Paddy, and Big Paddy, and along these creeks are beautiful bluffs with black-and-white-streaked dolomite and sandstone on the top of them that is blue and gray.

Some of the wildlife in the area includes beaver, deer, turkey, and a variety of fish. Along these creeks are very many beaver pools which are incredibly beautiful. It is very important that this area of Paddy Creek be included this year in legislation as wilderness, because the Forest Service has planned bids for timber sales in October of this year.

I would like to introduce Les Harmon from the Sierra Club.

Mr. HARMON. Again, my name is Les Harmon. I live in St. Louis, Mo., and I work at McDonnell-Douglas Corp. I am chairman of the Wilderness Committee of the Eastern Missouri Group, Ozark chapter of the Sierra Club. It is a group of approximately 1,000 members.

I would like to go on record as being in full support of H.R. 14530 on behalf of myself and the eastern Missouri chapter of the Sierra Club.

A number of the reasons for wilderness inclusion here have been mentioned, and one I would like to emphasize is the scientific value of these Ozark highland areas, both collectively and individually. They are a unique ecosystem known nationally.

Each area offers a very unique opportunity for scientific research, and for many other reasons.

I briefly now will introduce Jim Blanton.

Mr. BLANTON. Mr. Chairman, my name is James R. Blanton, from Springfield, Mo. I am a graduate student at Southwest Missouri State University, a private citizen, and I am here to speak in favor of all the areas proposed in this bill.

First of all, I have no experience in science. I am not a biologist. I am a student in business, and someday I plan to go into my own private business; but I am a person who believes that there is a strong need for people in this area to have the ability, people throughout the country, to have the ability to remove themselves from technology. I understand we need technology, and we need industry. We need these things, but we also need this place to remove ourselves from that so that we can have a strong kinship to what it was like when our forefathers moved through this area. Missouri has always been very instrumental, and in fact when the Louisiana Purchase was made, the westward expansion of the country, Missouri played a great role, and when people came out of the Ohio Valley, they came by Missouri, and they looked at it, and then saw what they liked, but they went on because they had seen enough trees, and they wanted to get into the plains area and start farming.

The area was untouched for many years, and it has been worked since then. Missouri is a very highly developed State, but there are these pockets that do exist, and for that reason, I believe it is important for us to preserve this Ozark highland as a unique portion of America, where we can see what it was like when people came through the area.

I will yield any further time in the interest of brevity, and introduce Mr. Ed Stegner, who is director of the Missouri Conservation Federation. Mr. Stegner is a senior member of our party, and very knowledgeable in the area of conservation. He represents some 30,000 conservationists in Missouri.

Mr. STEGNER. Thank you. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Ed Stegner, executive director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri. I have more gray hair than the rest of them, that is true. I do represent the largest private conservation organization in the State with about 30,000 members. We are a Missouri

affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation, located here in Washington, which also supports this legislation.

I think most of the things have been said this morning about this legislation. I would only like to emphasize a couple of points. We, of course, support these areas. We have been on record for many years supporting not only wilderness in Missouri but the wilderness in general.

I would like to emphasize that we recognize that in 1974 when the original Eastern Wilderness Act passed, the Missouri areas were taken out primarily because of controversy from private landowners who would have been included.

By working with these people and working out a compromise, we have been able to get the support or at least we do not have the opposition at present from these local landowners, as Congressman Taylor mentioned.

Now, as far as the boundaries suggested on the map there, or one of the maps that the Forest Service suggests, I do not suppose we should have any objection to them except that if you go back and change these boundaries now and bring in some private land, that is not included at the present time, I know the Congressmen from these three districts well enough to know they are going to get static and then we are going to get their opposition. I think it is a matter of taking the present boundaries or maybe getting nothing. We are certainly willing to accept the present boundaries, although, as you say, they may have somewhat of a cogwheel effect.

There are not many areas left in Missouri that are suitable for wilderness designation, primarily because it is hard to find areas that have the natural characteristics of wilderness, and the size needed, that are either entirely or almost entirely in public ownership. It is hard to find an area in the national forest in Missouri that does not have a lot of private inholdings. We have been fortunate that these areas are almost entirely, and some of them are entirely, in public ownership at the present time.

I would also like to point out that these areas do have the support of the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and I was told by one of the staff members of the Governor that I can mention he supports these areas.

The only other thing I can add is that I think there is a need to hurry in this legislation so that we can get it in both Houses, and we would particularly like to get it passed in this session, because there is indication that the Forest Service might plan timber cuts in the area if it is not designated wilderness in this session of Congress.

There are a couple of proposed timber sales that would be advertised for sale this fall. So we think that there is some need to hurry.

Mr. Chairman, thank you, and this is all I have.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could ask the last witness this: When you say there are some proposed timber sales, what species are we dealing with?

Mr. STEGNER. I suppose with both the hardwoods and the pines. I am not sure. I think one of these sales was proposed in Piney, one in Paddy and there was one in Bell.

Mr. KAREL. Yes, there was.

Mr. STEGNER. I have the letter, but not before me now.

Mr. KAREL. Paddy Creek, Piney Mountain and others have proposed timber sales, and wildlife management activities planned for fiscal year 1976. Whether or not they will get to them all, we do not know, but we know a sale is scheduled for advertising in October of this year in Paddy Creek.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Is there a substantial forest products industry in the area? To what extent is there that capacity, do you know?

Mr. STEGNER. Some have more timber potential than others. Hercules Glades has very little timber, and they go from there up to pretty good timber potential in some of them.

Mr. CLAUSEN. No, what I was asking was whether there is a significant or substantial timber or forest products industry in the area.

Mr. STEGNER. To be harvested? I suppose it is harvested as it becomes available. At the present time, the demand for timber is not real good, but it may pick up in the future. I am not qualified to answer that. It varies and fluctuates, as you well know.

Mr. KAREL. I also am not an expert on that.

Mr. MELCHER. May we proceed now, because we do have a number of witnesses to get through, and these questions can be better answered by Mr. Peterson.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Thank you.

Mr. MELCHER. Doctor?

Dr. FREDRICKSON. Mr. Chairman, and members of the subcommittee, my name is Leigh Fredrickson. I am with the University of Missouri, and I would like to go on record in support of the wilderness areas in Missouri, and I would like to make one brief comment, and that is that species that require mature forests are hard put in this day and age, and anytime that we can set aside areas that will remain in mature type systems, I think that we have greatly expanded the potential in providing habitat for species that require timber. Thank you.

Mr. MELCHER. Mr. Bates, you seem to indicate that you want the legislation to halt timber sales. Is that correct?

Mr. BATES. No. My concern especially with the Piney Creek area, is that this is a very unique area, and it is the last wholestream watershed in this area that remains. There is a good deal of Forest Service land there, and a lot of it has been radically altered by management planning practices in the Forest Service. We would be very concerned that if this legislation is not favorably considered, that management activities that would radically alter Piney Creek, would also take place before it had full congressional consideration.

Mr. MELCHER. Well, it includes the areas where there are proposed timber sales, and if we include them, there would be no timber sales. Is that your desire?

Mr. BATES. For Piney Creek, yes.

Mr. STEGNER. Mr. Chairman, may I make one very brief comment?

I think all of these areas together comprise between 2 and 3 percent of the national forest land in Missouri, so it is a small part of the land we are talking about. It is only between 2 and 3 percent of the national forest and federally owned land in Missouri which would be included in the wilderness, if all of them eventually become wilderness, and of course, four of them are only for study.

Mr. MELCHER. Well, the study areas would block timber sales.

Mr. STEGNER. Temporarily, until they are studied. But after they are studied, and if it should be determined that they are not suitable for wilderness, then they would not be further blocked. That would be my thinking on it. It would block them for what, 11 years?

Mr. MELCHER. It would block them as long as they are being studied. There is no time limit on the study. No, that is not correct. The time limit is 5 years.

Mr. STEGNER. About three Congresses.

Mr. MELCHER. Just one question of you, Mr. Pierce. Do you think the State geologists have made a survey of this area?

Mr. PIERCE. I got my information from the Department of Natural Resources. Probably John Karel would know more.

Mr. KAREL. The information is taken from a memorandum of March 13, 1976, to Mr. Donald Rollins, supervisor of the Mark Twain National Forest, and a letter from Wallace B. Howe, State geologist, and director of the Division of Geology and Land Survey, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and from a letter of April 16, 1976, from Dr. Mower to Senator Symington in regard to Paddy Creek and Piney Creek areas.

We do not know, you know, how much research went into the evaluations presented by the director of the geological survey. We can only assume that it was substantial enough to warrant indication in a letter that there was no very impressive evidence of mineralization in any of the areas proposed for legislation before you today.

Mr. MELCHER. The letters will be made part of the files if there is no objection. The gentleman from California?

Mr. CLAUSEN. No, I think I have been able to have my questions answered.

Mr. MELCHER. Ms. Bubbles Pierce?

Ms. PIERCE. Mr. Melcher, I am Bubbles Pierce, and I did not have an opportunity to present testimony.

Mr. MELCHER. Excuse me, Ms. Pierce.

Ms. PIERCE. I represent the Wilderness Society, and I am submitting a written statement, and I would like to say that we are here in solid support for the legislation today, and I would also like to emphasize that the society believes, along with Congress, that there is an urgent and immediate need in the more populous eastern half of the United States to identify, study, designate, and preserve areas by including suitable eastern land within the system.

By Congress doing this and enacting the legislation to preserve the eastern areas, enduring resources of wildlife habitat, clear water, diverse vegetation, and natural ecosystems will be protected and preserved for all Americans for the present and the future.

The time frame of urgency for preservation is intensifying. Therefore, we support the areas that are being proposed here today in this legislation, and there are many—there are just many important reasons for including these areas in the wilderness system. But, basically, the unusual archeological, geological, botanical, historical, and recreational features make these areas worthy of the designation that we are asking for.

I thank you for the opportunity to be able to speak on behalf of these areas today. Thank you.

Mr. MELCHER. Thank you all very much.

Now the author of the bill, Congressman Symington, is present. We are delighted to have you with us, Jim.

STATEMENT OF HON. JAMES W. SYMINGTON, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Mr. SYMINGTON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I know the constraints on time of the committee. I can only say how grateful I am for this opportunity to visit briefly enough to tender to you my prepared statement in hopes that it could be incorporated into the record.

I believe you have heard the eloquent statements of my fellow Missourians and, naturally, we are all grateful for the presence of our colleague, Dick Ichord, as well as Mr. Clausen and your own good self.

We feel that this is a timely offering and an important one and we are grateful to you for letting us make it. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. MELCHER. Thank you very much, Jim. Your statement will be made a part of the record as if read.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Symington follows.]

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN JAMES W. SYMINGTON BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE
ON PUBLIC LANDS, HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE INTERIOR, ON H.R. 12821 and H.R. 14530

JULY 1, 1976

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee:

I am most grateful to you for holding hearings on this Missouri wilderness legislation. H.R. 12821 authorizes the federal government to study four wilderness areas in our state for possible inclusion in the National Wilderness System. These four regions include Bell Mountain in Iron and Reynolds Counties, Rock Pile Mountain in Madison County, Paddy Creek in Texas County, and Piney Creek in Barry and Stone Counties. In addition to these, the boundaries of a fifth wilderness area were just recently redrawn in such a way as to eliminate all private land, and hence, the bulk of all objection. In accordance with this, I have introduced H.R. 14530 which designates this region -- Hercules Glades in Taney County -- as an instant wilderness area.

I strongly believe that at this time we cannot afford not to take steps to save and protect the glory and heritage of these wilderness areas. These regions in Missouri are irreplaceable in their waters, their wildlife, and their vegetation. Bell Mountain provides some of the most breathtaking natural vistas in our state; Rockpile Mountain is covered with magnificent forests of oaks, hickories, and shortleaf pines; Paddy Creek consists of 7,000 acres of spectacular wooded valleys with diverse and abundant animal life; Piney Creek includes virtually the complete watershed of one of the few undisturbed free-flowing Ozark streams left in southwestern Missouri;

Hercules Glades is a combination of open grass lands and forested knobs and valleys which together create some of the most scenic and unusual terrain in Missouri.

In our increasingly urbanized society, it is essential that we preserve these regions for our citizens to experience and enjoy. Missouri currently has no wilderness area -- either under study or officially designated. Our state is truly a magnificent one, blessed with many regions of great beauty. It is crucial that we take steps at once to ensure the preservation of at least some of these areas for not only ourselves but for all future generations. The announcement of the U.S. Forest Service of timber cuts to take place in three of the five proposed areas has underscored the need for prompt action. These cuts are scheduled to begin as early as October of this year. Only through the consideration and adoption of this legislation will the timber cuts be canceled and these areas preserved. I feel that it is important to stress that the land involved in this bill constitutes only 2% of Missouri's National forest land, and therefore it is hardly crucial for timber use.

The Eastern Wilderness bill, which was passed in 1974, originally included more Missouri lands than are even now included in this present legislation. Although these lands were passed by the Senate, they were omitted by the House, and hence were not contained in the final version of the bill. H.R. 12821 is identical to legislation introduced in the Senate by Senators Symington and Eagleton. These bills come as the result of more than a year of substantial negotiations and compromise on the part of Missouri Members of Congress and the local communities which

we serve. Because the Senate in 1974 accepted the establishment of wilderness areas for Missouri, we feel confident that it will again give its approval to this legislation once there is an indication that the House also is in favor of it.

It is for these reasons that I again thank you for your consideration of this legislation and respectfully urge its passage.

Mr. MELCHER. The gentleman from California?

Mr. CLAUSEN. No questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. ICHORD. Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MELCHER. The gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. ICHORD. Jim, I am not on the committee; I am sitting here at the permission of Chairman Melcher here.

But there is one thing, Mr. Chairman. As mentioned already by Congressman Taylor and Congressman Symington, this bill has been worked out among the members involved. Over the past several years there have been a number of bills introduced in the House on wilderness areas. At one time such legislation included the so-called Irish Wilderness Area which I objected to but that is removed from this bill, so I won't bother to discuss the Irish Wilderness at length. Briefly, my objection to Federal Wilderness designation of the Irish Wilderness was that it does have great lead potential and Missouri is now producing 80 to 85 percent of all the lead mined in the United States with potential future shortages facing our Nation.

Indeed, even now we are having to import about 40 percent of our lead that we consume in the United States. As I mentioned, however, the Irish Wilderness is not included in the bill before us today. I do support the study area in the Paddy Creek area as provided in the bill. This is an area not untouched by human beings.

In fact, I would state to my colleague from Montana and my colleague from California that as a youngster in the Paddy Creek area, I used to wrangle, brand, and herd cattle on the open range back when Missouri was an open rangeland. So, I am intimately familiar with the Paddy Creek area. There is one thing that concerns me and I would state to the chairman this is not a matter without controversy in Missouri, particularly because some of the lands do have great timbering potential. In fact, the local forester has objected to Federal study of the Paddy Creek area. It was a subject of a resolution in the House of Representatives in the State of Missouri. I think most of that was a misunderstanding as far as the Paddy Creek area was concerned. They thought it was an instant designation and certainly most of them, I think, do approve of a study because the future of Paddy Creek area does deserve resolve.

I think there are good arguments on both sides for multiple use and for wilderness designation. But, the thing that concerns me, Jim, as you know there is controversy—I believe the chairman has already put the telegram in the record—but the telegram to Mr. Melcher said the Missouri Forest Products Association requests additional hearings be scheduled for H.R. 14530 and H.R. 12821.

The hearing was scheduled for July 1 in the p.m., of June 29. One day to prepare and travel to Washington did not allow them to present testimony at the current scheduled hearings.

I don't know what the facts are, Jim, but I do think they should have time to testify if they want to testify because if not, I think we would be unduly endangering the passage of the legislation. They should be able to present their side of it. I know the difficulty the chair and the committee have in scheduling these hearings. I don't

want to hold up the bill but I am concerned that they were not notified if that be the case.

Mr. SYMINGTON. We certainly haven't heard. This is Missouri Forest Products Association?

Mr. ICHORD. Yes, executive secretary, Gerald E. Ross, Missouri Forest Products Association.

Mr. SYMINGTON. Well, it was my understanding that the whole State of Missouri was aware of these hearings. Perhaps we, ourselves, didn't personally contact all the possible interested organizations but there has been a great deal of discussion back home and, of course, I would have no objection, nor would any fairminded person, I think, to hearing testimony from people relevantly affected.

It would be up to the chairman and the committee and I would certainly want to be sure that all Missouri voices were heard.

I have not heard from this group or their spokesman. It may well be because they were not aware of the hearings.

Mr. ICHORD. I don't know the facts, of course. Certainly if it is their fault they did not receive the hearing notice, I don't think it should hold up the bill.

But, if, in fact, interested and affected parties were not given adequate opportunity to present their views on this Missouri Wilderness bill, I think they should be permitted to testify and I would so request, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Will the gentleman yield?

I wonder if I could ask—

Mr. MELCHER. The gentleman from California.

Mr. CLAUSEN. I would ask the staff, have you had any correspondence from them or were they invited to testify?

Mr. CRANDELL. We had no correspondence, Mr. Clausen, we did get a phone call from the local forest products and mining organizations, asking the specifics concerning the hearing and requesting that these gentlemen be placed on the witness list. But, other than that, we have had no contacts with them.

Mr. MELCHER. For the record, the hearing notice went out—which date was it?

Ms. COCKAYNE. June 24.

Mr. MELCHER. The hearing notice went out June 24. It is short notice, of course.

We do not have these two organizations on our mailing list. They could be on our mailing list if they asked to be, but I doubt whether we had either the Missouri Forest Products Association, nor the mineral group.

Mr. SYMINGTON. Mr. Chairman, we did a statewide press release but this could well have escaped their attention.

Mr. MELCHER. Mr. Marbarker, representing the Mining Industry Council of Missouri, Mr. Gerald Ross, Missouri Forest Products Association are on the witness list but they are not on our mailing list because neither organizations ever asked to be.

Generally speaking, the State organizations depend on their national organizations here with which they are affiliated for notifications of hearings.

We have no objection to placing anybody on our mailing list that would ask us to be on the mailing list but usually, the procedure is that the national organization takes care of that and local organizations are not on our mailing list.

However, June 24, this is rather short notice time. Ordinarily, we would have 2 weeks notice and would allow more time for the national organizations to notify their State affiliates.

In this instance, neither gentlemen felt they could be here with prepared testimony representing the viewpoint of the organizations, but the Chair has previously noted that in the case of the previous bill. Mr. Burlison's bill, that the telegrams are noted; that the statements that they care to present, if any, will be welcomed by the committee and will be carefully reviewed.

In the bill that is before us now, there are two study areas and two instant areas?

Mr. SYMINGTON. One instant area, Hercules Glades, I believe Congressman Taylor testified to that.

Mr. MELCHER. With a study and 5-year limitation.

Mr. SYMINGTON. That is my understanding.

Mr. MELCHER. I have no further questions, thank you very much.

Mr. CLAUSEN [presiding.] Thank you very much, Jim, I am sure that we will be in touch with you and we will expect to hear any follow-up in the future that you might have.

Mr. SYMINGTON. Thank you a lot, Don.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Did you have anything else, Bob? Would you want to put a statement on the record?

Mr. ICHORD. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would ask unanimous consent my statement be put in the record.

Mr. CLAUSEN. The record will be left open for a statement by the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. Ichord.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Ichord follows.]

CONGRESSMAN RICHARD H. ICHORD
TESTIMONY FOR
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS
ON H.R. 12831
JULY 1, 1976

Mr. Chairman and Members of this Subcommittee: I wish to thank you for this prompt opportunity to offer testimony today in support of H.R. 12821, a bill providing for the study of four areas of Missouri to determine their suitability for wilderness designation. The provisions of H.R. 12821 come to your Subcommittee with the full support of the representatives of the affected Missouri areas, and in this respect I will focus my own comments today on that area in H.R. 12821 -- Paddy Creek -- which lies in my 8th District of Missouri.

