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TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN LANDS AS WILDERNESS AND FOR WILDERNESS STUDY

GOVERNMENT

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HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND LAND RESOURCES

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-FOURTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

S. 3204

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CERTAIN LANDS
TO DETERMINE THEIR SUITABILITY FOR DESIGNATION
AS WILDERNESS

S. 3444

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CERTAIN LANDS
TO DETERMINE THEIR SUITABILITY FOR DESIGNATION
AS WILDERNESS

S. 3676

A BILL TO ESTABLISH THE HERCULES GLADES WILDER-
NESS IN THE STATE OF MISSOURI

JULY 30, 1976

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

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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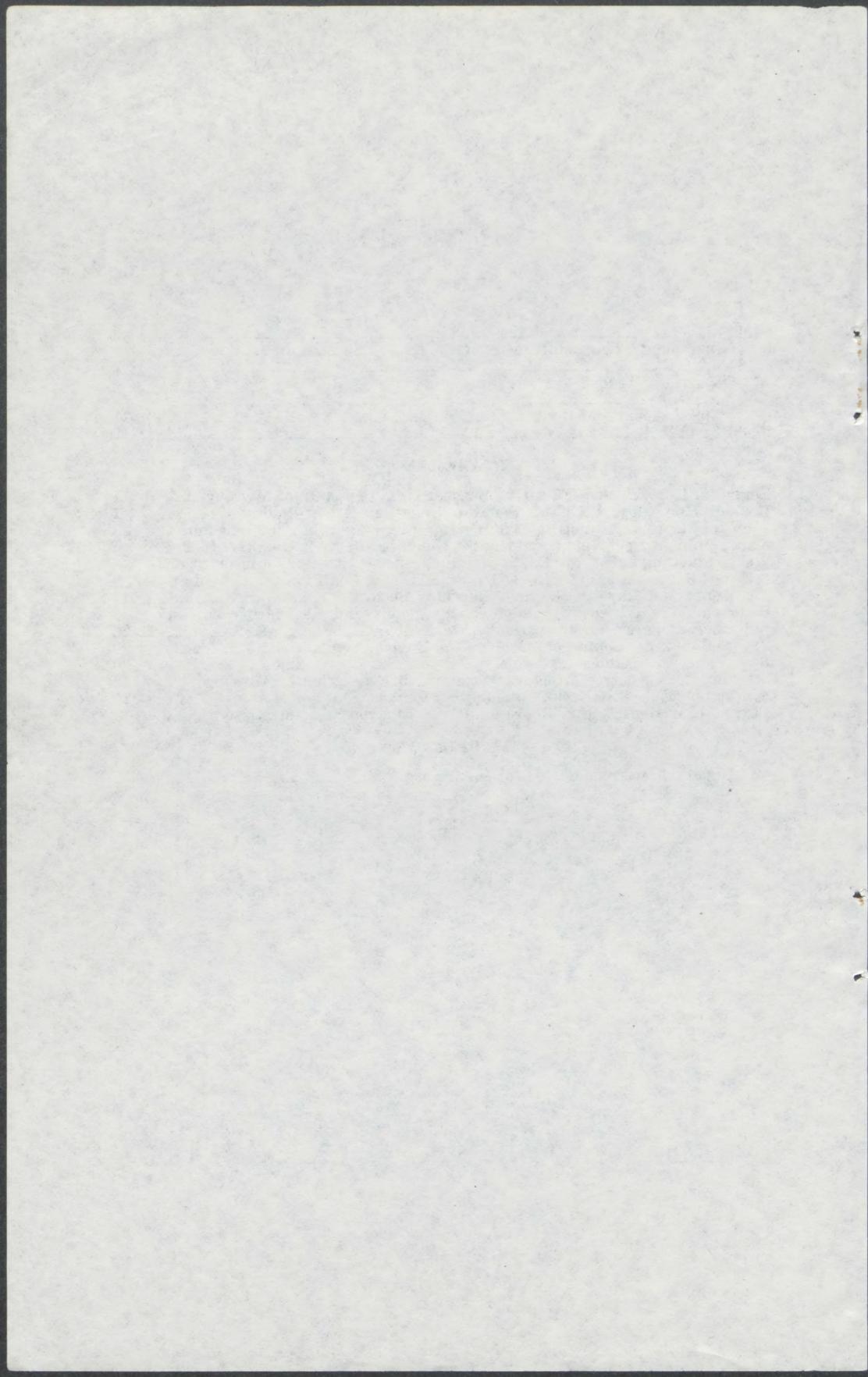
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TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN LANDS AS WILDERNESS AND FOR WILDERNESS STUDY

FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1976

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND
LAND RESOURCES, OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:30 a.m., in room 3110, Dirksen Office Building, Hon. Floyd K. Haskell, presiding.

Present: Senator Haskell.

Also present: Thomas B. Williams, professional staff member.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. FLOYD K. HASKELL, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO

Senator HASKELL. The hearing of the Subcommittee on the Environment and Land Resources, Committee on the Interior and Insular Affairs, will commence.

The purpose of this morning's hearing is to receive testimony on several bills which would designate wilderness and wilderness study areas in the States of Louisiana and Missouri. While there is no longer enough time during this Congress to enact omnibus eastern wilderness legislation, I am pleased to see that several of the delegations have worked together to draft and introduce compromise bills for certain areas in their respective States.

I am very optimistic about the chances of enacting such legislation before the end of this Congress.

At this point I will ask that the bills and the departmental reports be printed in the record.

[The text of S. 3204, S. 3444, and S. 3676 along with the departmental reports follow:]

91TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 3204

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 25, 1976

Mr. EAGLETON (for himself and Mr. SYMINGTON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and 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 maps
7 appropriately referenced, dated March 1976:

8 (1) certain lands in the Mark Twain National
9 Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately eight
10 thousand 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 generally
11 depicted on a map entitled "Piney Creek Wilderness
12 Study Area", and whose study must be completed five
13 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 sec-
21 tion 1 shall be administered, and the studies shall be con-
22 ducted, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the
23 Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890) and the Act of January 3,
24 1975 (88 Stat. 2096), except that any reference in such
25 provisions to the effective date of such Acts shall be deemed
26 to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

July 29, 1976

Honorable Henry M. Jackson
Chairman, Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs
United States Senate

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you requested, here is the report of the Department of Agriculture on S. 3204, a bill "To provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness."