The Paddy Creek Wilderness Study Area provided for in H.R. 12821 consists of 6,888 acres of which 6,728 acres are national forest lands; 120 acres are other publically owned lands; and 40 acres are private lands. The provisions of H.R. 12821 pertaining to wilderness study of Paddy Creek clearly state that said study must be completed within five years of the effective enactment of the legislation. This caveat is important -- and I might add crucial to my support of H.R. 12821 -- as the future of the Paddy Creek -- whether it be multiple use or wilderness -- is a matter of some concern in Missouri, and I believe we must resolve the future use of this area as quickly as possible.

I have travelled the Paddy Creek area on numerous occasions and recognize that the natural beauty and geological features of the area deserve study for suitability for wilderness designation. The area boundary lies within the rough, timberland ridge country of the Big Piney River in Northwest Texas County within the Mark Twain National Forest. While the area is relatively small, it is rich in geological formation including numerous small caves, waterfalls, small seeps, springs, erosion created valleys and hollows, and unusual rock formations arising out of dolomite bluffs and sandstone canyons. The Big and Little Paddy Creeks add further beauty to the area with their clear, quality water. The plant life and fauna of the area are also extensive, containing thick oak-hickory woods, picturesque stands of shortleaf pines, active beaver colonies, mink, deer, the eastern wood rat, wild turkey, well-stocked free flowing streams, as well as local reports of bobcats and a returning black bear population. Additionally, the Forest Service has developed several recreational and campground facilities in the area that would benefit from a wilderness area in their midst.

Despite these qualities, however, there is always another side of the coin in our use of land. The Paddy Creek area is not untouched wilderness. Since the 19th Century the area's high quality forests have

provided a productive source for timbering to meet this nation's demand for wood and wood products, and Paddy Creek is still used as a timber resource today although not as extensively as in the past. For instance, the Forest Service in FY 1975 regenerated a 53 acre area by clearing it and seeding with shortleaf pine and continues with other regeneration projects in the area. At the same time, the Forest Service continues to conduct timber sales in the area although I understand current timber sales have now been postponed until October. Additionally there is increasing trail bike and vehicular use of the area as well as established trails, grazing and hunting.

The future of Paddy Creek deserves resolve. There are good arguments on both sides -- for multiple use and for wilderness designation. A full and complete study of the area will help to clarify these arguments and assist us in making the proper response in deciding the future of this area. Clearly we cannot make a proper decision without full benefit of the facts and a federal study of the area will provide us with the perspective and assessment needed.

I am heartened by the prompt hearing this Subcommittee has called on H.R. 12821 and hope that continued expeditious and favorable consideration will be given to the bill. The legislation has my full support so long as the section pertaining to the Paddy Creek Wilderness Study Area remains as written in H.R. 12821.

Thank you.

Mr. CLAUSEN. I believe the next witness will be Mr. Max Peterson, Deputy Chief, Programs and Legislation, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Mr. PETERSON. I testified while you were out, Congressman, so unless you have questions for me, I am finished.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Oh, I see.

One question that the staff asks that I direct to you, as of now, we understand there has been no departmental report submitted to the committee. Is that the case and if it has not been submitted, when could the committee expect a departmental report?

Mr. PETERSON. The departmental report will be signed sometime today, we believe and will probably be up here tomorrow. It has been informally cleared but has not yet been physically signed and transmitted.

The departmental position is again that we do not oppose study of the Bell Mountain and Rockpile areas. We do oppose the instant designation of Hercules. We would prefer to leave Paddy Creek and Piney Creek in the land management planning phase right now.

There are some problems that I did not talk about in detail earlier. For example, adjacent to Piney Creek is Table Mountain Reservoir which provides somewhat difficult access to private land. We have an application for special use permits to cross that National forest land to get to private land. There are in both Piney Creek and Paddy Creek pending requests for timber sales.

These are some of the things that need to be looked into in some detail. It is true that the study does not indefinitely tie up the area but, under the bill, there would be a 5-year period of study and possibly three sessions of Congress after that. So, effectively, study designation means about an 11-year tieup of the areas during which we would be unable to grant special use permits or other things that might need to be done. We don't really think that enough is known of these two areas to take that step at this time.

Mr. CLAUSEN. This is Paddy Creek and Piney Creek?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes.

Mr. CLAUSEN. All right.

Mr. PETERSON. I would like to comment on one other thing; that is, public notice and involvement. It is surprising to me that some people, who engage in litigation, when they feel we have not completed an adequate NEPA statement under the National Environmental Policy Act, consider newspaper publicity or some other kind of informal procedures adequate notification for decisionmaking in this instance. We feel we are mandated under the Wilderness Act to go through formal hearing procedures in the area, to ask formally what the position of the Governor is, and to get a formal mineral survey.

So, we really feel that these areas, in fairness to the whole process we normally go through, should be done in accordance with law and ought not be shortcuted.

That is our basic position, Mr. Clausen.

Mr. CLAUSEN. I wonder if you could further respond to questions that I was directing to some of the other panel members with regard to the size and scope of the forest products industry in the

area, plant capacity, available timber resources, experience, just a general overview.

I am not familiar with the area but I know in many cases, we find ourselves in the position of where the competing interests certainly do include the forest products industry in the area and apparently this wire that came in from the association out there indicates there is concern.

Mr. PETERSON. I think the primary concern of forest products industries are in regard to the Piney Creek and Paddy Creek areas. The Hercules Glades area does not have much timber resource. The Paddy Creek and Piney Creek both have considerable timber resources.

The timber industry in Missouri is relatively small. It is scattered because the land was originally cut over, both public and private land. The timber industry is beginning to develop again, but it is mostly small timber products manufacturers.

I have with me Mr. Marsh Leffler, who I would like to have give you a rundown, particularly on Paddy Creek and Piney Creek, of the forest products industry in this area.

Mr. CLAUSEN. I think it would be helpful for the record and in particular for the other members and the staff to be able to hear a balanced input so we can have a case of all interests involved.

Mr. LEFFLER. The Paddy Creek area is particularly significant as far as the Missouri Forest Products Group is concerned.

I am reluctant to speak for them but they are vitally concerned with the forest inventory and the forest products that are available through the national forests in that particular area of Missouri. They are very dependent upon the national forests in that area.

Mr. CLAUSEN. In terms of volume, can you give us the volume we are dealing with and what the sustained yield allowable cut would be in these areas.

Mr. LEFFLER. Are you talking about the proposed cut that we have in there?

Mr. CLAUSEN. Yes, what is your projection under the allowable cut on a sustained yield program?

Mr. LEFFLER. They are fairly low. I don't have exact figures that I could give you at this time.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Previous witnesses indicated that, as I recall, that this area would represent only about maybe 2 percent, 1 to 2 percent of the total national forest areas; is that correct?

Mr. LEFFLER. That is right.

Mr. CLAUSEN. I just want a general idea of what we are dealing with in terms of the size and scope of the industry, the number of jobs involved, because these things come up and they are asked by other members.

Mr. PETERSON. We would be glad to provide more detailed information for the record.

Mr. CLAUSEN. All right.

[Information was not received at time of printing.]

Mr. PETERSON. I think we have to be careful about figures like 2 and 3 percent. Individuals in this area in business may only represent 1 percent of Missouri, but that timber may be all that there is for them.

Mr. CLAUSEN. OK.

Mr. PETERSON. So, we think it would be better if we provided that for the record.

Mr. CLAUSEN. We may give this to some other witnesses on the list that have not been able to appear but it would be helpful to have a comparison.

Mr. PETERSON. We think, really, that for the other areas except Piney Creek and Paddy Creek, that the primary question of wilderness versus nonwilderness probable has to do mostly what might be done with the wildlife in the area. We have proposed food plots. In Bell Mountain, for example, we have a cooperative agreement with the Missouri Wildlife Agency under the Sikes act, one of the earliest ones. That would probably be the concern with respect to areas other than these two, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek. These are the two that have probably the most potential for forest products versus wilderness questions.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Thank you.

Mr. MELCHER [presiding]. I am not clear, while there have been references to timber sales in Paddy Creek and I assume Piney Creek study areas, I am not certain that you testified what those proposed timber sales involve.

Mr. PETERSON. Well, there is, for example, in Paddy Creek, one small planned sale of pine thinnings, 64 acres of regeneration cutting, and 41 acres of intermediate cuts. Also there is 1 area of 28 acres where we plan to cut all trees 2 inches and up to permit natural regeneration. This is an area that was cut over before and we are trying to regenerate the area.

Mr. MELCHER. What area is that in?

Mr. PETERSON. This is Paddy Creek.

Mr. MELCHER. And is that proposed sale of great interest to the timber products industry in Missouri?

Mr. PETERSON. Probable not for the industry as a whole but it is certainly of local interest as Congressman Ichord indicated, because this particular part of Missouri, has about the best timber potential around.

Mr. MELCHER. Is there any harvesting going on in the proposed area at this time?

Mr. PETERSON. No, sir, not now. There are currently a couple sales in the appeals process for Paddy Creek and Piney Creek.

Mr. MELCHER. In the what process?

Mr. PETERSON. Appeals process. They are being appealed administratively.

Mr. MELCHER. How many acres did they involve?

Mr. PETERSON. These are the ones I read to you in Paddy Creek.

Mr. MELCHER. They are in the appeals process?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes.

Mr. MELCHER. And there are no other proposed sales?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes, there are also some possible sales in 1977 or later in Piney Creek.

Mr. MELCHER. But no more in Paddy Creek.

Mr. PETERSON. No more in Paddy Creek.

Mr. MELCHER. And there is a proposed sale in Piney Creek.

Mr. PETERSON. Yes.

Mr. MELCHER. What does that involve?

Mr. PETERSON. I don't have the details of that sale with me. It is scheduled in 1977 or later and has not been specifically planned at this time.

Mr. MELCHER. What about Rockpile?

Mr. PETERSON. No, sir, no planned sales in Rockpile.

Mr. MELCHER. For Bell Mountain?

Mr. PETERSON. There is a proposal for wildlife food plots planned at Bell Mountain.

Mr. MELCHER. But no timber sales.

Mr. PETERSON. Oh, excuse me, the food plots are already there. There is maintenance of these wildlife food plots planned in that area.

Mr. MELCHER. What kind of a plot is it?

Mr. PETERSON. It is an opening in the tree cover that has been prepared for wildlife which needs vegetation on the ground, grasses and so on. It is called wildlife food plot.

Mr. MELCHER. How big an area is it?

Mr. PETERSON. These are usually half an acre to an acre or two.

Mr. MELCHER. What kind of wildlife does it serve?

Mr. PETERSON. It serves a variety of wildlife, turkey, for example, it is an area for turkey when they are young; it is an area for whitetailed deer; basically for animals that need food on the ground versus the squirrels and others that use the trees. This is an area where turkey has been reintroduced, for example, after disappearing in the early part of this century.

Mr. MELCHER. You are clearing spaces of an acre for turkeys?

Mr. PETERSON. Mostly under an acre.

Mr. MELCHER. Under an acre?

Mr. PETERSON. Mostly under an acre. We are trying to create a—

Mr. MELCHER. How did they survive there before you cleared it?

Mr. PETERSON. Well, this area, you recognize, was once old homesteads with many, many openings, and during the early part of this century, the turkey disappeared under hunting pressure. It is being reintroduced and the turkey poults need an area where they can get out in the sun. Recent research indicated that they need soft foods to eat during the first few weeks which is critical to their survival. So these food plots have been worked out with the wildlife biologists in the State of Missouri.

Mr. MELCHER. I think that is an interesting project.

In other words, the homesteaders introduced them when they cleared some land and they were not native there until they were able to clear the land.

Mr. PETERSON. No, they were there when the homesteaders came in.

Mr. MELCHER. When there wasn't any cleared acreage?

Mr. PETERSON. Then the area was cleared by fire and other natural agents but—

Mr. MELCHER. They got along perhaps for several centuries without any activity of man—

Mr. PETERSON. Through fires and other disasters, yes.

Mr. MELCHER. Well, then the whitetailed deer, they are supposed to browse in this acreage?

Mr. PETERSON. They use the general areas as well as those areas. It is a part of their habitat.

Mr. MELCHER. I am not going to be very impressed with the necessity of assuring the habitat for native species by clearing acre plots. So, I might agree that such type activity might serve to further study of those species, fowl and animal, but I would think they would survive as they have previously under natural conditions.

Mr. PETERSON. I think, recognizing it has been testified by many witnesses, this area here has a lot of valleys and other areas that were probably naturally clear, though, and now those areas are settled.

Mr. MELCHER. Pardon me?

Mr. PETERSON. Those valley areas are now cultivated and settled. So the area remaining for wildlife is the forest area.

Mr. MELCHER. I understand. I can follow that. I won't question but what you can increase the number of wildlife by doing various things.

The question for this committee is to decide whether doing that is more advantageous than designating it as wilderness.

Mr. PETERSON. Yes, and I might comment—

Mr. MELCHER. We have whitetailed deer along the Yellowstone River in Montana, and they were not finding it difficult to locate and exist and multiply right along with intrusions of man. In fact, sometimes they come in town. Yellowstone abuts a town, and they just come up and browse around.

So, whatever these farm areas are that would be adjacent to this area, I don't think they are necessarily going to inhibit the whitetail from going out and browsing. The hunting pressure is more limiting but I don't think they could be inhibited in close proximity to man. I suspect they would go out and browse where they wanted to in any case until too much pressure, hunting pressure would scare them off.

So, I think the question for the committee on those two areas is not whether the 1-acre plots are all that expensive for the whitetail. I don't know about the turkey. We have tried to reintroduce turkey in my home area, too, and we are having some success.

Mr. PETERSON. I am just pointing out what there is now and—

Mr. MELCHER. Certainly it has shown signs of man.

Mr. PETERSON. We had an administration legislative proposal for some of these areas and I am sure that we would, after study, recommend that some of these areas be designated as wilderness realizing there would be some trade-offs.

Mr. MELCHER. As I read this bill, (1) this is H.R. 14530, (1) which deals with Bell Mountain, and (2) which deals with Rockville Mountain wilderness study area, they have no time limitations.

The next two, (3) and (4). Piney Creek and Mark Twain. have 5-year limitations on the study.

Do you know of any reason why there it takes longer to study one or why there is a limitation on (2) and no time limitation on the first two?

Mr. PETERSON. I am not sure why those different limits were put in the bill.

Mr. MELCHER. We will find out from the author.

Mr. PETERSON. One thing you might want to consider is adding these areas to the Eastern Wilderness Act so that the provisions for study that are in the Eastern Wilderness Act including the time periods and the method of review be consistent with the Eastern Wilderness Act including protection during the period that they are under study.

Mr. MELCHER. I am sure staff will take note of that.

In general, there are two areas included for study in the bill—no, one area for study in the bill that would interfere with the timber sales.

Mr. PETERSON. No, there are two areas.

Mr. MELCHER. Piney Creek and—

Mr. PETERSON. Piney Creek and Paddy Creek.

Mr. MELCHER. Piney Creek and Paddy Creek?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes.

Mr. MELCHER. Paddy Creek, the proposed timber sales are in the appeals process?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes.

Mr. MELCHER. And in Piney Creek it is a proposed timber sale which acreage has not yet been determined.

Mr. PETERSON. Right. Planned for fiscal 1977 now, Mr. Melcher.

Mr. MELCHER. And you will supply the committee with whatever information you have specifically on that?

Mr. PETERSON. Yes.

Mr. MELCHER. We will await, and you have heard us discuss previously, the testimony of the forest products industry in Missouri on those points, too.

[Information requested has not been received at time of printing.]

Mr. MELCHER. Can you contribute anything to the hearing record as to mining interests in the area?

We have the testimony of Mr. Pierce that the State Geologies of Missouri has had some opinion on it. We have had some letters that were mentioned by Mr. Harmon and they were made a part of the record.

Do you have anything to add to that?

Mr. PETERSON. We will look at the letters that you have for the record and we will see whether we have others from the State of Missouri and if so, we will provide them for the record. But there has been no formal study of the areas made by USGS or the Bureau of Mines.

Mr. MELCHER. That is all I have.

Thank you very much.

Without objection, the statement of Hon. Richard Bolling will be made a part of the record immediately following Mr. Ichord's statement.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Bolling follows.]

STATEMENT BY THE HONORABLE RICHARD BOLLING
Representative from Missouri

PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 1, 1976

H. R. 14530 -- To provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness; and to designate one area as wilderness.

MR. CHAIRMAN. I am pleased to join with the principal sponsor of the Missouri Wilderness proposal, Congressman James Symington, in voicing strong support for legislation authorizing the study of four wilderness areas in Missouri for possible inclusion in the National Wilderness System. The four areas are Bell Mountain in Iron and Reynolds Counties; Rock Pile Mountain in Madison County; Paddy Creek in Texas County; and Piney Creek in Barry and Stone Counties. The legislation also calls for immediate designation of Hercules Glades in Taney County as a wilderness area. The total land involved in these areas is approximately 40,000 acres.

Missouri has no protected wilderness areas at this time. The proposal if approved will preserve some of Missouri's most beautiful wilderness.

More than a year of negotiations and compromise involving

Members of Congress in whose districts these areas are located, local communities involved, as well as the many varied interests in the area produced the legislation before you today.

The Missouri Department of Conservation has urged favorable consideration of the bill. A new group -- the Missouri Wilderness Coalition -- formed recently with representatives from Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois, Tennessee, and Oklahoma who believe in the need for federally protected wilderness in the Ozark region has as its major objective the passage of a Missouri Wilderness bill.

Congressional consideration is critical at this time because the U. S. Forest Service has announced plans for timber cuts to begin this fall in three of the proposed areas. I know that the proposal will be given thorough consideration by this Committee...I hope, too, that it is favorable.

#

Mr. MELCHER. The letter with attachments from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources will be made a part of the record if there is no objection.

Hearing no objection, so ordered.

Without objection, the Missouri Department of Conservation's letter and attachment will also be made a part of the record at this point.

[Documents referred to follow.]

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND
GOVERNOR



JAMES L. WILSON
DIRECTOR

missouri department of natural resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

314-751-3332

June 28, 1976

Honorable John Melcher
Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands
U. S. House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Representative Melcher:

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is pleased to submit testimony on pending legislation to designate certain lands in Missouri as Wilderness or Wilderness Study Areas.

The Department has developed specific proposals for the following areas now before the Subcommittee on Public Lands:

Bell Mountain.....	8,533 acres-Wilderness Study Area
Rockpile Mountain..	4,170 acres-Wilderness Study Area
Paddy Creek.....	6,888 acres-Wilderness Study Area
Piney Creek.....	8,432 acres-Wilderness Study Area
Hercules.....	12,605 acres-Wilderness

H. R. 14530, now under consideration, goes far toward enactment of the wilderness proposals endorsed by the Department of Natural Resources. We strongly endorse H. R. 14530. We support the modification of the Hercules Wilderness boundary to 12,325 acres, thus excluding all private land. We reiterate our support for the Irish Wilderness as a Wilderness Study Area in future legislation. We hope this area will be actively considered in future Congresses.

We have not had the opportunity to complete our analysis of the Mingo Wilderness Proposal, but strongly endorse the need to preserve remaining fragments of the bottomland swamp ecosystem of Missouri's bootheel, and have no objections to H. R. 2975.

All these wilderness proposals are the product of extensive and thorough studies by both citizen groups and our Department. Please refer to the attached report, Missouri

Wilderness Proposals. We point out the very broad support for these proposals, the present lack of designated wilderness in Missouri, and the pending danger of incompatible timber sales in several of these areas.