S. 3204 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to review four areas within the Mark Twain National Forest as to their suitability or non-suitability for preservation as wilderness.

The Department of Agriculture's position with respect to the four proposed areas is as follows: we recommend that the Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain areas be designated as wilderness study areas if their boundaries are modified as suggested herein. We have no objection to the designation of the Piney Creek and Paddy Creek areas as wilderness study areas.

The Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain wilderness study area proposals, as contained in the bill, are basically modifications of proposals recommended by this Department during the 93rd Congress. The principal difference between the present and our former proposals is that the boundaries have been modified to exclude almost all privately owned lands. This has resulted in "cog-wheel" shaped areas. Some of the boundary projections and indentations may impose constraints upon the study process, which will seek to locate boundaries that will, among other things, enhance solitude, be readily identifiable on the ground, and provide administrative unity.

We believe the boundaries of the Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain wilderness study areas should be straightened in some places. Accordingly, we recommend that the Committee adopt the boundaries depicted on new maps which will be provided by the Forest Service.

Honorable Henry M. Jackson

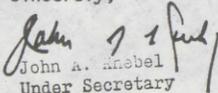
2.

The Piney Creek and Paddy Creek wilderness study area proposals, as contained in the bill, were not among the areas recommended by this Department during the 93rd Congress. We would prefer not to make recommendations as to whether they should or should not be designated as wilderness study areas, without having first evaluated those alternatives through the land use planning process. However, we have no strong objections to their being designated as wilderness study areas at this time.

Included as a supplement to this report are two recommended clarifying amendments.

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

Sincerely,


John A. Anabel
Under Secretary

SUPPLEMENT TO DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE REPORT
ON S. 3204

Following are recommended clarifying amendments to S. 3204.

The bill is drafted in a way that makes its substantive relationships to P.L. 93-622 and the Wilderness Act difficult to trace. P.L. 93-622 contemplates that future wildernesses and wilderness study areas within eastern National Forests will be designated pursuant to that Act. However, the designating provisions of this bill do not refer to P.L. 93-622. Also, the areas to be reviewed are not designated as "wilderness study areas," a term that is essential for connecting them to provisions of P.L. 93-622 governing study area review procedures and administration. The bill also directs that areas designated for study shall be administered in accordance with "applicable" provisions of the Wilderness Act and P.L. 93-622. Because the bill does not clearly integrate the areas with either Act, and because both Acts contain similar provisions, it will be difficult to ascertain which provisions of the two Acts are "applicable." To avoid problems of interpretation we recommend that S. 3204 be amended as follows:

1. Delete lines 3-7 on page one and insert in-lieu thereof the following:

"That in furtherance of the purposes of the Act of January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2069), and the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890), the following areas, as generally depicted on maps appropriately referenced, dated _____ 1976, are hereby designated as wilderness study areas and shall be reviewed by the Secretary of Agriculture as to their suitability or unsuitability for preservation as wilderness in accordance with the provisions of subsections 4(a), (d) and (e) of the Act of January 3, 1975:"

2. Revise section 2 to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. The areas designated as wilderness study areas in section 1 shall be administered in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Act of January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2096)."

94TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3444

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 18, 1976

Mr. JOHNSTON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and 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, as
5 to their suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wil-
6 derness, the following lands as generally depicted on maps
7 appropriately referenced, dated April 1974—

8 (1) certain lands in the Kisatchie National Forest,
9 Louisiana, which comprise approximately ten thousand
10 acres and are generally depicted on a map entitled “Ki-
11 satchie Hills Wilderness Study Area”; and

1 (2) certain lands in the Kisatchie National Forest,
2 Louisiana, which comprise approximately five thousand
3 acres and are generally depicted on a map entitled "Sa-
4 line Bayou Wilderness Study Area".

5 SEC. 2. The areas designated for study pursuant to
6 section 1 shall be administered, and the studies shall be con-
7 ducted, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the
8 Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890) and the Act of January 3,
9 1975 (88 Stat. 2096), except that any reference in such
10 provisions to the effective date of such Acts shall be deemed
11 to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

July 29, 1976

Honorable Henry M. Jackson
Chairman, Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs
United States Senate

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you requested, here is the report of the Department of Agriculture on S. 3444, a bill "To provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness."

The Department of Agriculture recommends that the bill be enacted if amended as suggested herein.

S. 3444 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to review two areas within the Kisatchie National Forest, Louisiana, as to their suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness.

The Department of Agriculture recommends that the proposed Saline Bayou Wilderness Study Area be deleted from the bill. We believe it can be concluded at this time on the basis of the area's location, configuration, and uses that it is neither suitable nor manageable as wilderness. The area consists of a strip of land approximately 12 miles in length and one-half mile in width. The strip follows a major segment of the Saline Bayou. The strip is intersected at intervals by two State highways, two roads, a railroad, and utility lines. A 17-family-unit National Forest campground is located in the middle section of the area. Approximately 19 percent (955 acres) of the lands within the area are privately owned. The private lands are divided into 46 separate ownerships. The mineral rights to all National Forest lands within the area are also privately owned.

Additionally, we recommend that two clarifying amendments be made to the bill. The bill is drafted in a way that makes its substantive relationships to P.L. 93-622, and the Wilderness Act difficult to trace. P.L. 93-622 contemplates that future wildernesses and wilderness study areas within eastern National Forests will be designated pursuant to that Act. However, the designating provisions of this bill do not refer to P.L. 93-622. Also, the areas to be reviewed are not designated as "wilderness study areas", a term that is essential for connecting them to provisions of P.L. 93-622 governing study area review procedures and administration. The bill also directs that areas designated for study shall be administered in accordance with "applicable" provisions of the Wilderness Act and P.L. 93-622. Because both Acts contain similar provisions, it will be difficult to ascertain which provisions of the two Acts are "applicable." To avoid problems of interpretation we recommend that S. 3444 be amended as follows:

Honorable Henry M. Jackson

2.

1. Delete lines 3-7 on page one and insert in lieu thereof the following:

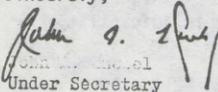
"That in furtherance of the purposes of the Act of January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2069), and the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890), certain lands in the Kisatchie National Forest, Louisiana, which comprise approximately ten thousand acres and are generally depicted on a map entitled "Kisatchie Hills Wilderness Study Area" and dated April 1974, are hereby designated as a wilderness study area and shall be reviewed by the Secretary of Agriculture as to their suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness in accordance with the provisions of subsections 4(a), (d) and (e) of the Act of January 3, 1975:"

2. Revise section 2 to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. The areas designated as wilderness study areas in section 1 shall be administered in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Act of January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2096)."

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

Sincerely,


John W. Daniel
Under Secretary

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

July 30, 1976

Honorable Henry M. Jackson
Chairman, Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs
United States Senate
3106 New Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your requests of July 12, 1976, for the views of the Office of Management and Budget on the following bills:

1. S. 3204, a bill "To provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness;" and,
2. S. 3444, a bill "To provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness."

We concur with the views expressed by Agriculture in its reports on these bills and accordingly, recommend enactment of S. 3204 and S. 3444 if they are amended as suggested by the Department.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Frey
James M. Frey
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

94TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3676

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 20, 1976

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

A BILL

To establish the Hercules Glades Wilderness in the State of Missouri.

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 following lands as generally depicted
5 on maps appropriately referenced, are hereby designated
6 as wilderness and as components of the National Wilderness
7 Preservation System: certain lands in the Mark Twain
8 National Forest, Missouri, which comprise twelve thousand
9 three hundred and twenty-five acres and are generally
10 depicted on a map entitled "Hercules Glades".

II

1 SEC. 2. As soon as practicable after this Act takes
2 effect, a map of the wilderness area and a description of its
3 boundaries shall be filed with the Interior and Insular Affairs
4 Committees of the United States Senate and House of
5 Representatives, and such map and description shall have
6 the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided,*
7 *however,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors
8 in such description and map may be made.

9 SEC. 3. The wilderness area designated by this Act shall
10 be known as the Hercules Glades Wilderness and shall be
11 administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance
12 with the provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas
13 designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that any
14 reference in such provisions to the effective date of the
15 Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the
16 effective date of this Act.

Senator HASKELL. Our first witness is Senator Tom Eagleton, of Missouri. We are pleased to welcome him.

**STATEMENT OF HON. THOMAS F. EAGLETON, A U.S. SENATOR
FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

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

I welcome this opportunity to testify in support of legislation to establish wilderness and wilderness study areas in Missouri, and I appreciate the prompt attention which the subcommittee is giving to it.

Missouri is one of the few States in the Midwest with potential wilderness areas remaining but, unhappily, none yet has been designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

As the members of the subcommittee will recall, four Missouri areas were included in the Senate version of the 1974 Eastern Wilderness Act, including three of the sites which are the subject of the bills before you today. Unfortunately, those areas were deleted on the House side, principally because of objections over the amount of private land that would be taken. I am happy to testify today that a compromise which appears to satisfy most of the Missouri interests involved has been reached and is embodied in the two bills relating to Missouri that are before this committee.

One of them, S. 3676, would designate 12,325 acres of the Hercules Glades area of the Mark Twain National Forest as instant wilderness. This is a reduction from the 16,400 acres approved by the Senate in 1973, most of that resulting from elimination of all private holdings.

The other bill, S. 3204, would designate the following sites as wilderness study areas:

Bell Mountain which contains 300 acres of private land and 8,233 acres of Forest Service land for a total of 8,530 acres.

Rock Pile Mountain which contains 200 acres of private land and 3,970 acres of Forest Service land, for a total of 4,170 acres.

Paddy Creek which contains 40 acres of private land and 120 acres of county- or State-owned land, and 6,728 acres of Forest Service land for a total of 6,888 acres.

And Piney Creek, which contains no private land, but 40 acres owned by the Corps of Engineers, and 8,392 acres of Forest Service land, for a total in that one of 8,432 acres.

Mr. Chairman, you will be hearing today from Mr. Ed Stegner, who is the Executive Director of the Missouri Conservation Federation, a fine individual and good friend of mine for many years and Mr. John Karel, of the Sierra Club, to whom much of the credit for this legislation must go. And in addition to other witnesses, Mr. Roger Pryor, the Coalition for the Environment and Ms. Raye-Page of the Wilderness Society. They are all here in the room today and will testify later on. They and their associates have done an outstanding job in resolving the differences over boundaries and I think they deserve a great deal of credit. The work of these individuals has resulted in selection of sites within Missouri's national forest lands which will make a superb addition to our wilderness system and preserve for generations to come the incomparable beauty of the Missouri Ozarks.

And finally, Mr. Chairman, I personally want to thank you for convening this hearing. I know the schedule for all of us is a rather hectic one in these summer days of a Presidential election year and the attention that you have given to us is much appreciated.

Senator HASKELL. Thank you Senator for coming and testifying and thank you too for helping to bring these people together on what we hope will merge from this Congress as law. We look forward to hearing the balance of the witnesses.

Senator EAGLETON. Thank you very much.

Senator HASKELL. I would like to insert in the record statements by Senator Stuart Symington and Congressman Gene Taylor endorsing two of the areas which happen to be within his district.

[The prepared statements of Senator Symington and Congressman Taylor follow:]

STATEMENT OF HON. STUART SYMINGTON, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI

I appreciate the opportunity to present to the Subcommittee on Environment and Land Resources of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee my views on two bills: S.3676, to establish the Hercules Glades Wilderness in Missouri; and S.3204, to study certain lands in Missouri to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness.

Missouri, one of the few States in the Midwest with potential wilderness areas left, presently has no acreage designated as wilderness or as wilderness study areas. Because of the substantial acreages of privately owned land which were included in the four Missouri areas originally proposed in the Eastern Wilderness Act of 1974, Missouri Representatives asked that our State be left out of the act.

Since that time, boundaries have been revised to exclude the majority of privately-owned land and the two bills we support today represent compromise acceptable to all members of the Missouri Congressional delegation. In addition, both bills have the support of conservation groups, the Missouri Conservation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, and many newspapers. Companion legislation also has been introduced in the House of Representatives.

S.3676 would establish the Hercules Glades Wilderness, studied in connection with previous wilderness proposals. This area is a classic example of the large prairie-like glades in Missouri and is the habitat for several rare or endangered species. The "instant" wilderness designation has been endorsed by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and the Conservaton Commission and also is acceptable to Congressman Gene Taylor whose district includes the Hercules Glades area.