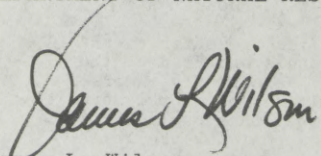
On November 25, 1975, Governor Christopher S. Bond wrote to the Forest Supervisor requesting administrative protection for certain proposed wilderness areas, pending Congressional deliberations. The Forest Service responded negatively and, we think, insensitively to this request. Following Representative James Symington's introduction of H. R. 12821, this Department wrote to the Forest Supervisor requesting protection for the same areas. Again, the Forest Supervisor responded that he would not defer non-wilderness activities, scheduled for initiation this October 1976. They did indicate they would "monitor" Congressional activity (refer to attached correspondence for all the above). We feel that these exchanges demonstrate the need for Congressional attention. We strongly urge swift and affirmative action on this legislation.

For your further information, we refer to the attached copies of editorial comment from Missouri newspapers in support of wilderness.

We consider passage of H. R. 14530 and H. R. 2975 as a vital priority for a balanced natural resource program for Missouri.

Sincerely yours,

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James L. Wilson", is written over the typed name and title.

James L. Wilson
Director

JLW:jkc

Enclosure

cc: Missouri Congressional Delegation

MISSOURI WILDERNESS PROPOSALS

Department of Natural Resources

June 25, 1976

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
A. Conservation Commission and Department of Natural Resources Position Statement on Wilderness.....	1
B. Brief Descriptions of Proposed Wilderness Areas.....	2
1. Mingo (Wayne & Stoddard Counties).....	3
2. Hercules Glades (Taney County).....	4
3. Bell Mountain (Iron County).....	5
4. Rockpile Mountain (Madison County).....	6
5. Paddy Creek (Texas County).....	7
6. Piney Creek (Barry & Stone Counties).....	8
7. Irish Wilderness (Oregon & Ripley Counties).....	9
C. Missouri Wilderness - Chronological History.....	10
D. Local Impacts Resulting From Withdrawal of Timber Activity for Wilderness.....	12
1. Impact on Local Timber Company Available Forest Resources..	
2. Timber Industry and Jobs.....	13
3. Impact on County Reimbursements.....	13
4. The Lack of a Market for National Forest Timber.....	15
5. Conclusions.....	15
E. Issues and Responses Regarding Missouri Wilderness.....	16
1. The Mineral Issue.....	16
2. The Private Land Issue.....	16
3. The Timber Cutting Issue.....	17
4. The 25% Reimbursement Dollar Loss to Local Counties Issue..	18
5. The Need for Wilderness in the National Forests Issue.....	18
6. The Study Area Versus Instant Wilderness Issue.....	20
7. The Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Issue.....	21
F. Missouri Wilderness Fact Sheet.....	23
APPENDIX A. State Geologist's Letter on Mineral Potentials.....	25
APPENDIX B. Noted Editorial Support Regarding the DNR & DOC Wilderness Position	33

A. CONSERVATION COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF MISSOURI

POSITION STATEMENT ON WILDERNESS

The Conservation Commission and the Department of Natural Resources philosophically endorse the concept of preserving certain areas in the state for their wilderness values, believing that this may be the "highest and best" use of such lands.

The Commission and the Department of Natural Resources recognize that wilderness designation carries with it restrictions on the manner in which wildlife and timber is managed, but feel the overall value as wilderness, on limited acreage, offsets its loss to other uses.

The Commission and Department of Natural Resources recognize too, that the term "wilderness" has taken on different meanings under differing conditions; nevertheless, preservation of wilderness, of appropriate quality, has the general support of the Conservation Commission and the Department of Natural Resources.

On a more specific basis, the Commission and the Department of Natural Resources endorse the following named areas within the State of Missouri, in the Mark Twain National Forest, as additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Glades Wilderness, (12,605 acres) (also known as Hercules Glades Wilderness) in Taney County, be given immediate designation as a wilderness area; and the following proposed areas be designated as Study Areas for possible later designation as Wilderness Areas:

Irish Wilderness, (17,320 acres) in Oregon County;

Bell Mountain Wilderness, (8,513 acres) in Iron County;

Rockpile Mountain Wilderness, 4,170 acres) in Madison County;

Paddy Creek Wilderness, (6,888 acres) in Texas County;

Piney Creek Wilderness, (8,432 acres) in Barry and Stone Counties.

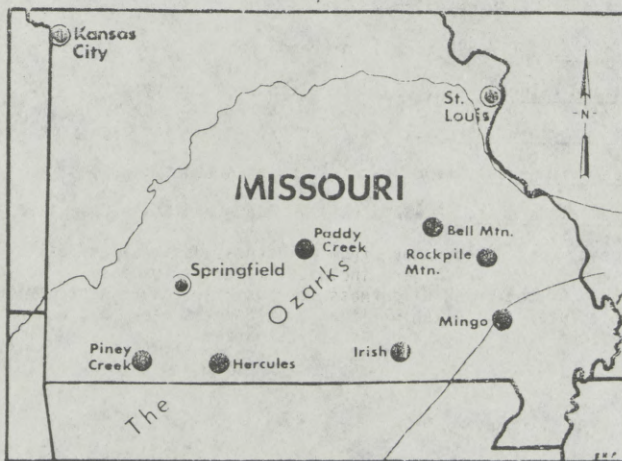
The proposed areas would remove from wilderness designation most of the privately-owned lands which were included in earlier proposals; would provide for study of the Irish Wilderness for possible future designation, rather than immediately establishing it as a wilderness area; and would add, for study, the Piney Creek and Paddy Creek areas.

(March 1976)

B. BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF PROPOSED WILDERNESS AREAS

Seven areas in Missouri have been proposed for "wilderness" or "wilderness study" designation. The "study area" concept differs from the "instant area" designation in that the area would be managed as wilderness for a six year period while the area was evaluated for its wilderness value and alternative uses (timber, mineral potential, etc.). At the end of the study, the decision will be made as to whether or not to include the area in the Wilderness System.

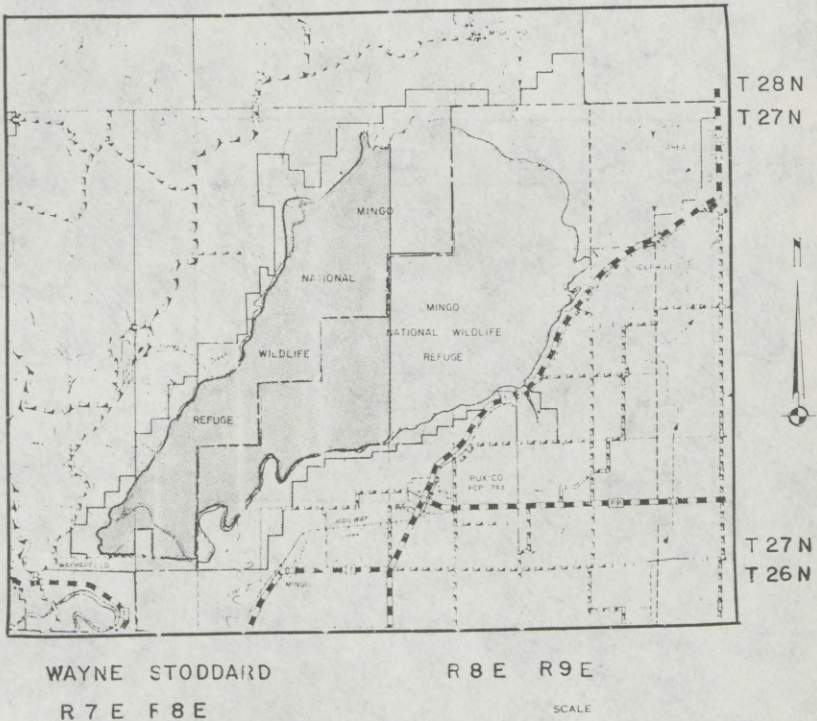
<u>Area</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mingo	8,000	Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Wayne and Stoddard Counties
Bell Mountain	8,533	Mark Twain National Forest, Iron County
Rockpile Mountain	4,170	Mark Twain National Forest, Madison County
Paddy Creek	6,888	Mark Twain National Forest, Texas County
Hercules	12,605	Mark Twain National Forest, Taney County
Piney Creek	8,432	Mark Twain National Forest, Barry & Stone Counties
Irish Wilderness	17,562	Mark Twain National Forest, Oregon County



1. Mingo Wilderness - Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This 8,000 acre area is the only sizeable remnant of the original cypress swamps which originally covered almost all of the bootheel. A controversy exists in that water must be mechanically regulated in the area because of the lowered water table outside the area. This raises a legal question with regard to wilderness management. The Conservation Commission has endorsed a 1,700 acre proposal for the area, but has not indicated opposition to an 8,000 area if management questions can be resolved. DNR has not taken a position.

All other wilderness proposals are under the management of the U.S. Forest Service.

MINGO WILDERNESS
(Wayne & Stoddard County)

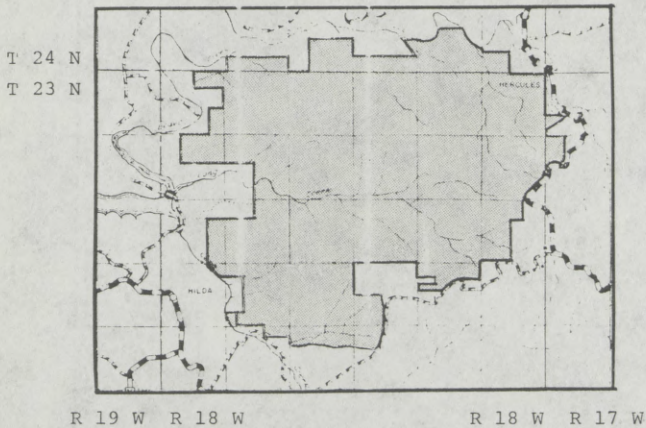


2. Hercules Glades Wilderness - This 12,605 acre area is the classic example of the large prairie-like glades in Missouri. It is the habitat for several rare or endangered species. Nearly the entire watershed of Long's Creek would be preserved for scientific purposes.

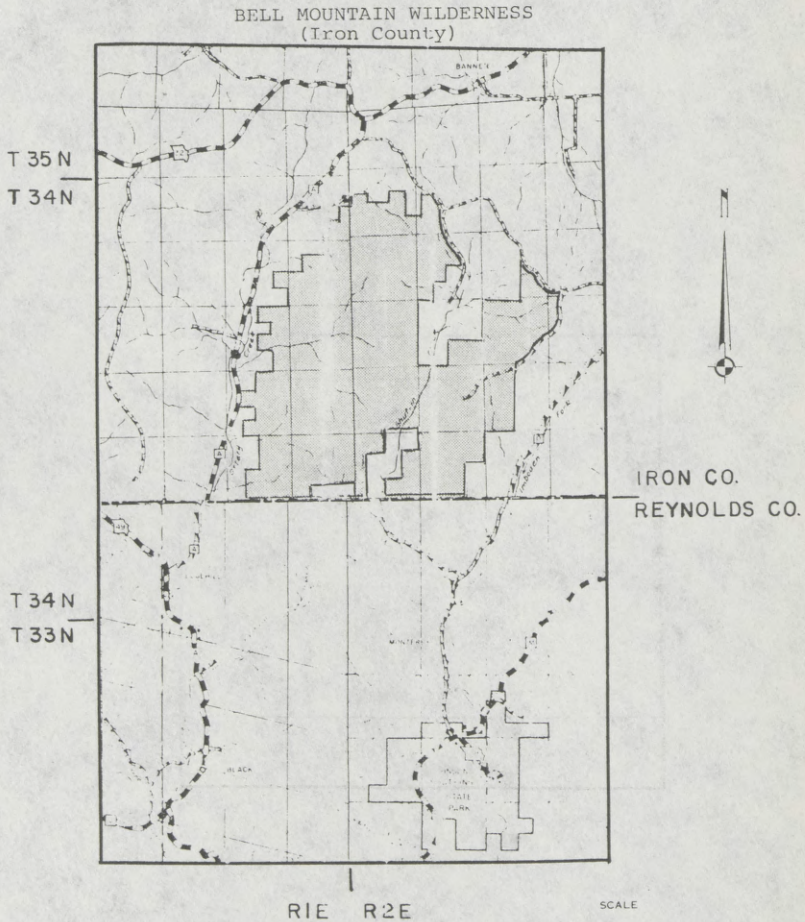
This area has been endorsed by the DNR and the Conservation Commission for instant wilderness designation.

All other proposed areas have been endorsed by the Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Commission for study area designation.

HERCULES GLADES WILDERNESS
(Taney County)

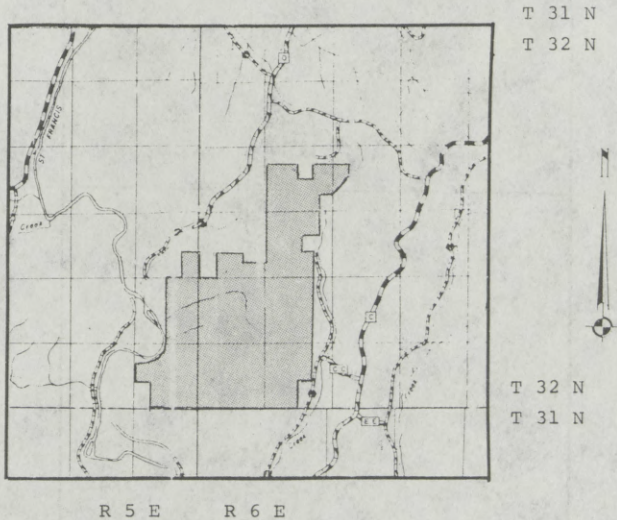


3. Bell Mountain Wilderness - This 8,533 acre proposal in Iron County lies in the heart of the St. Francois Mountains. A timber sale has been proposed here even though the area has a long history of consideration for wilderness designation. Large open barrens cover portions of the sides of the mountain and provide beautiful vistas.



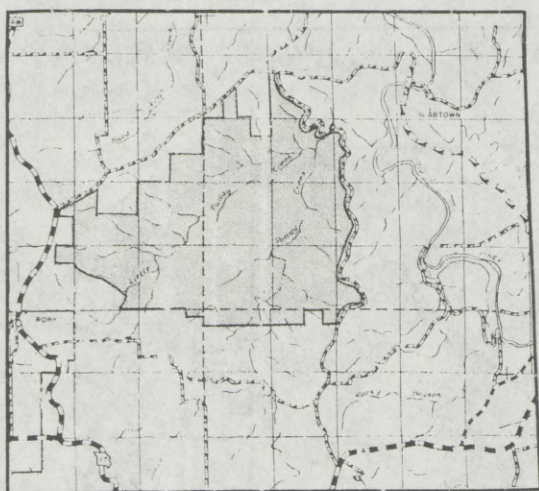
4. Rockpile Mountain Wilderness - This 4,170 acre proposed area is also in the St. Francois Mountains, but is more densely forested than Bell Mountain. The exposed pre-cambrian igneous rocks create shut-ins and areas of geologic interest. The area is also known for its recreational, archaeological and botanical features.

ROCKPILE MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS
(Madison County)



5. Paddy Creek Wilderness - This 6,888 acre proposal offers high quality historical, geological and biological features, as well as excellent recreational opportunities. The colorful Roubidoux sandstone bedrock of the area has produced many beautiful formations. Congressman Ichord has agreed to file legislation supporting this area. The timber industry has identified this area as a fine timber producing area.

PADDY CREEK WILDERNESS
(Texas County)

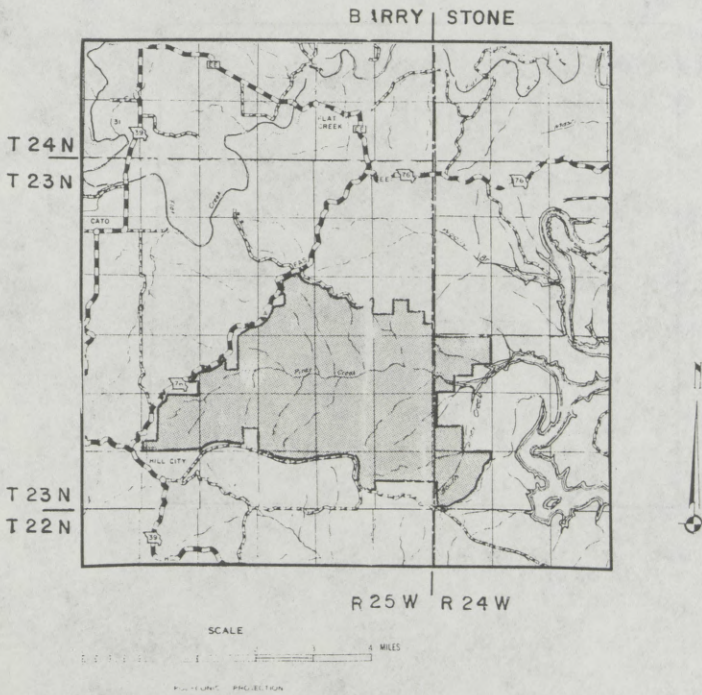


T 33 N
T 32 N

R11W R10W

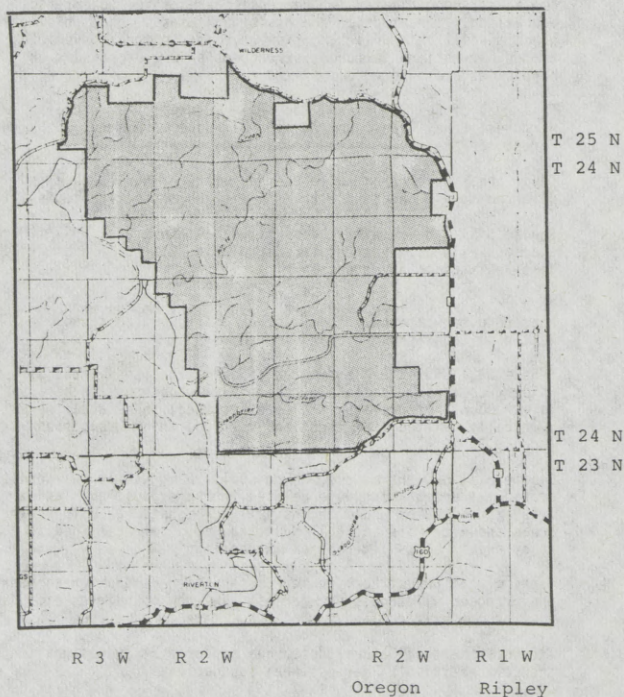
6. Piney Creek Wilderness - This 8,432 acre proposal would protect the entire watershed of Piney Creek for scientific and recreational purposes. It would be a fine complement to the adjacent Table Rock Lake Area. The area supports important habitat for great blue heron, bald eagle, and pileated woodpecker.

PINEY CREEK WILDERNESS
(Barry & Stone Counties)



7. Irish Wilderness - The largest and most well known of all Missouri proposals is the 17,562 acre Irish Wilderness. This area is perhaps the most primitive area we have in public ownership. Several entire watersheds would be preserved, as well as the unique coves, sinkholes and springs in the area. This area also preserves a unique and picturesque aspect of Missouri's historical heritage, dating back to its original Irish settlers before the Civil War.

IRISH WILDERNESS
(Oregon & Ripley Counties)



SCALE

0 1 2 3 4 MILES

PROSTATE PROJECTION

C. MISSOURI WILDERNESS

Chronological History

- 1960 Congress passes "Sustained Yield Act" (P.L. 86-517) authorizing management of national forests to produce a sustained yield of products and services specifically for the purpose of outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed, wildlife and fishing.
- 1964 Congress passes "National Wilderness Preservation System" (P.L. 88-577) which designates certain federally owned areas as wilderness areas to be preserved and protected in their natural state for "The benefit of present and future generations of Americans" specifically for recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation and historical uses. Under this Act, no commercial enterprises, permanent roads, motorized vehicles, timber harvesting, permanent structures or use of poisons or herbicides are allowed.
- 1969 The areas of Bell Mountain, Rock Pile Mountain, Paddy Creek, Irish, Hercules, Piney Creek, and Devil's Backbone were surveyed by the Forest Service and referred to as "back country areas".
- 1971 These areas were reported to the Secretary of Agriculture and referred to as "nature preserves", pending protective legislation.
- 1972 Senate Bill 316 would have designated Bell Mountain, Irish, Hercules, and Rock Pile as wilderness areas, placing others in a study category. This legislation never passed.
- May 1, 1974 Memo from Dr. Wallace Howe, State Geologist, to Joseph Arundale expressing concern over withdrawal from mineral entry, and corresponding letter to Congressman Richard Ichord.
- 1974 Senate Bill 3433 again attempted to designate these areas as wilderness areas. Because of the mineral concerns and because large amounts of private land were included, these areas were eventually deleted from the final version, which was passed January 3, 1974.
- 1975 Senate Bill 520 introduced, which would designate as "wilderness areas" the areas which were deleted from previous legislation. Irish and Hercules would be instantly designated as wilderness areas and Rock Pile and Bell Mountain would be determined as study areas. This legislation is pending.
- March, 1975 Meeting with Forest Service and Conservation Federation to redraw the proposed wilderness boundaries. The new boundaries excluded most of the private land.
- March 26, 1975 The Department of Natural Resources supports study designation for the revised Irish Wilderness Area boundaries.

- May, 1975 The Conservation Commission endorses Hercules Glades as "instant" and Irish, Bell Mountain, Rockpile, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek as wilderness "study" areas.
- October, 1975 Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Department learn of Forest Service plans to hold timber sales in Piney and Paddy Creek proposed areas.
- November, 1975 Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Commission jointly endorse the revised acreage and status of the areas mentioned in the Commission, May 1975, Position Statement.
- November, 1975 Governor Bond asks Forest Service to postpone timber sales until Congress has opportunity to fully evaluate the wilderness option.
- December, 1975 Forest Service rejects Governor Bond's request.
- December, 1975 SIERRA Club files legal "Request for Reconsideration" of administrative policy.
- January, 1976 SIERRA Club request denied.
- March 11, 1976 Representative Sponsler files House Resolution No. 110, which opposes the inclusion of National Forest land in Missouri in the National Wilderness Preservation System. The hearing was set for March 16, 1976, 8:00 p.m. in the House Lounge.
- March 24, 1976 Wilson forwards to Rollins study completed by State Geologist concerning mineral potentials in wilderness areas.
- March 25, 1976 Senator Eagleton, Senator Symington, and Representative Symington concurrently filed, the Missouri Wilderness Study Bill, S. 3402 and H.R. 12821. Includes Bell Mountain, Rockpile Mountain, Paddy Creek, and Piney Creek for study areas, including revised boundaries supported by the Department of Natural Resources.
- April 1, 1976 Sponsler Resolution placed on informal calendar from resolution calendar. Virtually halting action during current session.
- April 30, 1976 Wilson asks Rollins for clarification of meaning of Administrative holds in light of new wilderness bill.
- May 26, 1976 Deputy Forest Supervisor responds that the Forest Service will not defer planned activities.
- June, 1976 Modifications proposed for compromise on Hercules Wilderness boundaries. New boundaries accepted by leading conservation groups and Representative Gene Taylor.
- June, 1976 H. R. 14530 introduced, including Hercules, Bell, Rockpile, Paddy, Piney areas.
- July 1, 1976 Hearings scheduled before House Subcommittee on Public Lands on H. R. 14530 and H. R. 2975 (Mingo).

D. LOCAL IMPACTS RESULTING FROM WITHDRAWAL OF TIMBER ACTIVITY FOR WILDERNESS1. IMPACT ON LOCAL TIMBER COMPANY AVAILABLE FOREST RESOURCES

In 1970, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, published the Missouri Soil and Water Conservation Needs Inventory. This report details the acreage of general land uses on a county basis, and provides a breakdown of the total "forest land" acreage in each county as well as an additional breakdown of "commercial" and "non-commercial" forest land. Federal lands are not included in this inventory. The report defines these categories as follows:

Forest Land. Lands which are (a) at least 10 percent stocked by forest trees of any size and capable of producing timber or other wood products, or capable of exerting an influence on the water regime; (b) lands from which the trees have not been developed for other uses; or (c) afforested (planted) areas. "Soil bank" lands planted to trees are included here. Land freshly clearcut and smoothed for cropland or pasture is considered developed for other uses (see "b" above) and was reported under the use anticipated.

Commercial - Forest land which is producing or is capable of producing crops of industrial wood and not withdrawn from timber utilization by statute or administrative regulations. This includes areas suitable for management to grow crops of industrial wood generally of site quality capable of producing in both accessible and operable areas and prospectively operable and accessible areas.

Non-commercial - Unproductive forest land incapable of yielding crops of industrial wood because of adverse site conditions and productive forest land withdrawn from commercial timber through statute or administrative regulation, such as state parks or wildlife refuges which would be known locally.

The Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Commission have endorsed the Hercules Glades area for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System. Five other areas have been endorsed for study and possible inclusion.

Since wilderness designation would mean that timber would no longer be harvested this may have an adverse impact on the local economy.

The timber industry operates on both public and private lands. To place the wilderness areas in perspective, the following Table lists the wilderness area acreage, the National Forest acreage and the private commercial forest acreage for each county.

Forest Acreage of Counties with Potential Wilderness Areas

Area	Counties	Forested National		%	Private Total	
		Acreage	Forest Acreage		Commercial Forest Acreage	%
Hercules	Taney	12,605	43,187	29	276,884	4.6
Bell Mt.	Iron	8,533	176,952	5	692,452	1.2
Rockpile Mt.	Reynolds	4,170	45,286	9	229,486	1.8
Paddy Creek	Madison	6,888	43,176	16	475,887	1.4
Piney Creek	Texas	8,432	67,131	13	440,931	1.9
Irish	Barry	17,562	78,425	22	346,126	5.1
	Stone					
	Oregon					
Total for Missouri		58,190	1 383,756	4	13,414,712	0.4

To summarize the Table, the areas under consideration for wilderness range from 5% to 29% of the total National Forest forested acreage in the counties where they are located. However, when compared to the total public and private commercial forest acreage in the counties, the areas amount from 1% to 5% of the total commercial forest land available to the local timber companies within the counties affected. In other words, even if all of the areas were studied and eventually included, the timber concerns of the local counties would only lose from 1% to 5% of the lands now available to them for timber cutting. This assumes that the companies do not harvest trees in other bordering counties and that the entire proposed wilderness tracts are forested, both of which lead to a more liberal assessment of the problem than the actual situation.

Most importantly, the Department of Natural Resources position supports "instant" wilderness designation for only one area, Hercules Glades, 12,605 acres. Designation of this area as wilderness would remove 0.9% of the total Missouri National Forest land from timber harvest and only 0.09% of the total statewide commercial forest land. In addition, the "glade" condition of this land dictates that it is a relatively poor timber producing area, and indeed, is only two-thirds forested.

The Department also supports the study of the five additional areas to evaluate their potential for wilderness designation as well as the economic and social impacts to the local area.

2. TIMBER INDUSTRY AND JOBS

Studies have shown that a relatively large percentage of our total statewide timber resource growth is from managed National Forest lands. In Missouri, National Forest land represents only about 10 percent of our total commercial timber resource areas. It would appear that the forest products industry in Missouri would have much more to gain from programs to assist private landowners to improve their vast under-utilized private forest resource, than to oppose the consideration of 58,000 acres of forest land for wilderness management. As the Conservation Needs Inventory points out, over 9 million acres of timber stands are in need of improved management.

With minor timber stand improvement to the private forests in the areas near the proposed wilderness areas it is likely that there will be an increase in timber resources and related jobs which would far outweigh any possible loss in employment due to wilderness designation. It is our feeling that the Hercules Glades Wilderness designation will not result in any job loss. According to rough estimates from timber concerns, the Paddy Creek area supported 18 man/years of labor during a 10 year period. This would amount to 1.8 jobs per year. Study area designation would allow a more sound analysis of this impact. Our rough estimates indicate that even if all 5 study areas were eventually approved for wilderness, less than 10 jobs would be effected.

3. IMPACT ON COUNTY REIMBURSEMENTS

Some concern has also been voiced regarding the possible loss of county reimbursement revenues due to wilderness designation. Any income derived from the commercial use of National Forest resources is deposited in a single account. Twenty-five percent of the total receipts are returned to local counties for roads and schools. Thus, 25% of the total forest income is distributed proportionally to all counties with National Forest acreage. The larger the acreage of forest land, the larger the return.

In Fiscal Year 1975 a total of \$87,600 was reimbursed to all counties with National Forest acreage as a result of timber receipts. This \$87,600 resulted from the timber activity on the 1,438,000 acres of National Forest land in

Missouri. This implies an average reimbursement of \$0.06 per acre. A better estimate of the timber resources would be developed during the study of each area. However, using this figure for the Hercules Glades would imply an estimated loss of a total of \$760, distributed to all 29 counties with National Forest acreage.

If the 5 areas endorsed for study were all eventually entered into the Wilderness System, this 45,600 acres at \$0.06 per acre would amount to an estimated total loss of \$2,735 to all counties. These losses would be distributed proportionately to any and all counties in the state with National Forest acreage, based on their total acreage of National Forest lands. The table below lists the total National Forest land in each county.

<u>National Forest Acreages</u> <u>as of 06/30/75</u>		
<u>County</u>	<u>Net NF Acreage</u>	<u>Forested Acres</u>
Bollinger	1,566	1,566
Butler	48,460	46,441
Carter	88,935	82,490
Crawford	49,126	44,197
Dent	67,723	67,373
Iron	96,880	93,212
Laclede	28,220	27,491
Madison	46,661	45,286
Phelps	60,501	58,999
Pulaski	44,047	41,695
Reynolds	89,668	83,740
Saint Francois	893	893
Saint Genevieve	9,869	9,685
Shannon	83,336	80,450
Texas	46,506	43,187
Washington	81,507	80,519
Wayne	84,828	82,025
Wright	7,079	7,071
Barry	53,441	52,573
Christian	50,455	49,765
Douglas	40,786	39,729
Howell	48,726	47,822
Oregon	96,432	78,426
Ozark	38,527	37,619
Ripley	94,323	91,706
Stone	16,270	14,558
Taney	75,238	63,504
Grand Total	1,450,003	1,372,022

The total impact on reimbursement dollars to local counties if all 6 areas were studied and eventually designated would be about \$3,500 per year. The ratio of the National Forest land in a county to the total National Forest land in the state, multiplied by the estimated \$3,500 total loss, yields an estimate of the potential loss to each county. For example, the county with the highest acreage

is Iron County, 96,880 acres, which amounts to about 7% of the Missouri National Forest land. Thus, Iron County would lose 7% of the \$3,500 estimate to all counties. For Iron County, wilderness designation of all 6 proposed areas would cost the county about \$245 per year. The county with the smallest acreage, St. Francois, 893 acres, would lose \$2.17 if all areas were designated wilderness.

From this estimate, no county in Missouri would lose more than \$54 per year if Hercules Glades were given "instant" wilderness designation and the other 5 areas were given "study" designation. If all 6 areas eventually were entered into the Wilderness System, no one county would lose more than \$245 per year.

4. THE LACK OF A MARKET FOR NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER

According to the Forest Service, a total of 59,822 million board feet (MBF) of timber was offered for sale in FY 75. Of this total offered, 30,745 MBF, more than half, were not bid upon by any timber companies. Only 29,077 MBF were actually sold. It appears that the Forest Service does not have a market for about half of the timber that they would like to sell.

5. CONCLUSIONS

When compared to the timber resources in the local areas, the proposed wilderness study areas would remove from 1 to 5 percent of the forests available in the respective counties to their activity.

Since 90 percent of Missouri's forest resources are in private ownership, it would seem desirable for the timber products industries to shift their demands for wood products more rapidly from the National forests to the private domain.

Forest Products interests would have far more to gain in Missouri by encouraging programs to assist private landowners to improve the private forests than to oppose the consideration of 4 percent of our National forest, public land, for wilderness management.

Our rough estimate is that less than 10 jobs will be affected if all 6 areas become Wilderness Areas. With a minor shift to the private timber resources, more job opportunities would be created.

If all 6 areas are withheld from timber activities, we estimate that no county will lose more than \$245 per year of their 25% reimbursement funds.

Prepared by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, March 1976.

Sources: Missouri Soil & Water Conservation Needs Inventory. Soil Conservation Service, U.S.D.A. 1970.

Forest Facts. National Forests of Missouri 1975.

E. ISSUES AND RESPONSES REGARDING MISSOURI WILDERNESS

1. THE MINERAL ISSUE

ISSUE

- The mineral industries oppose the wilderness concept because they believe wilderness designation would close the areas to mineral entry.

RESPONSE

- The bill specifically allows mineral exploration in wilderness areas.
- All valid mineral claims filed prior to December 31, 1983 will be honored within the boundaries of a wilderness area.
- The closest proposed wilderness study area with any significant mineral potential is 40 miles south of the nearest discovered ore body; this is almost as great as the entire known length of the Viburnum trend.
- There is little evidence suggesting the presence of mineral deposits in the proposed Irish Wilderness areas.* If minerals are present, they are estimated to be at least 2,000 feet below ground, 1,000 feet deeper than the Viburnum trend deposits.
- "Study Area" designation will permit six years to research the proposed areas to determine mineral potential and resolve the issue.
- The probability of a mineral discovery in the proposed wilderness areas (60,000 acres) is no greater than the probability of discovery in the vast acreages now open for mineral entry in the Ozarks.
- Wilderness designation can be withdrawn at any time by Congress if it is deemed in the National interest.

2. THE PRIVATE LAND ISSUE

ISSUE

- Rural landowners and legislators are concerned about the inclusion of private land in the wilderness proposals and potential for condemnation.

RESPONSE

- Original wilderness proposals by the Forest Service included 8,685 acres of private land. Most of this private land was excluded in the revised proposals in a work session with the Forest Service and the Conservation Federation. Only the revised boundaries were endorsed by the Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Commission.

*See Stage Geologist's letter in Appendix A.

- The revised state endorsed proposals include 812 acres of private land.
- The Wilderness Act does not give any additional reason or power for condemnation. In fact, the Act specifically states that private landowners surrounded by wilderness land "shall be given such rights to assure adequate access".

3. THE TIMBER CUTTING ISSUE

ISSUE

- The Missouri Forest Products Association has opposed the wilderness concept because it would remove "large acreages of forested land from timber harvest".

RESPONSE

- Missouri now has 13,000,000 acres of forested land. The 60,000 acres proposed for wilderness areas amount to less than one-half of one percent.
- National Forest lands in Missouri total nearly 1.5 million acres. Proposed wilderness and wilderness study areas amount to less than 4% of these federal lands.
- Practices considered "good forestry practice" have varied with time. 80 years ago, "good forestry practice" was to clear-cut the entire Ozark forest and burn all that remained. As a result, the Ozark soils eroded and the soils now are in poor condition even for timber production. 80 years from now, science may also point out errors we are now making. From a scientific standpoint, the forest industry would benefit from the wilderness areas in that base-line studies could be made for comparison with "timber managed" areas. One-half of one percent seems small for these purposes.
- The Hercules Glades area for the most part is not even forested land. It is a vast expanse of rock outcroppings with soil so thin that only a few cedar trees survive.
- The Forest Service has identified 125,000 acres of land for "Area I" management with light timber activity. Half of this acreage consists of the proposed wilderness areas. Under this management, clear-cuts are still allowed.
- The MFP states that 300,000 acres of public forests have already been removed from timber cutting. We are unable to substantiate this.

- The MFPA supports the concept of setting aside certain areas to be left undeveloped and unharvested, but that these areas should be carefully selected and their size minimal. The areas were carefully selected by the Forest Service and the current proposals, less than one-tenth of one percent of Missouri's 44,000,000 acres, is considered minimal.

4. THE 25% REIMBURSEMENT DOLLAR LOSS TO LOCAL COUNTIES ISSUE

ISSUE

- Some rural landowners in counties with National Forest acreage have been represented as opposing the wilderness concept because of the loss of timber receipts which will reduce the 25% reimbursement from the National Forest incomes to the local communities.

RESPONSE

- It is estimated that the total loss to all counties, if all wilderness proposals are enacted by Congress after study, will be about \$6,000 per year, as compared to 1975 total reimbursements of over \$1.7 million.
- No one county will lose more than \$400 per year.
- Timber is a minor contribution to the reimbursements, only 5%.
- Mining is the major contribution, 94%. On February 17, 1976, the forests in Missouri were merged from two forests into one - Mark Twain. This allowed mining receipts from the old Clark National Forest areas to be distributed to all counties with National Forest acreage.
- Because of the Forest Unit Merger, the Old Mark Twain counties, which includes the Irish Wilderness, will receive nine times more money this year than in 1975.
- The loss of timber receipts from a wilderness area will be distributed to all counties with National Forest acreage, and not impact the local area alone.

5. THE NEED FOR WILDERNESS IN THE NATIONAL FORESTS ISSUE

ISSUE

- Conservation groups, the Conservation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources and numerous newspaper editorials have supported the proposals.

REASONS

- The National Forest Plan states:

"Because they provide the only large, contiguous areas of public ownership in the state, the people must look to the National Forests to provide a wilderness resource."

- The 1964 Wilderness Act designates a national system for the Nation. Samples of Missouri's remaining natural landscapes are essential components of any adequate wilderness system.
- Missouri presently has no acreage designated as wilderness areas or wilderness study areas.
- In the 200 years since the birth of our Nation, Missouri has lost nearly all of its original 44,000,000 acres of wilderness. Proposals for wilderness and wilderness study areas in Missouri total only 60,000 acres (about one-tenth of one percent).
- Wilderness areas would provide a high quality recreation experience without conflicts from motorized equipment.
- Permitted human uses of wildernesses, include hiking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, photography, nature study, bird watching, and swimming, as well as scientific research.
- Activities which will be prohibited in wilderness areas, include use of motorized vehicles, powerline construction, commercial timber cutting, and road construction.
- Wilderness will be important for forestry research, water quality research, and wildlife research.
- Old forest stands will help maintain a diverse wildlife habitat, not available in managed areas.
- Management of forests may produce larger numbers of limited species, but also eliminate some natural species.
- Natural wilderness areas will provide reservoirs of gene pools which will be essential to genetic research. Once a genetic material unique to a species is lost, it can never be duplicated.
- In the Wilderness Act, Congress addresses the need for preservation of certain areas as:

"...additional areas of wilderness in the more populous eastern half of the United States are increasingly threatened by the pressures of a

growing and more mobile population, large-scale industrial and economic growth, and development and uses inconsistent with the protection, maintenance, and enhancement of the areas' wilderness character." and

"Therefore, the Congress finds and declares that it is in the national interest that these and similar areas in the eastern half of the United States be promptly designated as wilderness within the National Wilderness Preservation System, in order to preserve such area as an enduring resource of wilderness which shall be managed to promote and perpetuate the wilderness character of the land and its specific values of solitude, physical and mental challenge, scientific study, inspiration, and primitive recreation for the benefit of all of the American people of present and future generations."

- Most importantly, wilderness is a rapidly diminishing resource for solitude, physical and mental challenge, scientific study, inspiration and primitive recreation. It is more difficult to assign a dollar value to these benefits. A portion of our citizenry demands these benefits and has a right for certain areas of public land to be set aside for their use. These citizens, the rightful purchasers and owners of public lands, should have at least as much, if not more right to their pursuits on public lands as the private concerns of the mining and timber industries. The four percent requested for their needs is trivial compared to the remaining 96 percent available for private exploitation.
- History of Support - Endorsed by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Conservation and requested for protection by Governor Bond. Professed commitment of Forest Service of protection of National Wilderness Resource. Specific Forest Service endorsement of four (4) of the six (6) areas, (Bell Mountain, Rockpile Mountain, Hercules Glades and Irish), as wilderness or wilderness study areas. Citizen endorsements - Conservation Federation of Missouri, Ozark Chapter of Sierra Club, Missouri Friends of the Earth, Ozark Society, Wilderness Society, Webster Groves Nature Study Society, Coalition for the Environment, Missouri Audubon Society, Columbia Audubon Society and others, including editorial support from newspapers in 15 communities; urban and rural.