S.3204 would designate as wilderness study areas the Rockpile Mountain, Bell Mountain, Piney Creek and Paddy Creek Areas. Each of these areas offers distinctive historical, geological, biological, and recreational qualities. The study area designation would ensure a thorough evaluation of resources and potential uses of the areas.

The 1964 Wilderness Act envisions a national system. These tracts of primeval terrain deserve immediate or prospective inclusion in this system, and I therefore urge favorable action on S.3676 and S.3204 to preserve these unique portions of our natural heritage for future generations.

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

Mr. Chairman, and members of the subcommittee, I appreciate having the opportunity to present to you my views on S. 3204 and S. 3676, legislation calling for the study and designation of wilderness areas within the State of Missouri.

This legislation contains two areas located within my Congressional District of Southwest Missouri; the Hercules "Glades" Wilderness in Taney County and the Piney Creek Wilderness in Barry and Stone Counties.

The Glades Wilderness is composed of 12,325 acres of land within the Mark Twain National Forest. Its main unique attraction is its glades. These rocky slopes with shallow soils produce tall prairie grasses that support a variety

of plant and animal species not common elsewhere in the Ozarks. Presently, some 9 percent of the area is in glades. Before man arrived on the scene, some 70 percent of the area is estimated to have been in open glade prairie or semiprairie condition.

During the last Congress I was opposed to the instant designation of the Glades Wilderness. However, during the past year or more there has been a considerable amount of discussion, negotiation, and compromise undertaken between the supporters of designation and local people who were in opposition to the original proposal which called for the inclusion of 3,680 acres of private land within the area proposed for designation.

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 the private land has been eliminated. The local people no longer object to the designation of the Glades Wilderness area as a protected wilderness, and I now can give my wholehearted support to its inclusion into the National Wilderness System.

The Forest Service has taken the position that this area should only be given status as a study area. I can well understand the reasons behind having a general policy of requiring comprehensive studies prior to a designation. However, in this particular instance I believe an exception can be made without conflicting with any of the underlying purposes sought to be served by a general study policy.

Although the Forest Service has not held formal public hearings on this issue at the local level, the Taney County Court held heavily attended hearings. The local and regional press has been devoting extensive coverage to the subject. Numerous meetings by landowner associations and other informal groups have been held where the designation was discussed and debated. The local people understand and now support the instant designation of the Glades Wilderness. I see no benefits to be gained from additional public discussion.

The Hercules Wilderness area by nature doesn't lend itself to developmental uses. The shallow soils do not produce timber in an amount or of a quality to be economically harvestable. The state geologist has reported that there are no known mineral deposits in the Hercules area and that bedrock of the area is of an age and formation in which sizable ore deposits are uncommon. The prospect of this area being significantly used for timber or mineral purposes is so unlikely that a costly and time-consuming study of "foregone" resource uses would not be worthwhile.

The Glades Wilderness does indeed have exceptional natural attributes well worth preserving. As the boundaries are now drawn I believe the area can be protected and be used to its best advantage. The amount of land involved is sufficient to preserve its character without having much impact on the management and use of Forest Service lands in Southern Missouri. The area proposed for designation represents less than 1 percent of the total net acreage of the Mark Twain National Forest.

The legislation also authorizes a study of the Piney Creek Wilderness to determine its suitability for inclusion into the national system. This area is heavily forested with native trees growing in natural succession. One of its unique attributes is the fact that it contains the entire watershed of Piney Creek within its boundary. I believe this area should receive careful study. However, I will reserve my approval on the issue of its designation until I have had an opportunity to study the costs and benefits shown to be connected with the proposal.

I thank the committee for taking into account my views on this legislation. When you weigh the merits of this legislation I am hopeful that you will agree that it deserves swift approval.

Senator HASKELL. Now I would like to ask Mr. Max Peterson—he is not here.

Why don't we hear from the panel consisting of Mr. John Karel, Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club; Mr. Stegner, Conservation Federation of Missouri; Mr. Pryor, Coalition for the Environment; Ms. Raye-Page, of the Wilderness Society.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are very pleased to have you here. Some of you have been here before and we welcome you back.

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

Senator HASKELL. Would you identify yourself for the reporter?

STATEMENT OF JOHN A. KAREL, CHAIRMAN, WILDERNESS COMMITTEE, OZARK CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB; ACCOMPANIED BY ED STEGNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI; ROGER PRYOR, ST. LOUIS COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT; AND RAYE-PAGE, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Mr. KAREL. My name is John Karel. I am a graduate student at the School of Forest, Fisheries, and Wildlife at the University of Missouri in Columbia. I am here today representing the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club as Wilderness Chairman, and I would also like to take the opportunity as per request of two friends of mine, Mr. William Bates, of the Ozark Society of Springfield, and Mr. Don Pierce, of the Missouri Friends of the Earth, in Columbia who expressed regrets that they cannot be here today, but they will submit written testimony for the record and have asked that my comments today be representing their organization.

Senator HASKELL. Fine.

Mr. KAREL. Also before starting, I would like to distribute for the committee's perusal copies of several brochures with descriptive texts and photographs of the areas in question for consideration. We understand the problems of time at this stage of the Congress and we have abbreviated our remarks. We have submitted written testimony, but have abbreviated our oral comments.

Senator HASKELL. Your written testimony will be received and reproduced in full in the record.

Mr. KAREL. Thank you very much.

The Ozarks, we feel, Senator, are a major geographic region of this country that at the present time are uniquely underrepresented in the national wilderness preservation system. The natural history of the Ozarks and the human history of the Ozarks, we feel, is rich and it is colorful and as significant as any geographic region in the country. And we are extremely proud to represent and to support the wilderness before this committee as going a long way toward preserving a valuable resource for the State of Missouri and for the country. And I want to point out that each of the areas under consideration represents a different aspect of the flora, fauna and geology and cultural history of the Ozarks and each one offers a unique support to the national wilderness preservation system.

As a student of wildlife at the University of Missouri, it has been my privilege to be in every one of these areas and to appreciate the extremely rich and diverse natural history of these areas. And we are very proud to present them to this committee for inclusion into the wilderness system or as a wilderness study area.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Karel follows:]

STATEMENT OF JOHN A. KAREL, CHAIRMAN, WILDERNESS COMMITTEE, OZARK CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB

Senator Haskell, we appreciated the opportunity this morning to testify before the Subcommittee on Environment and Land Resources. We are confident that

the support from the Missouri delegation and your favorable comments at the hearing will result in swift action on this long-sought legislation.

For the record, several of the comments made by Mr. Max Peterson for the Forest Service at the hearing require response. Because Mr. Peterson was tardy for the hearing, his remarks followed the citizen testimony and thus we were unable to respond to his remarks in our oral comments as would have normally been the case.

Mr. Peterson alluded to possible problems with the Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain areas and recommended redrawing their boundaries to include some adjacent private lands. We urge the Subcommittee not to so change the present boundaries for several reasons.

(1) The present boundaries are the result of an extensive series of negotiations between various interests in Missouri, including adjacent private landowners. The conservation groups are deeply committed to the present boundaries and can not support new boundaries that would include additional private land. Moreover, landowner groups would vigorously oppose such new boundaries; both areas might then be lost entirely.

(2) The boundaries are in fact topographically sound and administratively viable as they stand.

Rockpile Mountain.—This area consists of the main mass of Rockpile Mountain on the south, and a narrow, forested ridge extending toward Little Grass Mountain on the north. This steep, rugged ridge is a corridor for existing wildlife and recreation use. It is an easily identifiable land unit, being flanked on the east and west by privately owned pastoral lands along Trace Creek and Captain Creek. The Wilderness Study Area boundaries should not create management problems; they will rather preserve existing and historically harmonious balance of land uses.

Bell Mountain.—This area consists of two major granite uplifts, Lindsey Mountain on the east and Bell Mountain on the west, with a natural connection across Shutin Creek where the stream valley is constricted into a narrow gorge that is publically owned. Above and below the gorge the valley is more open, is privately owned, and is in pastoral use with road access. Again, there is a historical and harmonious balances between uses. These factors are accommodated in the present boundaries and should not present management problems for the Wilderness Study Area.

Regarding the above two areas, we thus report that because of the unique topography of the St. Francois Mountain region of the Ozarks, the present boundaries are not only the only political alternative, they are also a logical and viable administrative alternative.

Hercules.—The Forest Service indicated preference for study designation rather than Wilderness. The case for immediate Wilderness designation for Hercules is overwhelming and has been thoroughly developed. We refer to the testimony of Mr. William Bates of the Ozark Society and to the unusually thorough review of the issue undertaken by Representative Gene Tatlor prior to his endorsement of immediate designation.

In conclusion, we appreciate the opportunity to clear up these points raised by the Forest Service and look forward to favorable action in the near future.

We remain available to you or your staff for more detailed development of any points discussed in this supplement, or for additional information of any kind regarding this legislation.

Senator HASKELL. Thank you very much, Mr. Karel.
Mr. Stegner.

STATEMENT OF ED STEGNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI

Mr. STEGNER. Mr. Chairman, my name is Ed Stegner; I am executive director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, the largest private conservation organization in Missouri and we are the Missouri affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation here in Washington that also supports this legislation.

And I would like to add that this legislation—both of the bills have the support of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Missouri Conservation Department and Gov. Christopher Bond of Missouri, and I have a copy of a letter that was mailed to you yesterday from Governor Bond supporting this legislation and we are pleased that we have such good support in Missouri.

Senator HASKELL. If you would leave a copy of that letter here, we will put it in the record.

[The letter from Governor Bond follows:]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, STATE OF MISSOURI,
Jefferson City, July 28, 1976.

HON. FLOYD HASKELL,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment and Land Resources, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: The favorable consideration for S. 3204 and S. 3676 by your subcommittee on Environment and Land Resources will be greatly appreciated. This measure would include the following areas in Missouri as Wilderness Study Areas: Bell Mountain, 8,533 acres; Rockpile Mountain 4,170 acres; Paddy Creek, 6,888 acres; and Piney Creek, 8,432 acres.

In addition, the Hercules area, containing 12,325 acres, would be designated now as a Wilderness Area.

These areas have been studied and supported by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Commission.

I would appreciate your subcommittee's approval of this legislation.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND,
Governor.

Senator HASKELL. I am very anxious not to keep the record open too long, and I would like to ask you, Mr. Karel, to submit your items. If we keep it open too long, we won't get this bill out of committee and we won't be able to get it through the Congress.

Mr. STEGNER. We are in wholehearted agreement with this, Mr. Chairman.

I think the main thing that I would emphasize is the thing that Senator Eagleton pointed out a while ago—that when the bill passed the Senate 2 years ago, it received opposition in the House of Representatives because of the amount of private lands and the bill—the Missouri areas were taken out in the House and the bill finally passed. It was passed without any areas in Missouri. Then in February of 1975 a number of us representing the major supporting organizations in Missouri got together, drew new boundaries and took out almost all of the private land. And in some cases a couple of these areas we were able to take out all private land.

There now seems to be practically no opposition. There is general agreement that the boundaries are satisfactory. The three Congressmen from Missouri whose district these areas fall in are all supporting the bill, and have testified in the House and we feel very good about it.

Actually the three areas represent slightly over 2 percent of the national forest in Missouri which is a very small part. We feel there is general support and practically no opposition in support of this committee. Of course, Mr. Chairman, we are greatly appreciative. Thank you very much.

Senator HASKELL. Thank you very much, Mr. Stegner.
Mr. Pryor.

**STATEMENT OF ROGER PRYOR, ST. LOUIS COALITION FOR
THE ENVIRONMENT**

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. Chairman, my name is Roger Pryor. I am from St. Louis, Mo., and I am a geologist. I am here representing the St. Louis Coalition for the Environment which is an organization made up of individual members as well as other environmental groups and even unions, and a rather broad-based group of conservation support.

We are delighted to be here today to testify on behalf of both of these bills. And before I say anything, I would like to offer maps which I will leave here for the committee's use which shows the boundaries that we have worked out in these areas.

[The maps have been retained in the committee's files.]

One of the things that I wanted to address that has been a rather amazing development in Missouri in the last few years is a rediscovery of the Ozarks in a land form as an important natural resource. Years ago when I came to Missouri, about 12 years ago, if you told somebody you were going to the Ozarks, they would say Lake of the Ozarks or Silver Dollar City or some other commercial development. Nowadays, when you say you are going to the Ozarks, people fully expect to be going to the Ozarks' streams, hiking in one of the national forests or just going out camping in general. There has been rebirth of interest among citizens of the State in their own State. They no longer look to the west for vacation. They often spend their time in southern Missouri.

Senator HASKELL. That is a shame. [Laughter.]