6. THE STUDY AREA VERSUS INSTANT WILDERNESS ISSUE

ISSUE

- There is gross misunderstandings between the opponents and supporters of wilderness regarding "study" and "instant" designation.

RESPONSE

- The proposed areas for wilderness and wilderness study consideration are:
 - (1) Bell Mountain 8,533 Acres Study
 - (2) Rockpile Mountain 4,170 Acres Study
 - (3) Paddy Creek 6,888 Acres Study
 - (4) Piney Creek 8,432 Acres Study
 - (5) Irish Wilderness 17,320 Acres Study
 - (6) Hercules Glades 12,605 Acres Instant
- Only study area designation has been supported by the state for five (5) of the six (6) areas. Such study designation will mandate a thorough evaluation of the resources and the various potential uses of these areas.
- Instant designation would immediately prohibit commercial enterprise development, road construction, use of motorized vehicles, powerline construction, and timber cutting.
- Mineral claims will be possible until December 31, 1983. Claims will be honored beyond 1983. Mineral exploration will always be permitted by public and private interests.
- Study area designation will call for management consistent to the instant designation for the entire study period.
- The study must be completed within six years.
- The study will evaluate the mineral potential, economic impact, timber resources, competing interests in the area, as well as the areas suitability for wilderness designation.
- The findings may or may not recommend wilderness designation.

7. THE MULTIPLE-USE SUSTAINED YIELD ISSUE

ISSUE

- Opponents claim that all public forest land should be managed for multiple use and sustained yield and that "wilderness" violates this principle.

RESPONSE

- Wilderness preservation is consistent with and integral to the concept of multiple-use of Federal forest land.
- The Wilderness Act (P.L. 88-577) specifically states:

"Nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to be in interference with the purpose for which national forests are established

as set forth in the Act of June 4, 1897 (30 Stat.11) and the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of June 12, 1960 (74 Stat.215)."

- The Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960 (P.L. 86-517) Sec. 4, states:

"Multiple use" means: The management of all the various renewable surface resources of the national forests so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions;* that some land will be used for less than all of the resources; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land, with consideration being given to the relative values of the various resources,* and not necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output."

"Sustained yield of the several products and*services" means the achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high-level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the national forests without impairment of the productivity of the land."

*emphasis added

F. MISSOURI WILDERNESS FACT SHEET

March 31, 1976

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| General | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposed areas endorsed for wilderness and wilderness study consideration are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Bell Mountain 8,533 Acres-Study (2) Rockpile Mountain 4,170 Acres-Study (3) Paddy Creek 6,888 Acres-Study (4) Piney Creek 8,432 Acres-Study (5) Irish Wilderness 17,320 Acres-Study (6) Hercules Glades 12,605 Acres-Instant 2. Missouri presently has no acreage designated as wilderness areas or wilderness study areas. 3. Only study area designation has been supported by the state for five (5) of the six (6) areas. Such study designation will mandate a thorough evaluation of the resources and the various potential uses of these areas. 4. The 1964 Wilderness Act designates a national system for the Nation. Samples of Missouri's remaining natural landscapes are essential components of any adequate wilderness system. 5. National Forest lands in Missouri total nearly 1.5 million acres. Proposed wilderness and wilderness study areas amount to less than 4% of these federal lands. |
| Fire Control | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. The Wilderness Act states: "In addition, such measures may be taken as may be necessary in the control of fire, insects, and diseases subject to such conditions as the Secretary (of Agriculture) deems desirable." |
| Mineral | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. The State Geologist has researched the proposed wilderness areas and has determined that the potential for mineral resources is poor in all areas except Irish Wilderness. The Irish has not been an area of priority for exploration. No mineral deposits have been discovered and none are being mined. 8. All valid mineral claims filed prior to December 31, 1983 will be honored within the boundaries of a wilderness area. All wilderness bills refer to the original Wilderness Act regarding management including minerals. 9. The closest proposed wilderness study area with any mineral potential is 40 miles south of the nearest discovered ore body; this is almost as great as the entire known length of the Viburnum trend. |

10. There is no evidence suggesting the presence of mineral deposits on any of the proposed wilderness areas. No mining activity or mineral exploration have occurred in the proposed areas.
- Timber
11. Missouri now has 13,000,000 acres of commercial forests. The 60,000 acres proposed for wilderness areas amount to less than one-half of one percent.
 12. National Forest timber does not represent a scarce resource. In FY 75, the Forest Service in Missouri offered 59,822 MBF of timber for bid. Of this total, only 29,077 MBF, or less than one half, was actually sold. 30,745 MBF were not even bid upon.
 13. Wilderness designation would remove a maximum of 1 to 5 percent of the public and private timber resources of the respective counties from the timber industry.
- Jobs
14. There is no evidence that any jobs would be lost even if all proposed areas are designated as wilderness. Study Area designation would insure thorough analysis of this possibility.
- Multiple Use
15. Wilderness preservation is consistent with and integral to the concept of multiple use of Federal Forest land. The Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act states:

"The establishment and maintenance of wilderness are consistent with the purposes and provisions of this Act."
 16. In the 200 years since the birth of our Nation, Missouri has lost nearly all of its original 44,000,000 acres of wilderness. Proposals for wilderness and wilderness study areas in Missouri total only 58,000 acres (about one-tenth of one percent).
- Uses and Restrictions
17. Permitted human uses of wildernesses, include hiking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, photography, nature study, bird watching and swimming, as well as scientific research.
 18. Activities which will be prohibited in wilderness areas, include use of motorized vehicles, powerline construction, commercial timber cutting, and road construction.
 19. Wilderness areas would provide a high quality recreation experience without conflicts from motorized equipment.

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND
GOVERNOR



APPENDIX A

JAMES L. WILSON
DIRECTOR

missouri department of natural resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

314-751-3332

March 24, 1976

Mr. Don Rollens
Supervisor
Mark Twain National Forest
Rolla, Missouri 65401

Dear Mr. Rollens:

Please find attached an analysis of the mineral resources potential of several of the proposed wilderness areas in Missouri prepared by the State Geologist in response to your request. The areas which are discussed in this analysis are essentially the areas currently under debate in Congress as listed in S. 520. The wilderness boundaries indicated on the map in the analysis are the boundaries listed in S. 520 and not the same boundaries which the Department of Natural Resources has endorsed.

The analysis of mineral resources clearly supports the state's position. If you desire a similar mineral analysis of the Paddy Creek and Piney Creek areas, we will be happy to provide it.

The Department's position is as follows:

- (1) Bell Mountain 8,533 Acres-Study
- (2) Rockpile Mountain 4,170 Acres-Study
- (3) Paddy Creed 6,888 Acres-Study
- (4) Piney Creek 8,432 Acres-Study
- (5) Irish Wilderness 17,320 Acres-Study
- (6) Hercules Glades 12,605 Acres-Instant

With modifications, we support S. 520. These modifications include:

1. Minor boundary revisions to exclude the majority of the private land;
2. Addition of Paddy Creek and Piney Creek as wilderness study areas; and
3. Removing the Irish Wilderness area from "Instant" to "Study".

In the event you refer to the State Geologist's analysis in your testimony, I hope that you will keep this information in the context of the Department's policy on these wilderness areas. We have made a careful evaluation of the various natural resource interests in this matter, including the minerals question, and feel we have developed a reasonable and balanced position.

Specifically, DNR strongly encourages wilderness, as a matter of policy, for the following reasons:

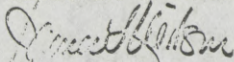
1. Wilderness, unaffected by man, is an important societal value which we have an obligation to preserve for future generations.
2. Of Missouri's total 44 million acres, only the proposed 60,000 acres still qualify as wilderness. Despite this, the proposed areas are threatened by timber cutting which would disqualify them for decades.
3. The 60,000 acres amount to less than half of 1% of the state's remaining forest lands. The likelihood of mineral deposits is extremely remote. Nevertheless, we support study designation of five areas to make a fair determination of fact regarding the benefits and impacts of wilderness designation, and to allow for thorough public input.
4. The establishment and maintenance of areas of wilderness are consistent with the purposes of the Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act.
5. The existence of wilderness areas in Missouri would provide an important laboratory for scientific research. We have in our state some of the finest oak-hickory stands in this area of the country. Much of this research would benefit the timber industry.
6. Of the 60,000 acres proposed, only 812 are in private ownership. The remaining acres are in public ownership, held by the U. S. Forest Service.

In conclusion, Missouri has no wilderness areas and we are at a critical point where we must begin to study potential areas now or risk losing this societal value for decades, perhaps forever. It is our considered professional opinion that a small fraction of our land -- only 60,000 acres already in public ownership -- should be preserved in wilderness as a reminder of our natural heritage and as a source of recreational pursuits and scientific research presently unavailable. We believe the negative aspects of designation are extremely minimal and, on balance, can be readily accommodated by our state; nevertheless, thorough study and citizen input should be pursued. Our policy is shared with Governor Christopher S. Bond, the Missouri Conservation Commission, and a broad spectrum of citizen groups and newspapers throughout the state.

Your interest in this matter is sincerely appreciated. By copy of this letter and attachments, I am advising the Missouri Congressional Delegation of our position.

Sincerely yours,

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES


James L. Wilson
Director

JLW:mnd

cc: Missouri Congressional Delegation

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND
GOVERNOR



JAMES L. WILSON
DIRECTOR

missouri department of natural resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

314-751-3332

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 23, 1976

TO: Mr. Donald L. Rollens, Supervisor, Mark Twain National Forest Districts, Rolla, Missouri

cc: James L. Wilson

FROM: Wallace B. Howe, State Geologist and Director, Division of Geology & Land Survey, Missouri Department of Natural Resources

SUBJECT: Mineral Resources Potential of the Irish Wilderness, Hercules Glades, Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain Proposed Wilderness Areas in Missouri, as requested March 10, 1976

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

With minor exceptions the areas proposed for wilderness designation are located wholly within ranger districts of the Mark Twain National Forest (new name for the 4 Clark and 4 Mark Twain ranger districts in southern Missouri). The accompanying map has been prepared to show the location of the Irish Wilderness, Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain areas with respect to the major lead-zinc and iron ore deposits in southeastern Missouri. The proposed Hercules Glades area is in the Ava ranger district in Taney County in southwestern Missouri. It is located about 40 miles southeast of Aurora, the easternmost outlier of the Tri-State zinc-lead district. Mining activity in southwest Missouri was centered around Joplin, about 80 miles distant. The last production in the district (in Kansas) was suspended in 1970, but exploration continues on a sporadic basis in Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri.

B. COMMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL PROPOSED WILDERNESS AREAS

1. Irish Wilderness Area - Oregon County (Winona-Doniphan-Van Buren District)

The general area in southern Missouri is well known for occurrences of near-surface brown iron ore deposits. However, only one is reported within the outlines of the proposed wilderness area. Hundreds of these deposits have been mined in the past, but there has been no mining of this type of ore in Missouri since 1967. With a few possible exceptions, these surficial deposits are not presently nor expected to be important in the foreseeable future.

The main mineral potential of the Irish Wilderness is for deeply buried lead-zinc deposits, and to a lesser extent, iron and copper deposits in the Precambrian basement rocks. The proposed wilderness area is roughly on line and about 30 miles south of the Viburnum Trend (see accompanying map). This was pointed out in a memorandum to Mr. Arundale, Bureau of Mines Liaison Officer in Missouri, in May 1974; and in a letter to Congressman Richard Ichord in July 1974. The depth to the basement rocks in this area is at least 2200 feet. The top of the Bonnetterre Formation, host of all the major lead-zinc deposits in southeastern Missouri, is probably around 2000 feet deep. Surface mapping and certain geophysical surveys (aeromagnetic in particular) may give some clues to favorable conditions, but core drilling on a substantial scale must be done to confirm or deny the existence of ore deposits.

The Bonnetterre Formation and the basement rocks become progressively deeper with distance away from the St. Francois Mountains, and this adds to the cost of prospect drilling. For example, in the mines to the north, the ore bodies range in depth from 600 to 1500 feet. It is logical to expect that the shallower target areas nearer the highlands will be explored first and this has usually been the case.

Since the evaluations were made by this organization in 1974, there have been two intensive exploration drilling campaigns, first in Bollinger County, and now a few miles north of the Irish Wilderness, along the border between Carter and Ripley Counties. In addition, a large block of prospecting permits covering an area in Carter County was applied for late in 1975 (see attached map). These developments substantiate earlier predictions that exploration will proceed southward and eastward from the area of known deposits.

2. Hercules Glades Area - Taney County (Ava District)

There are no known metallic mineral deposits in this area. As pointed out in the introduction, the location is about 40 miles southeast of Aurora, and 80 miles from Joplin, the mining center in Missouri is the Tri-State zinc-lead mining district. The last significant mine production in the Missouri sector was in 1957, but mining companies have conducted limited exploration programs in the general area up to the present time.

The bedrock in the proposed wilderness area is the Jefferson City Dolomite of Ordovician age. This formation often contains narrow veins and pockets of lead and zinc minerals, but sizeable ore deposits are uncommon. The major deposits in the Tri-State district are in younger (Mississippian age) rocks, which are absent in the Hercules area. There are a number of lead-zinc prospects nearby in western Taney County and southern Christian County. While the area is fairly close to a major district, the chances of discovering important new zinc-lead deposits here are not considered to be very good.

3. Bell Mountain Area - Iron & Reynolds Counties (Salem/Potosi/Centerville District)

Precambrian volcanic rocks are at the surface of about two-thirds of the proposed wilderness area. These sometimes contain iron and copper deposits. Upper Cambrian and Lower Ordovician rocks, mostly carbonates, overlap the volcanics. The Bonnetterre Formation, host of the major lead-zinc deposits in southeastern Missouri, is present in about 30 percent of the area. Aeromagnetic and area geology maps of this area in 1" = 1 mile scale have been published by the State Geological Survey. Prospecting permits in the eastern part of the area were issued to the American Zinc Co. between 1954 and 1964. Fifteen drillholes were put down to test the Bonnetterre, but no mineralization was found. Some fairly prominent magnetic "highs" are shown in the Edgell aeromagnetic sheet, but they usually correspond to mountain peaks. Apparently, none of them is large enough to justify test-drilling for iron ore.

In summary, there is some potential for lead-zinc deposits occurring in the Bonnetterre Formation along the flanks of the Precambrian hills in this area. However, the negative drilling results some years ago and lack of interest since then are discouraging. Deposits of this type occur around "basement knobs" in the Mine La Motte - Fredericktown area on the eastern side of the St. Francois Mountains.

4. Rockpile Mountain Area - Madison County (Fredericktown District)

Precambrian volcanic rocks cover about one-half of this proposed wilderness area. The Bonnetterre Formation is present in lowland areas, but it is believed to be limited in lateral extent and thickness. The area has been mapped geologically and by aeromagnetic surveys. A prominent magnetic anomaly appears at the peak of Rockpile Mtn., but has not been considered attractive enough to drill. In fact, there is no record of applications by mining companies for prospecting permits.

While there is a chance of lead-zinc deposits occurring in the Bonnetterre along flanks of the Precambrian uplands in much the same way as at Bell Mountain, the lack of exploration activity for both lead-zinc and iron is mute testimony that prospects are poor.

Attachment

(Retyped from a carbon copy)

EXCERPT: April 16, 1976 letter from Dr. Wallace B. Howe, State Geologist and Director, to Senator Stuart Symington:

3. Paddy Creek Area - Texas County (6,888 acres)

There are no reported mineral deposits in the designated area, including the common varieties like limestone, clay and sand & gravel. A small barite mine was operated near Houston years ago, and some lead & zinc prospects were reported south of Bendavis (southwestern Texas County). The surface geology is adequately known, and no magnetic anomalies of interest appear in the Magnetic Map of Missouri. Aeromagnetic coverage is not available. A St. Joe Minerals drillhole to the basement was located about 5 miles southeast of the proposed study area. The Bonnetterre Formation was limey, shaly and silty; distinctly unfavorable for lead-zinc mineralization. There was no evidence of mineralization in the basement granite. In summary, then, there seems to be no evidence of important mineral deposits in the area. Drillhole information was published in the Missouri Geological Survey's Report of Investigation nos. 55 and 58 (1975).

4. Piney Creek Area - Barry and Stone Counties (8,430 acres)

We have no record of mineral deposits in the designated area, and the nearest zinc-lead prospects are over 6 miles away. It was noted earlier that Aurora, easternmost outlier of the once famous Tri-State zinc-lead district, is about 20 miles to the northeast in southeastern Lawrence County. Slightly nearer were the small zinc and lead mines and prospects near Purdy and Pioneer in northwestern Barry County. Mineralization in this area is mostly in limestones of Mississippian age (Warsaw and Keokuk formations). Geologic mapping indicates that these formations are only sparingly present on ridge tops in the proposed wilderness area. However, the underlying Ordovician rocks are sometimes mineralized, and have also been targets for exploration, but to a much lesser extent to date.

Aeromagnetic mapping is not available in this area. The Magnetic Map of Missouri shows a fairly prominent high bordering the area on the north, apparently not large enough to be drilled as an iron ore prospect. Basement structure maps in the area are inclusive in detail. A St. Joe Minerals Corp. drillhole just south of the Barry County line in Arkansas has a sandy sequence for the Bonnetterre Formation, distinctly unfavorable for lead-zinc mineralization. Based on the available evidence, the mineral potential of this proposed wilderness area seems poor.

APPENDIX B

NOTED EDITORIAL SUPPORT REGARDING THE
DNR & DOC WILDERNESS POSITION

1. "Eagleton and Burlison Favor 8,000 Acre Mingo Wildlife Plan" - The Courier-Press, Ellington, Missouri, March 11, 1976.
2. "Business Interest Threaten Wilderness" - The Kansas City Star, March 14, 1976.
3. "Forest Service Rejects Pleas to Save Wilderness" - Ozark Graphic, January 1976.
4. "Wilderness Areas Sought" - Rolla Daily News, September 10, 1975.
5. "A Wilderness Threat" - Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian, January 8, 1976.
6. "Support Needed for State Wilderness Areas" - Globe Democrat, 1975.
7. "Gassing with Cook" - Theodosia - Bull Shoals Lake, July 27, 1975.
8. "Missouri Loses more than Wilderness" - Kansas City Star, December 1, 1974.
9. "A Wilderness Diversion" - Branson Beacon, November 20, 1975.
10. "An Open Letter" - River Hills Traveler, Jackson, Missouri, December 11, 1975.
11. "Letters from Readers" - River Hills Traveler, January 8, 1976.
12. "Wanted - Wilderness in Missouri" - Missouri Earth Advocate, February 1975.
13. "Missouri's Bell Mountain holds Secrets of the Earth" - Globe Democrat, 1975.
14. "Bald Plan a Wild One" - Branson Beacon, July 17, 1975.
15. "Forest Service Timber Sales Threatened State - Supported Wilderness Proposals in Missouri" - National News Report, January 16, 1976.
16. "Wilderness" - Missouri Life, Winter 1975.
17. "No Missouri Wilderness?" - St. Louis Post-Dispatch, March 20, 1976.
18. "Wilderness Battle Needs Citizen Help" - The Sedalia Democrat, March 26, 1976.
19. "Business Interests Threaten Wilderness" - The Kansas City Star, March 14, 1976.
20. "Citizen support needed for wildlife areas" - Globe Democrat, March 20, 1976.