Mr. PRYOR. But it has been a development that I want to welcome because our State does have natural resources that are worthy of the interests of the citizens and other visitors as well, and these wilderness proposals, we believe, will go a long, long way to preserving some of the natural features for future generations.

Senator HASKELL. Thank you, Mr. Pryor, for your remarks. My comment was obviously facetious, the Ozarks are, indeed, lovely and I think it is very desirable that people have a place to vacation and experience the wilderness close to home. I don't think they should have to go all the way to the Rocky Mountains.

STATEMENT OF RAYE-PAGE, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. I am Ms. Raye-Page representing the Wilderness Society and I think the gentlemen from Missouri have done an excellent job, so I am not going to add much to it.

I would like to say we, of course, support all of these areas and we were one of the prime people along with the Missouri people who were supporting the areas in the last Congress. So we are very anxious now to see that these areas do get passed by this Congress and we appreciate your trying to move them ahead.

Senator HASKELL. Thank you very much. Thanks to all of you for being here. We will certainly do our best on this score.

As I understand, Mr. Stegner, not only the Governor, but all the Congressmen of whose district these wilderness lie are in favor of the areas?

Mr. STEGNER. Right. All three Congressmen support it and I would say my wife would have me move to Colorado if she had her way.

Senator HASKELL. Fine. Thank you.

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to be so late.

Senator HASKELL. No problem.

Mr. PETERSON. We appreciate the opportunity to present the views of the Department of Agriculture on the wilderness legislation under consideration and in order to save time, I will brief my statement.

Senator HASKELL. Your full statement will be printed in the record.

STATEMENT OF R. MAX PETERSON, DEPUTY CHIEF FOR PROGRAMS AND LEGISLATION, FOREST SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. PETERSON. On the Missouri wilderness areas, two of these areas, Bell Mountain and Rock Pile, were included in the administration proposals in the last session of Congress. So basically our only concern with those two areas where we had a minor difference in the suggested boundary, our concern always is when we study an area that we have to look forward to some point that we have to administer that area, so we are concerned with boundaries.

I might point out that basically in drawing the boundaries to exclude all of the private land and being a Missourian by background myself I can understand the concern for doing this. But we are concerned with the problems of administering a boundary that is in the shape that these two are.

For example, by drawing the boundary to the blue boundary as indicated here, there will be deep intrusions into private land into this wilderness area which we see providing continuing problems in administering the areas. So, we are quite concerned about the feasibility of the boundaries that are involved in the study area, in these two areas.

But other than that, we have no concern about studying these areas. In fact, we have so recommended ourselves.

In the two other areas, Piney Creek and Paddy Creek, they were not among the areas recommended by this department during the 93d Congress, but we are not objecting to the study in these areas, also.

We might point out that we are aware of a couple of problems that relate to these areas that we should know about. In the Piney Creek area, for example, the Table Rock Reservoir and the Corps of Engineers which is on the right, has presented a difficult access problem to private land on the west beside that reservoir. And some of those people may be able to cross the national forest land to get reasonable access to their property because they have been cut off by the reservoir. If this area becomes a study area, we will be unable to provide for this type of access during the period of study until Congress decides what to do with the area.

There is also under consideration at the present time a permit to individuals who have a cultivation permit about in the center of the area. There is a low stand growth. Really it could be called a row. It is more of a path down through that area now and we need to do some improvements so we can continue the cultivation in the center of the area.

Again, we are not sure if this becomes a study area under the full criteria of the 1975 Wilderness Eastern Wilderness Act, we would not be able to allow that to happen.

Senator HASKELL. What is a cultivation permit?

Mr. PETERSON. I think in this case it was an old farm that was in there before we acquired the land and he has a permit to grow a crop on that land.

Then in the Paddy Creek areas, we had not previously recommended this for study. There are a couple of planned timber sales that were in fiscal 1977 planned timber sale programs in this area. We would be required to defer those until Congress determines what to do with the area.

I just wanted to point out these two problems in these two areas. Nevertheless, we are not objecting. We have no strong objection for them being designated as study. We would have preferred to let the land management planning proceed a little further to be able to maybe recommend some better boundaries for studies or to approach it from that way instead of starting with these boundaries.

Senator HASKELL. If you study these areas—particularly Bell mountain and Rockpile mountain—would you be able to make recommendations on boundary changes? Would that be part of your study task? Certainly these boundaries are slightly irregular.

Mr. PETERSON. I think we could if we made it clear in the report, if we have that license.

Senator HASKELL. I will endeavor to make that clear in the report. Although everybody seems to want these areas, I can see some of the Department's is attempting to manage them. Maybe some of it could be obviated by a different drawing of a slightly different boundary. I don't know. Maybe it is not practical, but I will do my best to make sure that the report suggests that.

Mr. PETERSON. I might suggest that you recommend that we study the area immediately adjacent to the study area boundary to look at changes one way or the other in the boundary.

Senator HASKELL. All right.

Mr. PETERSON. We do have more of a problem with the Hercules area, and again it is primarily in terms of procedure. The Hercules area was again a modification of the Department's proposal during the 93d Congress. Our primary concern there is that the proposal before Congress now is to make this an instant area without going through a full study process.

For example, at the present time we have no mineral survey of that area. At the present time, we do not have a detailed evaluation of the resource situation. The resources that might be foregone. I guess it might be fair to say that we think it has considerable potential as wilderness all right. And it might well be that the study would end up recommending it for wilderness.

But we are concerned in jumping to designate it before Congress had the benefit of a full study that normally that precedes designation. So we would recommend instead of making that an instant wilderness area, that you simply designate it for study. And the designation of the area for study would, of course, protect the area during the study period so there would be no threat to the area during that period.

Senator HASKELL. I don't know enough about the pros and cons now, Mr. Peterson, to give you an answer, but we will certainly take it into consideration.

Mr. PETERSON. We did make at least one or two serious mistakes in designating instant areas previously. One in New England, you know, that we have just recently come to Congress and asked to change the boundaries. One reason for that is it was not given sufficient study before it was designated. It was an instant area.

We would be happy to answer any more questions on the Missouri wilderness before I move to the Louisiana.

Senator HASKEL. No. I think you might as well proceed with Louisiana.

Excuse me, Mr. Peterson, but I have a statement from Senator Johnston of Louisiana that I would like at this point to appear in the record and then your testimony will follow.