21. "No Missouri Wilderness?" - Rolla Daily News, March 25, 1976.
22. "State House should back wilderness preservation" - The Columbia Missourian, March 30, 1976.
23. "Wilderness battle needs citizen help" - Sedalia Capital, March 27, 1976.
24. "Missouri Wilderness Threatened" - St. Louis Post Dispatch, March 23, 1976.
25. "Wilderness issue raises conflict" - The Columbia Missourian, March 27, 1976.
26. "Wilderness in House - One to Keep an Eye On" - Kansas City Star, March 21, 1976.
27. "For unborn generations" - Cape Girardeau Southeast Missouri, March 21, 1976.
28. "Wilderness preserves" - The Columbia Daily Tribune, March 28, 1976.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE
STATE OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND
GOVERNOR

November 25, 1975

Mr. Donald L. Rollens
Forest Supervisor
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
P. O. Box 937
Rolla, Missouri 65401

Dear Mr. Rollens:

The State of Missouri is fortunate to have a variety of natural scenic resources. I take pride in the efforts of conservation-minded citizens to include certain areas in the National Wilderness Preservation System as small remnants of Missouri's wilderness heritage for the benefits of all future generations of Missourians.

In recognition of these far-sighted efforts the two major land resource agencies of Missouri, the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Conservation, have identified and endorsed several potential wilderness areas in the National Forests in Missouri (statement enclosed). These areas include:

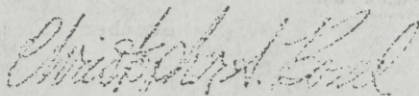
Bell Mountain	8,533 acres
Rockpile Mountain	4,170 acres
Paddy Creek	6,888 acres
Hercules Glades	12,605 acres
Piney Creek	8,432 acres
Irish Wilderness	17,320 acres

It has come to the agencies' attention that several of these areas may be subject to management activities, including timber sales, which could adversely affect their eventual consideration for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System. I sincerely hope that the wilderness option

for these few areas will not be lost and request that the Forest Service protect the wilderness character and values of these areas until Congress has had full and complete opportunity to determine their suitability for wilderness designation.

Your consideration of this request will be appreciated.

Sincerely,



GOVERNOR

prw

Enclosure

cc: Department of Natural Resources
Conservation Commission
Mr. Jay Cravens, Regional Supervisor
Mr. John McQuire, Chief, Forest Service
Mr. Earl Butz, Secretary, Agriculture
Conservation Federation
Sierra Club

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND
GOVERNOR



JAMES L. WILSON
DIRECTOR

missouri department of natural resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

314 751-3332

April 30, 1976

Mr. Donald L. Rollens
Forest Supervisor
Forest Service
P. O. Box 937
Rolla, Missouri 65401

Dear Mr. Rollens:

Thank you for your memo of March 19, 1976 regarding your position on the interim management of the proposed wilderness areas. You indicate that you will continue to constrain timber management in the areas specified in S. 520, and that you will not protect the wilderness character of Paddy Creek, Piney Creek, and the additional land at Bell Mountain. This, I regard as being insensitive to ^{the} request to preserve these areas until Congress has had full opportunity to evaluate the wilderness potential of these areas.

As I am sure you are aware, on March 25, 1976, Senator Eagleton, Senator Symington, and Representative Symington concurrently filed the Missouri Wilderness Study Bill, S. 3402 and H.R. 12821. This legislation includes Paddy Creek and Piney Creek, and the revised boundaries of the Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain areas, which eliminates much of the controversial private land which the Forest Service included in the original Eastern Wilderness legislation.

I am extremely interested in a clarification of your current position, in light of the new Missouri Wilderness legislation. Specifically, are you still proceeding with timber management programs in any of the areas which the state has expressed an interest? These are:

Hercules Glades.....	17,320 acres
Bell Mountain.....	8,533 acres
Rockpile Mountain.....	4,170 acres
Paddy Creek.....	6,888 acres
Piney Creek.....	8,432 acres
Irish.....	17,320 acres

Please advise as to your intentions.

If you still plan timber sales in light of the interest of the major elected officials of this state, I will consider this a major federal action and will call for a thorough Environmental Impact Statement of each proposed sale.

Sincerely yours,

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

James L. Wilson
Director

JLW:flc

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Mark Twain National Forest
Box #937, Rolla, Missouri 65401

2320

May 26, 1976



Mr. James L. Wilson, Director
Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Mr. Wilson:

This is in response to your letter of May 3, 1976, asking for a clarification of our current position on the six areas in Missouri which you support for wilderness legislation.

National Forest land within the four areas mentioned in Senate Bill 520, which includes the Hercules Glades, Irish, Rock Pile Mountain, and Bell Mountain areas, continues to be managed under the Regional Forester's policy that no activity is permitted within these areas that would adversely affect their characteristics until land use plans are completed.

We have no activities planned for the Paddy and Piney Creek areas in the near future. We have a timber sale within the Paddy Creek area, the Paddy Chapel Sale, which was scheduled for advertising in December 1975. This sale, along with several others on the Houston Ranger District, has been reprogrammed to Fiscal Year 1977, with a planned advertising in October 1976. The only other activity planned in these two areas is maintenance of five wildlife ponds in the Piney Creek area this fall.

Our decision to have the Paddy Chapel Timber Sale is based on an environmental analysis report approved on September 12, 1973.

We will closely monitor Congressional activity on S. 3204 and H.R. 12821. Prior to advertising the Paddy Chapel Sale in the fall, we will assess the situation at that time.

As you may have heard by this time, Don Rollens has transferred to Laramie, Wyoming, and will be Supervisor of the Medicine Bow National Forest. Tom Roederer has been selected for the Forest Supervisor's position on the Mark Twain National Forest. He will be here to assume his new duties July 4th.

RECEIVED

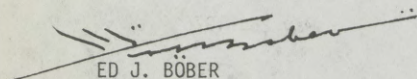
MAY 28 1976

DIV. of PLANNING-POLICY
DEVELOPMENT

6200-11 (1/69)

I am sure Tom will be interested in meeting with you after he is settled here in Rolla.

Sincerely,



ED J. BOBER

Deputy Forest Supervisor



Support
Design for Conservation

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

2901 North Ten Mile Drive - Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

P. O. Box 180 - Telephone 314 751 4115

CARL R. NOREN, Director

June 28, 1976

The Honorable John Melcher
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands
U. S. House of Representatives
1224 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

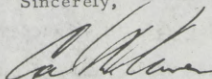
Dear Mr. Melcher:

I am advised that your Subcommittee will conduct hearings on July 1 on bills dealing with the establishment of certain wilderness areas in Missouri. My understanding is that you will be dealing primarily with H. R. 14530, introduced by Representative James Symington, and that the bill calls for wilderness study status for four sites and instant designation for the Hercules Glades proposed wilderness area -- the latter with the concurrence of Representative Gene Taylor in whose Congressional District it is located.

The Conservation Commission of the State of Missouri, in formal action on March 29, 1976, endorsed study status for the four areas under consideration, and also the Irish Wilderness, and instant designation for the Hercules Glades. Representative Symington's bill encompasses most of these areas, and this Department urges favorable consideration of this bill.

Attached is a copy of the Commission's formal statement.

Sincerely,


CARL R. NOREN
DIRECTOR

cc Missouri Congressional Delegation
Conservation Commissioners

COMMISSION

JIM TOM BLAIR
St. Louis

ROBERT G. DELANEY
Charleston

G. ANDY RUNGE
Mexico

ROBERT E. TALBOT
Joplin

CONSERVATION COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF MISSOURI

POSITION STATEMENT ON WILDERNESS

The Conservation Commission and the Department of Natural Resources philosophically endorse the concept of preserving certain areas in the state for their wilderness values, believing that this may be the "highest and best" use of such lands.

The Commission and the Department of Natural Resources recognize that wilderness designation carries with it restrictions on the manner in which wildlife and timber is managed, but feel the overall value as wilderness, on limited acreage, offsets its loss to other uses.

The Commission and Department of Natural Resources recognize too, that the term "wilderness" has taken on different meanings under differing conditions; nevertheless, preservation of wilderness, of appropriate quality, has the general support of the Conservation Commission and the Department of Natural Resources.

On a more specific basis, the Commission and the Department of Natural Resources endorse the following named areas within the State of Missouri, in the Mark Twain National Forest, as additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Glades Wilderness, (12,605 acres) (also known as Hercules Glades Wilderness) in Taney County, be given immediate designation as a wilderness area; and the following proposed areas be designated as Study Areas for possible later designation as Wilderness Areas:

Irish Wilderness, (17,320 acres) in Oregon County;

✓ Bell Mountain Wilderness, (8,533 acres) in Iron County;

✓ Rockpile Mountain Wilderness, (4,170 acres) in Madison County;

✓ Paddy Creek Wilderness, (6,888 acres) in Texas County;

✓ Piney Creek Wilderness, (8,432 acres) in Barry and Stone Counties.

The proposed areas would remove from wilderness designation most of the privately-owned lands which were included in earlier proposals; would provide for study of the Irish Wilderness for possible future designation, rather than immediately establishing it as a wilderness area; and would add, for study, the Piney Creek and Paddy Creek areas.

(March, 1976)

Mr. MELCHER. The hearing record on both bills will be held open for 3 weeks time and we will anticipate and welcome any further statements to be submitted for this record and you can be sure all of it will be given due consideration before any action is taken on this.

Thank you very much.

The subcommittee is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 12:18 p.m., the subcommittee adjourned, subject to reconvene at the call of the Chair.]

[Additional material submitted for the record follows:]



Sierra Club

Ozark Chapter
 Eastern Missouri
 P.O. Box 12424
 Olivette, MO 63132

July 1, 1976

- Testimony: before the Sub-committee on Public Lands of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.
- Concerning: H.R. 14530 "to provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness; and to designate one as wilderness."
- Submitted: Leslie G. Harmon, chairman, Wilderness Committee, Eastern Missouri Regional Group, Ozark Chapter, Sierra Club.

Mr. Chairman,

My name is Les Harmon. I live in St. Louis, Missouri, and work at McDonnell-Douglas Corp. I am chairman of the Wilderness Committee of the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club. The Eastern Missouri Group consists of approximately one thousand (1,000) members.

I wish to express full support for H.R. 14530 on behalf of myself and as a representative of the Ozark Chapters Eastern Missouri Group of the Sierra Club.

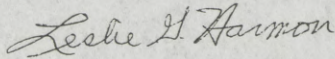
I fully concur with the testimony of the other witnesses on this panel. In addition to the reasons given for the inclusion of the specific areas into the National Preservation System I would like to emphasize the scientific value of these Ozark Highland areas collectively and individually. The Ozark Highland is an ecosystem unique on this planet and certainly nationally significant. Testimony submitted today will bring to the attention of this committee the biological diversity of each of the proposed wilderness areas.

Each area offers a unique opportunity for scientific research such as a biological reference, gene bank and to study the natural processes of land regeneration.

This legislation offers the opportunity to preserve representative and irreplaceable examples of the Ozarks; examples which are not represented in the National Wilderness Preservation System at the present time.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate this opportunity to present my views and those of the Eastern Missouri Group of the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leslie G. Harmon". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Leslie G. Harmon, Chairman
Wilderness Committee



Sierra Club

Ozark Chapter
P.O. Box 12424
Olivette, Mo. 63132

TESTIMONY

before the Subcommittee on Public Lands of the House Committee
on Interior and Insular Affairs

REGARDING

H.R. 14530 (Mr. Symington and Mr. Bolling) "To provide for the
study of certain lands to determine their suitability for des-
ignation as wilderness; and to designate one area as wilderness".

SUBMITTED BY

The Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club, July 1, 1976.

The Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club, consisting of over 1700 members in the states of Missouri and Arkansas, is grateful for the opportunity to testify before the Subcommittee on Public Lands regarding legislation that would designate certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri as units of the National Wilderness Preservation System or as Wilderness Study Areas.

The Ozark Chapter in the past several years has developed proposals for the following areas on the Mark Twain National Forest:

Hercules	12,325 acres	immediate designation
Irish Wilderness	17,562 acres	immediate designation
Bell Mountain	8,533 acres	study area designation
Rockpile Mountain	4,170 acres	"
Paddy Creek	6,888 acres	"
Piney Creek	8,432 acres	"

Legislation now before this Subcommittee does not include the Irish Wilderness. The Irish Wilderness is Missouri's largest, oldest, and most widely known proposal. We look forward to active consideration of the Irish Wilderness in future legislation.

The Ozark Chapter enthusiastically endorses H.R. 14530. Each of the areas listed in this bill is the result of years of careful study and close attention to details of boundary viability and acceptabil-

ity. We are proud of the hard work and cooperation that have gone into this legislation and respectfully urge that it be enacted at the earliest possible time.

Every one of the proposed areas demonstrates a unique expression of Ozarkian natural history and qualifies fully for designation. Collectively and individually, they constitute a superb contribution to the National Wilderness Preservation System. We would point out that the Ozarks are a major geographical region of this country uniquely underrepresented in the National Wilderness System at the present time. This is particularly the case in the Missouri portion of the Ozarks. For a detailed discussion of the particular natural and historical values of each area, we refer to the attached copy of Wilderness in Missouri, published cooperatively by the Ozark Chapter and the Ozark Society.

The proposed boundaries before this Subcommittee are topographically sound, administratively viable, and sensitive to Missouri landowner concerns. As this Subcommittee will recall, boundaries suggested for several of these areas by the Forest Service (refer to H.R. 10469 considered in the 93rd Congress), were less carefully drawn and resulted in the deletion of all Missouri areas from P.L. 93-622.

Missourians were chagrined to have been totally excluded from participation in that landmark legislation. Painstaking effort has

been invested in the development of consensus on appropriate boundaries. We refer to the maps hereunto attached and to larger, more detailed maps submitted for the record.

Economically, it has been demonstrated that the designations in H.R. 14530 are free of significant problems or conflicts. We refer to the detailed analysis prepared by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Missouri Wilderness Proposals, dated June 25, 1975.

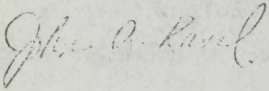
Missouri presently has not one designated unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Missouri is a populous and growing state. Our people have a deep sense of Missouri's rich history and the role that wild lands on our frontier played in that history. Missouri once consisted of 44 million acres of wilderness. The few thousand acres proposed in this legislation are certainly a small commitment to the perpetuation of a rich natural and cultural heritage. Missourians hope that our qualified areas are given the same wilderness protection that has enriched so many other states.

We are submitting for the record samples of the statewide editorial support for the designation of Wilderness Areas in Missouri.

In summary, the campaign to preserve a vestige of the wilderness heritage in the state of Missouri for the benefit of all Americans has resulted in the consensus legislation now before this Sub-

committee. The Ozark Chapter is proud to have taken part in this effort and again urge speedy enactment of H.R. 14530.