[The prepared statements of Senator Johnston and Mr. Peterson follows:]

STATEMENT OF HON. J. BENNETT JOHNSTON, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased today to submit testimony on behalf of S. 3444, a bill to provide for the study of the Kisatchie Hills and Saline Bayou areas in the Kisatchie National Forest in Louisiana for possible designation as wilderness areas. As Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee, I am well aware of the thousands of acres lost yearly to so-called "development and progress." I am firmly committed to preserving areas for the recreational use of our future generations. With the tremendous increase in recreational activity in the last few years, clearly we must all be committed to preserving our natural treasures.

I have been contacted by hundreds of my constituents who have enjoyed the scenic beauty of the Kisatchie Hills and Saline Bayou areas. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts enjoy backpacking through the beautiful and unique terrain of the Kisatchie Hills; birdwatchers and photographers revel in the many species of birds and the varieties of wildlife and vegetation ranging from squirrel to deer and cypress to pine; canoers float down the quiet stream of the Saline Bayou in almost perfect seclusion and camp along its banks as our ancestors have done.

Louisiana proudly proclaims herself to be the "Bayou State." It is essential that we initiate the proper management and protection of these areas in order that we may preserve an important segment of our state's heritage for generations to come.

Mr. Chairman, these areas were included in the Eastern Wilderness legislation adopted by the Senate in the 93rd Congress. Unfortunately, both areas were among the many that were deleted during House consideration of the measure. I hope that this legislation can be enacted during the 94th Congress to allow a study to commence on the suitability of these majestic areas for inclusion in our wilderness system.

STATEMENT OF R. MAX PETERSON, DEPUTY CHIEF FOR PROGRAMS AND
LEGISLATION, FOREST SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the Department of Agriculture on the wilderness legislation under consideration.

PROPOSED AREAS WITHIN MISSOURI

S. 3204 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to review four areas within the Mark Twain National Forest as to their suitability or unsuitability for preservation as wilderness. S. 3676 would designate a fifth area as wilderness.

The Department of Agriculture's position with respect to the five proposed areas is as follows: We recommend that the Bell Mountain and Rockpile Moun-

tain areas (S. 3204) be designed as wilderness study areas if their boundaries are modified. We have no objection to the designation of the Piney Creek and Paddy Creek areas (also S. 3204) as wilderness study areas. We recommend that the Hercules Glades area (S. 3676) be designated as a wilderness study area rather than as a wilderness area.

The Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain wilderness study area proposals contained in S. 3204 are basically modifications of proposals recommended by this Department during the 93rd Congress. The principal difference between the present and the former proposals is that the boundaries have been revised to exclude almost all privately owned lands. This has resulted in "cog-wheel" shaped areas. Some of the boundary projections and indentations may impose constraints upon the study process, which will seek to locate boundaries that will, among other things, enhance solitude, be readily identifiable on the ground, and provide administrative unity.

We believe the boundaries of the Bell Mountain and Rockpile Mountain wilderness study areas should be straightened in some places. Accordingly, we recommend that the Committee adopt our proposed boundaries as depicted on the maps that we have brought with us.

The Piney Creek and Paddy Creek wilderness study area proposals, as contained in S. 3204, were not among the areas recommended by this Department during the 93rd Congress. We would prefer not to make recommendations as to whether they should or should not be designated as wilderness study areas, without having first evaluated those alternatives through the land management planning process. However, we have no strong objections to their being designated as wilderness study areas at this time.

The Hercules Glades wilderness area proposal contained in S. 3676 is also a modification of a proposal recommended by this Department during the 93rd Congress. The principal difference between the present and former proposal is that the boundary has been revised to exclude all privately owned lands. Because the excluded lands are located on the periphery of a consolidated block of National Forest lands, the boundaries proposed by S. 3676 appear reasonably suitable.

We have two recommendations concerning the proposed Hercules area. First, and most importantly, we recommend that it be designated as a wilderness study area rather than as an "instant" wilderness. The characteristics of the area have not been comprehensively reviewed nor have public hearings been held in the vicinity of affected land. Problems arising in the administration of certain "instant" wildernesses designated by P.L. 93-622 have led us to conclude that it is unwise to bypass the review procedures described in section 3(d) of the Wilderness Act. Second, we believe a few minor revisions should be made in the boundary for the purpose of including some National Forest lands that could become unnecessarily alienated if the adjacent lands were eventually designated as wilderness as proposed by the bill. Accordingly, we recommend that the Committee adopt our proposed boundary as depicted on the map that we have brought with us.

PROPOSED AREAS WITHIN LOUISIANA

S. 3444 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to review two areas within the Kisatchie National Forest, Louisiana, as to their suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness.

The Department of Agriculture recommends that the Kisatchie Hills area be designated as a wilderness study area, and that the Saline Bayou area be deleted from the bill.

We believe it can be concluded at this time on the basis of its location, configuration, and uses that the Saline Bayou area is neither suitable nor manageable as wilderness. The area consists of a strip of land approximately 12 miles in length and one-half mile in width. The strip follows a major segment of the Saline Bayou. The strip is intersected at intervals by two State highways, two roads, a railroad, and utility lines. A 17-family-unit National Forest campground is located in the middle section of the area. Approximately 19 percent (955 acres) of the lands within the area are privately owned. The private lands are divided into 46 separate ownerships. The mineral rights to all National Forest lands within the area are also privately owned.

In addition, we believe the bills need clarifying amendments to remove some uncertainty as to which laws are intended to govern the review and administra-

tion of the areas. Recommended clarifying amendments and a explanation of their purpose are attached to this statement.

This concludes my prepared statement, Mr. Chairman. I will be happy to respond to any questions you may have.