Respectfully submitted,

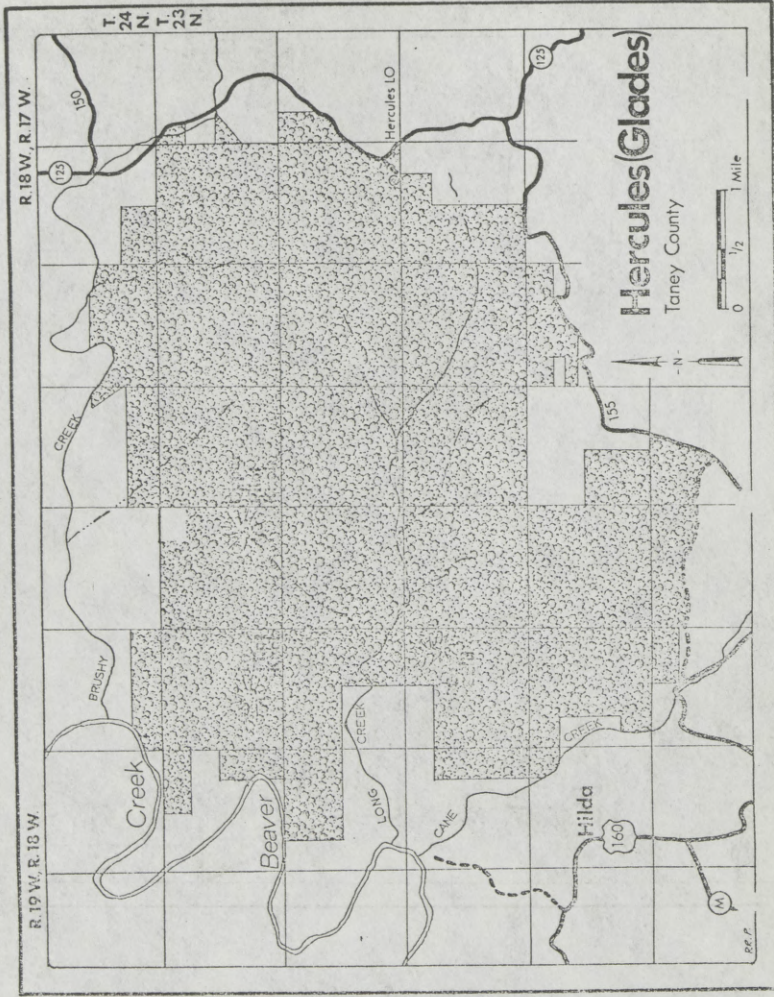


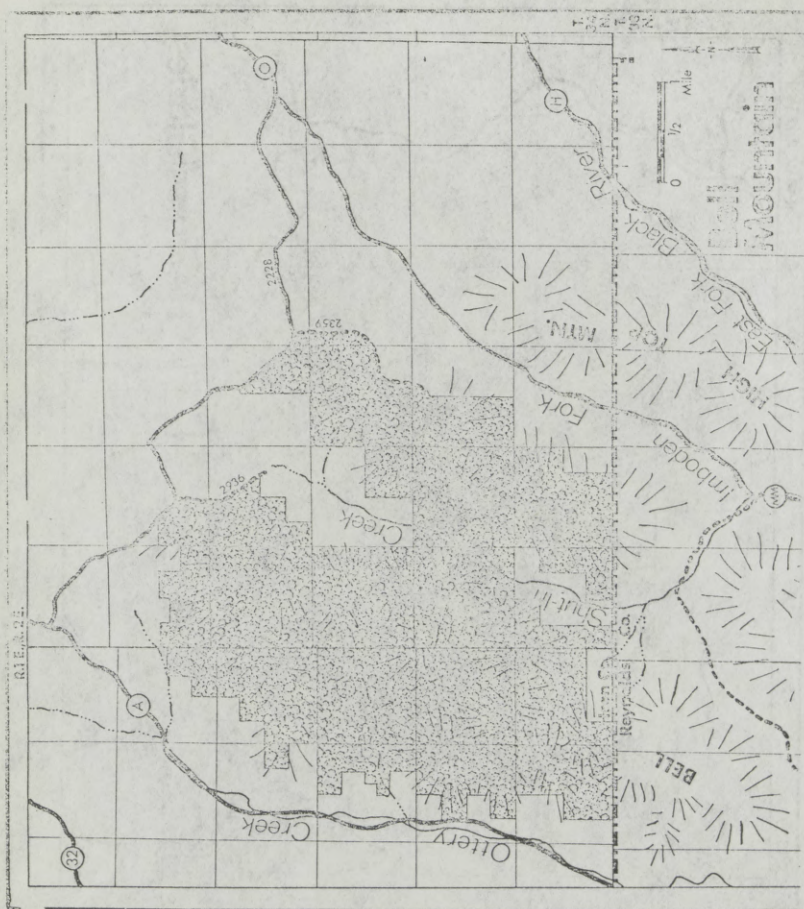
John A. Karel, Chairman

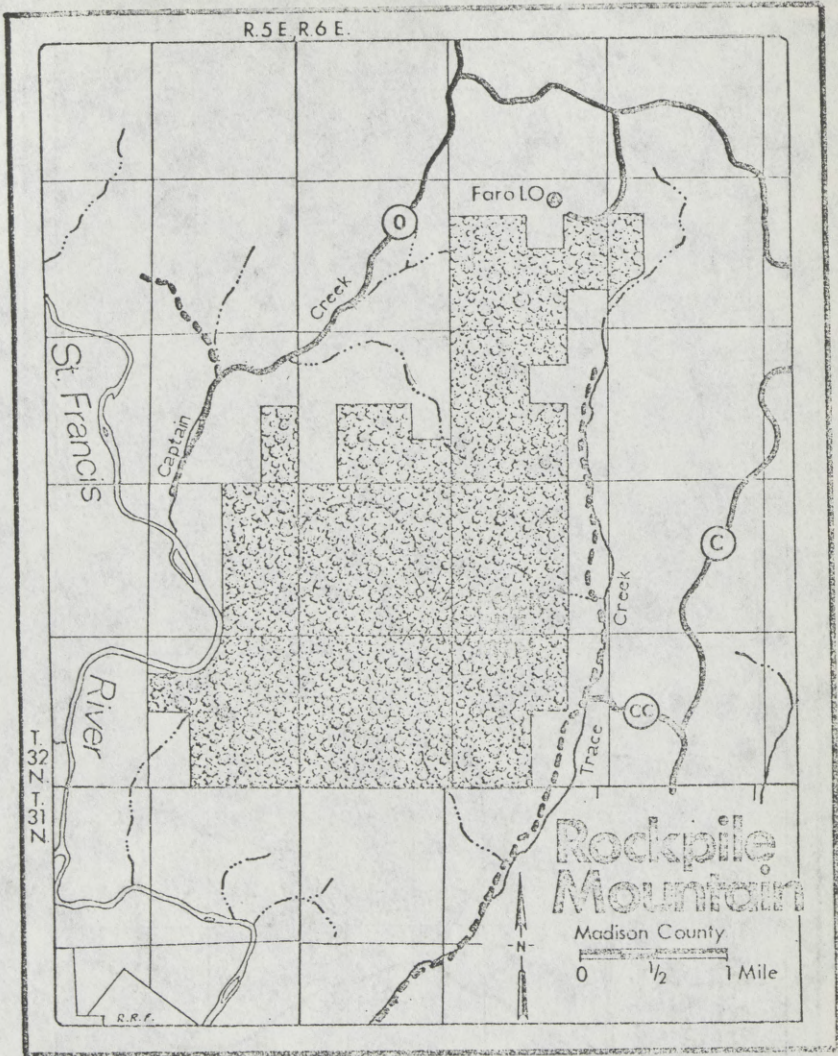
Wilderness Committee

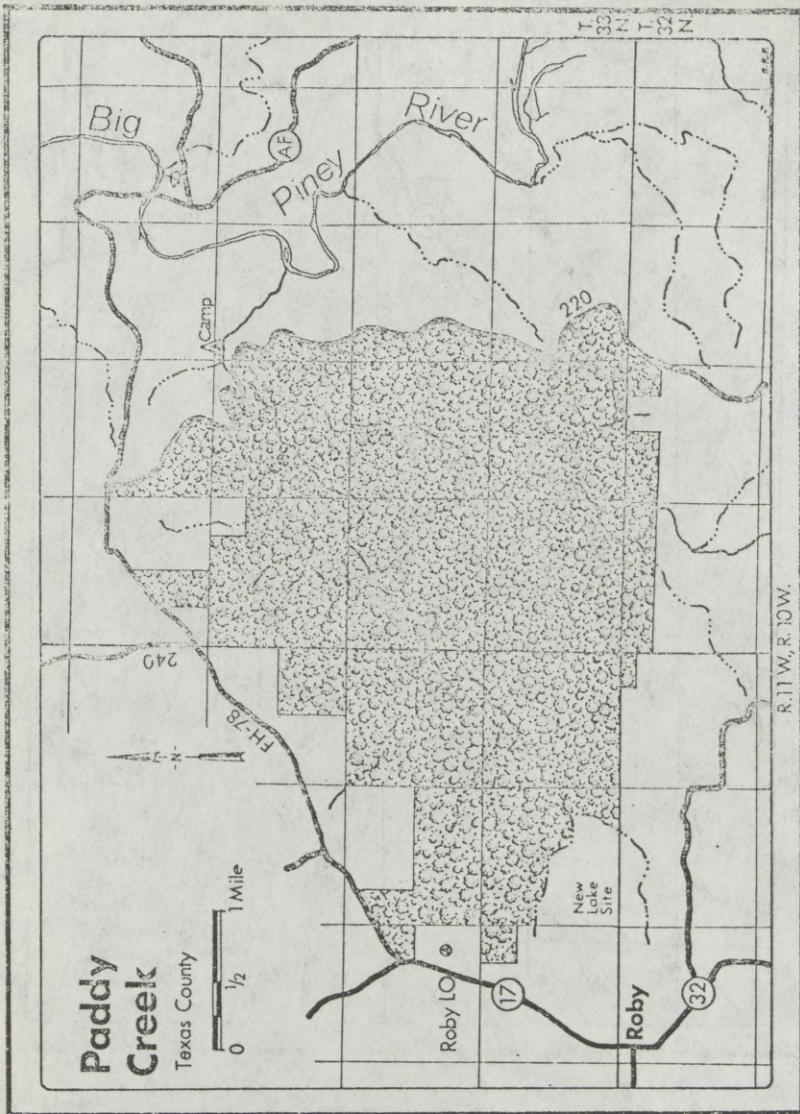
Ozark Chapter, Sierra Club.

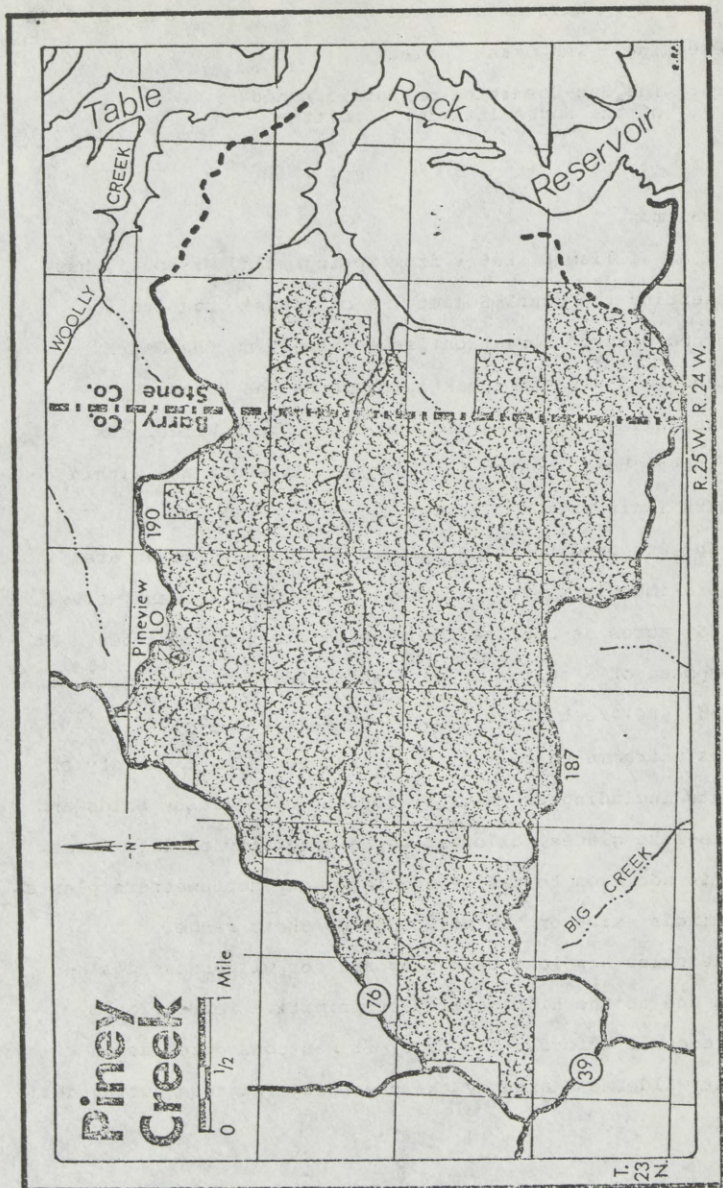
ATTACHMENT # 5.3











Testimony by: William D. Bates

July 1, 1976

Representing: The Ozark Society

Before: The Sub-Committee on Public Lands
of the House Interior Committee

Mr. Chairman,

I am William D. Bates from Springfield, Missouri, here representing the Ozark Society, a citizens' organization concerned with conservation issues affecting the Ozark Highlands. I wish to speak in favor of the Hercules (Glades) Wilderness Area and the Piney Creek Wilderness Study Area, both located in Southwest Missouri and within the Mark Twain National Forest.

The proposed Hercules (Glades) Wilderness is an area of approximately twelve thousand three hundred twenty-five (12,325) acres as outlined on maps before the committee. It is composed of a series of east-west ridges rising up to six hundred (600) feet above Long Creek and, due to its isolation, remains untrammelled by man. The area contains a variety of habitats including oak-hickory forest, open grassy balds and prairie-like glades, allowing for a diversity of life forms. Here, in addition to native species, many southwestern plants and animals exist on the very edge of their range.

Hercules has long been proposed for wilderness designation due to the high quality of primitive recreational experience it affords. In fact, it was considered as an instant wilderness area by the preceding Congress during delib-

erations on the Eastern Wilderness Act but, was deleted from that legislation due to inholdings of private land. We agree that the former boundary was unworkable but now it has been modified to eliminate all private inholdings as shown on our revised map dated 5/76. This still leaves us with a manageable area of sufficient size to protect the endemic life forms and their habitats.

The popularity of the Hercules Area and resulting public exposure through articles in numerous publications, has occasioned studies by many interested groups and individuals. The overwhelming conclusion of these studies is that wilderness designation would be the best possible use of the area and we strongly support that conclusion. We further contend that no additional study is necessary and feel that certainly "instant area" designation is warranted in this case.

The Ozark Society would also like to express its support of the proposed Piney Creek Wilderness Study Area. This area, located in the Mark Twain National Forest, is comprised of approximately eight thousand four hundred thirty (8,430) acres and is worthy of study for many reasons. In particular, it is an entire stream watershed remaining wild and primitive in an area which has been radically altered by impoundments and development for intense recreational activity.

Piney Creek is a prime example of a native Ozark hardwood and pine forest surviving in natural succession. However, this could be substantially changed by the management activities of the National Forest Service if Congress does not take action in the near future.

It is our understanding that these activities, which could possibly eliminate the wilderness option, will commence during fiscal year 1977 if the legislation is not favorably considered.

These practices could still be undertaken even if Piney Creek were assigned Area I status or other administrative designations of the Forest Service, and therefore we feel that full wilderness study area protection is necessary.

With the boundary outlined on our map dated 2/75, Piney Creek would contain no private inholdings of land. It would, however, preserve a manageable area encompassing the full watershed of Piney Creek and necessary buffer zones to the east where it adjoins Table Rock Lake. The area would still include all logically necessary lands and would provide for the continuance of the dispersed recreational activities for which it has been traditionally used.

There are many reasons that could be stated for protecting these areas, but time does not allow. The Hercules (Glades) and Piney Creek areas provide Southwest Missourians and others with a look into their past at the land forms which shaped the character and culture of this region. We contend that the opportunity to preserve this heritage should not be passed by and therefore urge favorable consideration of HR 14530.

The Ozark Society also wishes to express its endorsement of the other wilderness study areas contained in this legislation; Paddy Creek (6,888) six thousand eight hundred eighty-eight acres, Bell Mountain (8,533) eight thousand five hundred thirty-three acres, and Rockpile Mountain (4,170) four thousand one hundred seventy acres. Other speakers will address these in detail. Thank You.

Testimony by: James R. Blanton

July 1, 1976

Representing: private citizen

Before: The Sub-Committee on Public Lands
of the House Interior Committee

Mr. Chairman,

My name is James R. Blanton from Springfield, Missouri, here to speak as a private citizen. I wish to speak in favor of the Hercules (Glades) Wilderness Area and the Piney Creek Wilderness Study Area, both located in Southwest Missouri and within the Mark Twain National Forest.

Throughout the years of westward expansion in America, wilderness played an important role. In today's changing world wilderness can also be significant. Many different types of people could benefit from such an area. The scientist, who wants to see how tall a tree might grow if left completely alone, or the forester, who could study trees in a totally natural environment. Wilderness would also benefit individuals who just want to experience a close relationship to the land. There seems to be no end to the values.

Americans have always been keenly interested in their heritage, and wilderness would provide much needed insight into the type of land our forefathers experienced. The benefit of this experience can't even be expressed.

The Ozark Highlands is a unique portion of America. People from throughout the country should have the opportunity to experience the feeling of meeting the land on its terms.

I'm proud of America and its heritage. I would like

one day to know that generations to come will be able to experience the land in a natural state....a true wilderness.

I would also like to express my endorsement of the other wilderness study areas contained in this legislation; Paddy Creek (6,888) six thousand eight hundred eighty-eight acres, Bell Mountain (8,533) eight thousand five hundred thirty-three acres, and Rockpile Mountain (4,170) four thousand one hundred seventy acres.

Thank You

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Ed Stegner. I am Executive Director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, which is our state's largest and most diversified private conservation organization with nearly 30,000 members. These members have widely varying interests in preserving our outdoor heritage.

Our Federation, the Missouri affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation, has been supporting the wilderness concept for many years including passage of the Wilderness Act of 1964. We have been working for the proposed Missouri areas for more than five years.

Although Missouri may not be considered by some as a wilderness state, we have some of the finest wild, near-primitive areas (including beautiful spring-fed Ozark streams) to be found anywhere in the Midwest. Missouri's proposed wilderness areas offer great diversity from lowland cypress swamps at Mingo to granite mountains to the cedar glades in Taney County.

While most of Missouri's areas have been disturbed in the past by man, they have demonstrated the ability to recover rapidly and are now in excellent condition.

The four areas proposed in H.R. 14530 are all fine areas and deserve to be carefully studied for inclusion in the Wilderness Preservation System. Bell Mountain, Rock Pile Mountain, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek are similar in some ways and greatly different in others. They are also scattered over a large area in southern Missouri which makes them even more desirable for wilderness preservation.

We hope that the Hercules-Glades area can also be added to the bill and feel strongly that it should be immediately given wilderness designation. This is a unique area that has little timber value; and, since all private land has been removed from within the boundary, there now appears to be little or no opposition.

When the Eastern Wilderness Act of 1974 passed the Congress late in 1974, the areas in Missouri were deleted primarily because of the large amount of private lands within the boundaries drawn by the Forest Service. In February of 1975 a group of conservationists representing the major supporting groups in Missouri met in the Forest Service offices in Rolla, MO and drew new boundaries which eliminated nearly all of the private land and, thus, eliminated most of the opposition.

The total acreage involved in the five proposed areas amounts to only about 3% of the national forests in Missouri. These areas, perhaps, represent our state's last opportunity to preserve some of our forests as wilderness. Not only do they represent some of the best examples of wilderness—but there simply are few large tracts of quality land left in total Federal ownership.

The preservation of the areas mentioned above is supported by the Missouri Department of Conservation, Department of Natural Resources and Missouri's Governor Christopher S. Bond.

Surely we can set aside 3% of Missouri's national forests to assure that tomorrow's children can visit and see for themselves what this country was like when our forefathers first came to it. We hope you members of the committee will give the Congress a chance to act on H.R. 14530 and that the Congress will pass it. Your support will be appreciated not only by Missourians, but by all Americans who will someday get to enjoy a bit of Missouri Wilderness.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

620 C STREET, S.E., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20003
(202) 543-4313

DAVID BROWER, *President*

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF MISSOURI WILDERNESS LEGISLATION: HR 14530
SUBMITTED TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS-HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS, 2212 RAYBURN, WASHINGTON D.C.

JULY 1, 1976

by

DON PIERCE

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Public Lands Subcommittee,

My name is Don Pierce. I live at 509-A West Broadway, Columbia, Missouri. I am the Midwest Representative for the Friends of the Earth and the elected Coordinator of FOE's Missouri branch.

The Friends of the Earth is a conservation organization with nationwide membership of nearly 25,000 people. It has about 800 members in Missouri if national and state membership lists are combined. With help from FOE, I have been able to finance a trip to Washington to support the Missouri Wilderness bill: HR 14530.

The current Missouri wilderness legislation is consistent with the goals of the Friends of the Earth which is committed to the preservation, restoration, and rational use of the ecosphere. We support the inclusion of Bell Mountain (8533 acres), Rockpile Mountain (4170 acres), Paddy Creek (6888 acres) and Piney Creek (8432 acres) as wilderness study areas and Hercules Glades area (12,325 acres) as an Instant Wilderness. The boundaries mentioned above are the revised boundaries which have been established to reduce the

Committed to the preservation, restoration, and rational use of the ecosphere

amount of private land from within the proposed boundaries.

I am particularly pleased with Gene Taylor's support of the new boundaries for the Hercules Glades area which has recently been revised to eliminate 40 acres (all the private land) from the proposal.

Unfortunately, the Irish ilderness area is not included in legislation this year, but this matter does not hamper the excellent bill currently under consideration.

I will not mention here the reasons for wilderness in general. Instead, the Committee members are invited to read Ron Taven's article, "Why Wilderness" in the April issue of the MISSOURI EARTH ADVOCATE, which is published by the Environmental Education Organization at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

I would like to mention, however, a few of the many reasons why Congress should support the Missouri Wilderness legislation:

1. Missouri presently has no acreage designated as wilderness or wilderness study areas.
2. Proposed wilderness study areas and Hercules Glades amount to less than 4% of the 1.5 million acre-National Forests of Missouri.
3. Contrary to many statements heard at various meetings and hearings on Missouri Wilderness, the Wilderness act states that "...measures may be taken as may be necessary in the control of fire, insects, and diseases..."
4. The State Geologist has researched the proposed wilderness areas and has determined that potential mineral resources are poor.
5. The proposed wilderness areas amount to less than one half of one percent of all the existing commercial forests in Missouri. Wilderness areas help the forest industry by providing a baseline for scientific study.

6. The Department of Natural Resources has determined that the total loss to all counties will be only about \$6000. According to DNR figures, no county will lose more than \$400. These figures must be compared to the total reimbursements from the Forest Service to the counties of over \$1.7 million.
7. In the 200 years since the birth of our nation, Missouri has lost nearly all of its original 44,000,000 acres of wilderness. Current proposals for wilderness amount to less than one tenth of one percent of the original wilderness in Missouri.
8. The National Forests in Missouri is not known as a region of high timber yields. Therefore, the recreation and wilderness aspects of the Multiple Use Act should be very suitable to the Forest Service lands in Missouri.

Since the main office of the Missouri Friends of the Earth is located in Columbia, Missouri-a college town, many of our active local members are students. Many of these students support the Missouri wilderness proposals and frequently visit all the areas. I would particularly like to support the Paddy Creek proposed wilderness area which is the closest area to our members at the University of Missouri. Also, since the area is subject to bids for timber sales in October, 1976, I would like to see passage of HR 14530 during this legislative session.

THE FRIENDS OF THE EARTH URGE YOU TO SUPPORT HR 14530

Thank you for your time and interest in Missouri's wilderness legislation.

1804 Bird Terrace
Harrisonville MO 64701
29 June 1976

Honorable John Melcher
Chairman, Sub-Committee on
Public Lands
Longworth Building
Rm. 1328
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Melcher:

I am writing in regard to House Bill HR 12821, designating wilderness areas in Missouri. I am highly in favor of this bill. As you are aware, this bill does not include the Irish Wilderness area, and I believe that it should be amended to do so. That particular area has never been very good in the production of lead (one of the reasons for not designating it a wilderness area, I believe), and is blessed with an enormity of forms of wildlife.

I am sure you are aware that the U.S. Forest Service has planned a number of timber cuts to take place in three of the four proposed areas, and some affirmative action has to be taken before that time. These areas constitute only 2% of Missouri's National Forest Land, therefore, it is hardly crucial for timber use. And, were it designated a wilderness area, it could still be used for logging at a later date, if some emergency came up. The areas could be used now to breed several different genetic varieties of trees, as well as preserving some of the only virgin forests in the state.

Missouri currently has no wilderness areas, and I feel that we owe it to future generations to set aside some places for wildlife, not to mention the good uses the areas could be put to for science. Once again, I hope that you will take immediate and affirmative action on this bill at your hearing July 1. I support you completely in this effort, and will be awaiting the outcome.

Sincerely,

Susan K. Reinecker
Susan K. Reinecker



MISSOURI TRAILS ASSOCIATION

Box 643 - Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

June 26, 1976

Honorable John Melcher
Chairman of Sub Committee
on Public Lands
U. S. House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Representative Melcher:

The Missouri Trails Association is a non-profit incorporated organization within the State of Missouri. Our membership is composed of individuals and organizations which involve all trail user group classifications, and includes hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, backpackers, and motorcyclists.

The Missouri Trails Association at the present time represents approximately 125 individual members, and 15 organizational memberships. We directly and indirectly speak for approximately 68,000 people within the State of Missouri. Some of the organizations which are members of the Missouri Trails Association, and the number of people they directly represent are as follows:

1. Conservation Federation of Missouri	25,000
2. Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club	1,700
3. Missouri Motorcycle Association	40,000
4. Ozark Area Council of the American Youth Hosteles	1,500
5. Missouri Walkways Association, Inc.	100
6. Florissant Valley Backpackers Club	
7. St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation	

Other organizations are represented within the Missouri Trails Association, but time did not allow us to directly contact the directors and boards to receive official approval concerning the Missouri Wilderness Bill.

Within the by-laws of this organization one of our major objectives is to help organize, coordinate, disseminate information, and represent all trail users and trail user groups throughout the State of Missouri. We collectively support legislation which directly and indirectly will help provide a balanced systematic

trail system for the State of Missouri. Wilderness is a resource that helps provide a needed outdoor recreation activity for a large number of our trail users in Missouri. We have received the support of the Missouri Motorcycle Association (over 40,000 strong) in support of the Missouri Wilderness Bill. They recognize and realize that although they will be prohibited from such wilderness areas, their support is necessary to accomplish a more important task of obtaining wilderness areas within the State of Missouri for many to enjoy.

We recognize and fully support the Department of Natural Resources, and the Division of Parks and Recreation who were designated by the Honorable Christopher Bond, Governor of Missouri as the agency responsible for the development of a statewide system of trails. We are continuing to cooperate and assist the Department of Natural Resources, Missouri Department of Conservation, U.S. Forest Service, Corps of Engineers, and others within the State who are working together for a system of trails and areas for all trail users.

In behalf of the Board of Directors, individual members, and organizational members of the Missouri Trails Association, I would like to speak in favor of, and fully support the following areas:

AS WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS

1. Bell Mountain	8,530 Acres
2. Rockpile Mountain	4,170 Acres
3. Piney Creek	8,430 Acres
4. Paddy Creek	6,888 Acres

IMMEDIATE DESIGNATED WILDERNESS AREA

1. Hercules Wilderness Area	12,325 Acres
-----------------------------	--------------

The above areas have been listed in H.R. 14530.

We would further ask that immediate designation be given to the "Mingo National Wildlife Area" as identified in H.R. 12326.

We further ask that this legislation; H.R. 14530 and H.R. 12326 be passed out of committee this the 2nd Session of the 94th Congress.

Thank you for supporting these Bills.

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall Masek

Marshall Masek

President

Missouri Trails Association

cc: Missouri Congressional Delegation
 Senator Stuart Symington
 Senator Thomas Eagleton
 Governor Christopher Bond
 Mr. James Wilson, Dept. of Natural Resources

B. A. MORANVILLE, II, M.D.

1502 EAST BROADWAY
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI 65201

TELEPHONE 449-6777

July 13, 1976

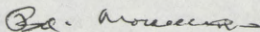
The Honorable John Melcher
Chairman
House Subcommittee on Public
Lands
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Melcher:

I should like to voice my support for HR 14530, the bill dealing with wilderness areas in Missouri. I hope your committee will support the bill and recommend it for passage. I should especially like to speak in favor of the Paddy Creek area for designation as a study area. It is important that this be designated now because the Forest Service has plans to cut in the region very soon and once they begin to cut, of course, the wilderness potential will be damaged. There is plenty of other forest land in Missouri to be cut and it is not necessary that trees be removed from this area at all.

Again, I appreciate your support of this bill.

Sincerely yours,



B. A. Moranville, II, M.D.

BAM/jlp

cc: The Honorable Richard Ichord



Saint Louis Audubon Society

July 15, 1976

Representative John Melcher
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sir:

Re: Missouri Wilderness Legislation
H.R. 2975 and H.R. 14530

The more than 2,000 families of the Saint Louis Audubon Society through their Board are anxious to voice their full support for legislation establishing certain areas as Wilderness. These are: 8,000 acres in the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, 12,325 acres of Hercules Glade, and four Wilderness Study Areas: Bell Mountain, Rockpile Mountain, Paddy Creek, and Piney Creek.

We sincerely hope that the Irish Wilderness will be added to this list as soon as possible.

Kindly have this letter included as part of the hearing record.

Sincerely Yours

Edgar Denison
Conservation Chairman

Edgar Denison
544 East Adams
Kirkwood, Missouri
63122

Mining Industry Council of Missouri



Tel: (314) 635-7308 • Box 725 • 210 Monroe St. • Jefferson City, Mo. 65101

Comments of

WILLIAM E. MARBAKER II
Executive Secretary
Mining Industry Council of Missouri

to the

House Sub-Committee on Public Lands
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

July 15, 1976

Mister Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee:

Mr. Chairman, as noted in my cover letter, I am deeply indebted to you for holding the record open on the July 1, 1976 hearing so that these comments could be included.

The Mining Industry Council of Missouri is a state association of mining companies that produce the bulk of the metallic and nonmetallic minerals mined in Missouri. These member companies operate on public and privately owned lands within our state. The Mining Industry Council of Missouri is thus directly concerned with the effects on our minerals industry of these proposed bills, HR 12821 and HR 14530.

The problem that the mining industry has with the concept of wilderness areas is that wilderness or wilderness study area designations, or even the proposal that an area be so designated results in the barring of mineral entry. In Missouri the areas selected for designation as wilderness and wilderness study areas in these bills are located in that area of Missouri, the crest of the Ozark Uplift, which is the most highly mineralized region in our state. That these areas have the characteristics which make them candidates for wilderness classification is directly traceable to the fact that the surface character of these lands is such that no economic use, other than timbering, has ever suggested itself. These are rugged areas with poor soils and little to recommend them except their primeval beauty. Had they been of a better surface character, the wilderness issue would never have been raised.

The real value of these lands is in the minerals in the Cambrian and Pre-Cambrian formations deep beneath the surface. Assessment of the mineral potential, the location and delineation of ore bodies can only be accomplished by drilling

exploration holes into these strata. In order to do this it must be possible to enter upon the land. Wilderness designations make no provision for such entry.

In the development of the New Lead Belt, mining companies spent ten years and fifty million dollars in the search for the ore bodies they knew were there. Anyone familiar with the economy of southeast Missouri will tell you the result was worth the time, effort, and money that was invested in the search. The New Lead Belt, or the Viburnum Trend, is now the leading lead mining district in the world. That it was found at all is a tribute to the persistence and dedication of the mining companies involved, and to the opportunity they had to enter upon this land to search for these ore bodies.

Providing a process by which entry can be gained for exploration purposes need not be inconsistent with the wilderness concept, and it would be in the national interest. Our economy is dependent on an adequate supply of minerals and it is becoming increasingly evident that our mineral base is dwindling. You are all aware, thanks to the excellent work of the Bureau of Mines and the Department of the Interior, that we are dependent on foreign sources for an increasing number of vital minerals. Projections of mineral supply and demand into the future, both short and long term, are generally pessimistic.

We think that this situation, this predictable mineral shortage in so many of the minerals on which we depend, brings any policy into serious question which operates to aggravate our mineral supply problem. It would be beautifully simple if we knew now the exact quantity and location of every mineral we need, but the natural order of things dictates that we must continuously search for the hidden minerals we require. Given our need and dependence on these minerals, it makes little sense to legislate out of existence any of our resource potential.

Providing a process to provide access to wilderness areas for exploration and for the extraction of the ore bodies if found, would be a reasonable hedge

against the possible loss of these hidden assets. The existence of such entry permitting procedures would not stimulate interest of mining companies in wilderness areas; the geology of an area will continue to determine whether or not it becomes a target for exploration at a particular point in time.

The absence of such entry permitting procedures in the proposed legislation, HR 12821 and HR 14530 is the basis of our objection. While obviously this could be resolved by amendments, we believe that the issue requires more than this, it requires that the matter of mineral entry on all public lands be reviewed. There is a great deal at stake for future generations of Americans in this issue. There are alternative solutions and we think they should be explored.

Thank you for this opportunity to present our views on the wilderness issue and on the particular bills before the sub-committee.

July 15, 1976
Middlebrook, Missouri 63656

Representative Melcher,

I was born and raised just a few miles from one of the most beautiful and fascinating areas in the great Missouri outdoors.

Bell Mountain is a wild place. Deer trails follow the slopes and ridges of one of the highest mountains in the ozarks. Turkeys, once rarely seen there, are commonly encountered as they search the forest floor for acorns.

I support the two Missouri Wilderness bills...H.R. 2975 and H.R.14530. Let's keep Bell Mountain, Rockpile Mountain, Paddy Creek, Piney Creek, Hurcules Glades and 8,000 acres of Mingo free from "encroachment". Let's keep those areas wild for our children to enjoy in the future.

Please include this letter as part of the hearing record.

Sincerely,

Gregg Hitchings

1807 Pin Oak, R.D.6
Columbia, Missouri 65201
July 16, 1976

John Melcher, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands
U. S. House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Sir:

I was pleased to read about the positive results concerning the hearings for the Missouri Wilderness legislation and would like to have my support for the proposed wilderness areas placed on record.

The wilderness areas are a much needed resource as they show their beauty and a reminder of the past to the present and future generations of Missourians.

Thank you for the good work.

Yours truly,

Mary Henderson



MISSOURI FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION

Suite B-43 · Baptist Building · 400 E. High · Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 · Telephone: (314) 634-3252

July 20, 1976

Honorable John Melcher
1224 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20025

Dear Congressman Melcher:

Thank you for keeping the committee record on House Bills 14530 and 12821 open to allow the Missouri Forest Products Association to comment on the proposed legislation.

Regarding H.B. 12821, which proposes the National Forest Areas in Missouri, known as Bell Mountain, Rock Pile Mountain, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek, be classified as Wilderness Study Areas; we think the following points should be considered:

1. There are already over 300,000 acres of public forest lands in Missouri that have been removed from forest management activities and remain undeveloped. These areas currently offer the opportunity for wilderness experiences.
2. The U. S. Forest Service has identified 125,000 acres of National Forest lands for management as "Area I Zones", which will eliminate vehicle traffic, roads and recreational development. There would be limited forest management activities to maintain a healthy forest condition providing high quality wildlife habitat, watershed protection, fire and insect protection and some forest products, in addition to the opportunity for solitude. This is a sensible alternative to locking up thousands of acres to deteriorate for the single purpose use by a special interest group.
3. The U. S. Forest Service has analyzed the present and future (within a reasonable planning period) demand and need for dispersed recreation in the Ozark highlands. Current National Forest management plans will meet those needs without the proposed wilderness areas.
4. The U. S. Forest Service is well underway with its unit planning effort in Missouri. These plans are based on the "Guide for Managing the National Forests in the Ozark Highlands" and the "Plan for Managing the National Forests in Missouri."

78-822 284

Representing Wood-Using Industries And Forest Landowners Throughout
The State of Missouri

Public input has been an important part of the whole planning process. It is our recommendation that the Forest Service be allowed to continue its current planning process. Guided by public policy and citizen input, the professional land managers of the Forest Service are best able to identify and propose areas that truly meet the criteria for wilderness.

Some examples: The proposed boundary for the Bell Mountain wilderness area includes a timber sale that was completed this past January. The stumps are still fresh. On the other hand, wilderness proponents urge quick action to "save" Paddy Creek where forest management work is scheduled on a few small areas. The majority of this cultural work is to be done outside the area identified by the Forest Service as deserving of study for special management treatment. In addition, 3 million board feet of timber have been harvested from the Paddy Creek area during the past ten years. The current forest management program has contributed to the local economy while still leaving the area desirable to those seeking what is termed "wilderness".

Similarly, the proposal in HB 14530 to designate approximately 12,000 acres as the instant Hercules Glade Wilderness amounts to a "land grab" by preservationists. All proposed wilderness areas in the eastern United States should go through the "study" classification. The area is well known for its stands of eastern red cedar. The volume of cedar harvested from this particular areas has not been large, but it has been significant. The potential harvest from the present crop of young trees could be very important to local industries.

Eastern red cedar has a value of two to three times the board foot value of the more common oak and hickory species. Eastern red cedar is one of the most valuable single species of wood to Missouri because it is grown, harvested, sawn and finished into a final product, all at local firms. Missouri leads the nation in the production of cedar closet lining, cedar pet bedding and cedar novelties.

Statistics and economic data can be interpreted to support almost any conclusion, but the removal of 12,000 acres from the multiple-use management program will definitely have an adverse effect on the local economy. 12,000 acres is an excessive amount of land to be withdrawn. 12,000 acres are not necessary to provide solitude and preserve ecological and geological features. In fact, it is thought by some that present glades will need to be burned to keep them in an open condition.

There has not been adequate study of the Hercules Glade Area to justify instant classification as wilderness. We recommend that consideration be given to a smaller "nucleus" wilderness area with an adjacent buffer zone of "Area I" management. This would be properly done during a study period.

IN SUMMARY, wilderness areas are not needed in Missouri to "save" our forests, to provide for scientific study, to preserve ecological values or to provide solitude. These needs are already being provided for under a variety of other programs.

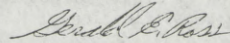
What is really being sought in the proposed legislation is a very special recreation experience by a very few people in addition to special management consideration on unique public lands. This has some merit.

OUR POINT IS SIMPLY THIS:

1. The areas proposed for Wilderness Study Classification in HB 12821 are larger than they should be. The boundaries suggested by the Forest Service for Area I management consideration are based on professional public land management consideration and are more acceptable than those drawn by special interest groups.
2. The proposed Hercules Glade Instant Wilderness will have detrimental local economic impact and cause unnecessary waste of a valuable eastern red cedar resource. A smaller area merits study classification to determine what the impacts of wilderness classification will be. Consideration should be given to smaller wilderness areas with a surrounding buffer zone under special management guidelines.
3. Proposed wilderness areas should be based on Forest Service, Area and Unit planning procedures with public input rather than initiated through special interest legislation.

Thank you for providing this opportunity to submit our views.

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Ross
Executive Director

4748 South Washington
Englewood, Colorado 80110

July 16, 1976

Representative John Melcher, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands
House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Melcher:

Please include this in the hearing record on H.R. 14530 and H.R. 12821, the bills to authorize and direct the Secretary of Agriculture to make wilderness studies of four national forest areas in Missouri: Bell Mountain, Rock Pile Mountain, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek.

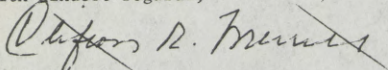
While visiting Montauk State Park last October, I spent a day hiking through the nearby Paddy Creek area. While the proposed Paddy Creek Wilderness Study Area is not large (6,888 acres) by western wilderness standards, it is an amazingly rich, natural ecosystem of plateaus, uplands, valleys, springs, and streams. The mixed forests furnish undisturbed habitat for a wealth of wildlife species. Its principal streams, Big Paddy Creek and Little Paddy Creek, are important sources of high quality water for the recreationally famous Ozark Rivers.

Although parts of the Paddy Creek area were logged many years ago, nature has largely healed the scars, and the works of man are substantially unnoticeable. As such, the area, in my judgment, well qualifies for wilderness study and designation under the 1964 Wilderness Act. I might add for the record that for over twelve years I have worked in a professional capacity in the study and recommendation of areas for possible wilderness, wild and scenic river, and natural area classification.

Paddy Creek and the other three proposed study areas provide about the only opportunities to designate wilderness areas in the national forests of Missouri. Missouri has no designated wilderness. The aforementioned areas are scheduled soon for timber cutting and other development. These activities, so disruptive of the natural scene and land resources, should not be allowed at least without a formal wilderness study.

I therefore urge prompt passage of this legislation to assure the public of the benefits of the study.

With kindest regards,



Clifton R. Merritt

cc: Representative James Symington
John Karel

HAROLD F. REISCH
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 110
1013 FALCON DRIVE
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI 65201
HOME PHONE 314-442-3386
OFFICE PHONE 314-443-4534



COMMITTEES:
REVENUE AND ECONOMICS
SOCIAL SERVICES AND MEDICAID
MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS

MISSOURI
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JEFFERSON CITY 65101

July 20, 1976

The Honorable John Melcher
U. S. Capitol Building
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Congressman Melcher:

In regard to HB 14530, may I urge its support by your subcommittee on Public Lands.

I discussed this issue at great length among colleagues in the Missouri Assembly and I believe the majority of state legislators support HB 14530.

It will not appreciatively hurt the timber industry of our state as it is now written. On the other hand, it will enhance greatly the beauty, the ecology, the attractiveness of our state for tourism and the quality of life for Missouri citizens.

My thanks for your public service.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Harold F. Reisch", written over a circular stamp or mark.

Harold F. Reisch
District 110

HFR:cs

cc: Richard Ichord
B. A. Moranville, II

ST. JEROME'S CHURCH,
St. Louis, Mo., July 20, 1976.

JOHN MELCHER,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
Washington, D.C.

MR. MELCHER: I strongly favor H.R. 2975 (Burlison) and H.R. 14530 (Symington).

We need wilderness allocations in this beautiful state of Missouri!

Please record this letter as part of the proceedings at your hearing on these matters.

Thank you.

Rev. JAMES M. SULLIVAN.

MONTAUK STATE PARK,
Salem, Mo., July 19, 1976.

JOHN MELCHER,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MELCHER: The state of Missouri is rapidly losing its forested land, over one million acres in the past 20 years. Wilderness designation will help prevent some of this loss to clearcutting. The Forest Service is currently planning to allow harmful clear cuts to three of the proposed areas. This makes it imperative that we get H.R. 14530 and H.R. 2975 passed this year. I therefore urge that the Subcommittee on Public Land vote on the bill very soon, and pass it on to the House for approval. Thank you.

Please include as part of the hearing record.

BRUCE M. SCHNETTE.

ASHLAND Mo., July 19, 1976.

JOHN MELCHER,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MELCHER: I wish to express support for the Missouri Wilderness bills, H.R. 2975 on the Mingo area and H.R. 14530 on the Missouri National Forest areas.

I am particularly interested in the Paddy Creek area not far from my home. I understand Representative Ichord supports the area, so I hope there won't be any problem.

Please make my letter part of the record.

Thank you.

CHARLIE PUTNAM.

BRIDGETON, Mo., July 20, 1976.

Representative JOHN MELCHER,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. MELCHER: I am writing you to indicate my support of H.R. 2975 designating 8,000 acres of the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge as Wilderness and of H.R. 14530 (Sponsored by Representative Jim Symington and Representative Richard Bowling), which would designate Hercules Glades as Wilderness and all four proposed wilderness study areas—Bell Mountain, Rockpile Mountain, Paddy Creek and Piner Creek.

I wish for my letter to be part of the hearing record in support of wilderness.

Sincerely,

JEAN N. MOCKOBER.