ATTACHMENT TO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE STATEMENT ON S. 3204, S. 3444,
AND S. 3676

Following are recommended clarifying amendments:

S. 3204 and S. 3444 are drafted in a way that makes their substantive relationships to P.L. 93-622 and the Wilderness Act difficult to trace. P.L. 93-622 contemplates that future wildernesses and wilderness study areas within eastern National Forests will be designated pursuant to that Act. However, the designating provisions of these bills do not refer to P.L. 93-622. Also, the areas to be reviewed are not designated as "wilderness study areas", a term that is essential for connecting them to provisions of P.L. 93-622 governing study area review procedures and administration. The bills also direct that areas designated for study shall be administered in accordance with "applicable" provisions of the Wilderness Act and P.L. 93-622. Because the bills do not clearly integrate the areas with either Act, and because both Acts contain similar provisions, it will be difficult to ascertain which provisions of the two Acts are "applicable". To avoid problems of interpretation we recommend that S. 3204 (for example) be amended as follows:

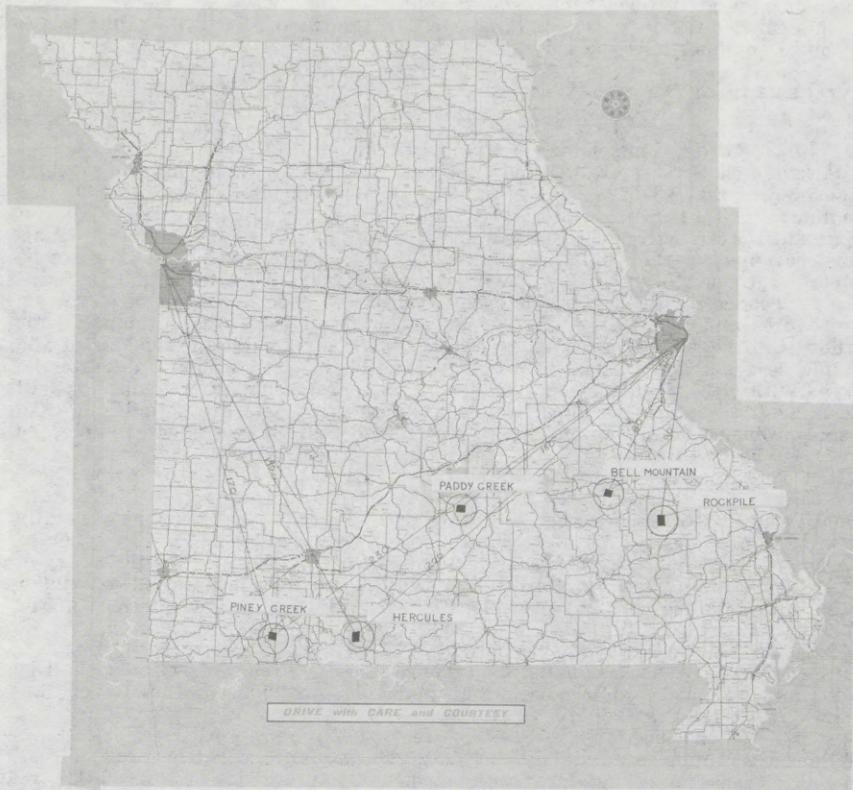
1. Delete lines 3-7 on page one and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"That in furtherance of the purposes of the Act of January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2069), and the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890), the following areas, as generally depicted on maps appropriately referenced, dated ----- 1976, are hereby designated as wilderness study areas and shall be reviewed by the Secretary of Agriculture as to their suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness in accordance with the provisions of subsections 4(a), (d) and (e) of the Act of January 3, 1975:"

2. Revise section 2 to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. The areas designated as wilderness study areas in section 1 shall be administered in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Act of January 3, 1975. (88 Stat. 2096)."

It is noted that section 3 of S. 3776 directs that the proposed Hercules Glades Wilderness would be administered solely in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act. Therefore, the supplemental authorities of P.L. 93-622, relating to land acquisition would not be available for administration. These authorities should be available through reference to P.L. 93-622, whenever private lands are included within eastern National Forest wildernesses.



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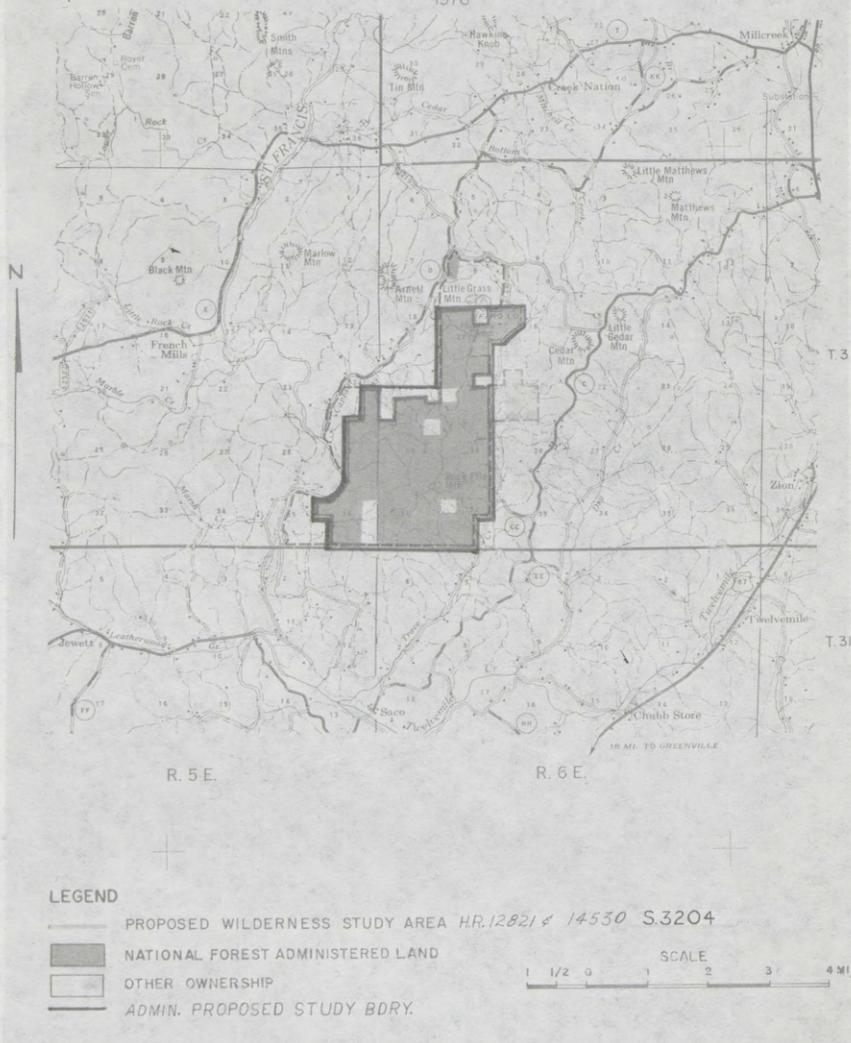
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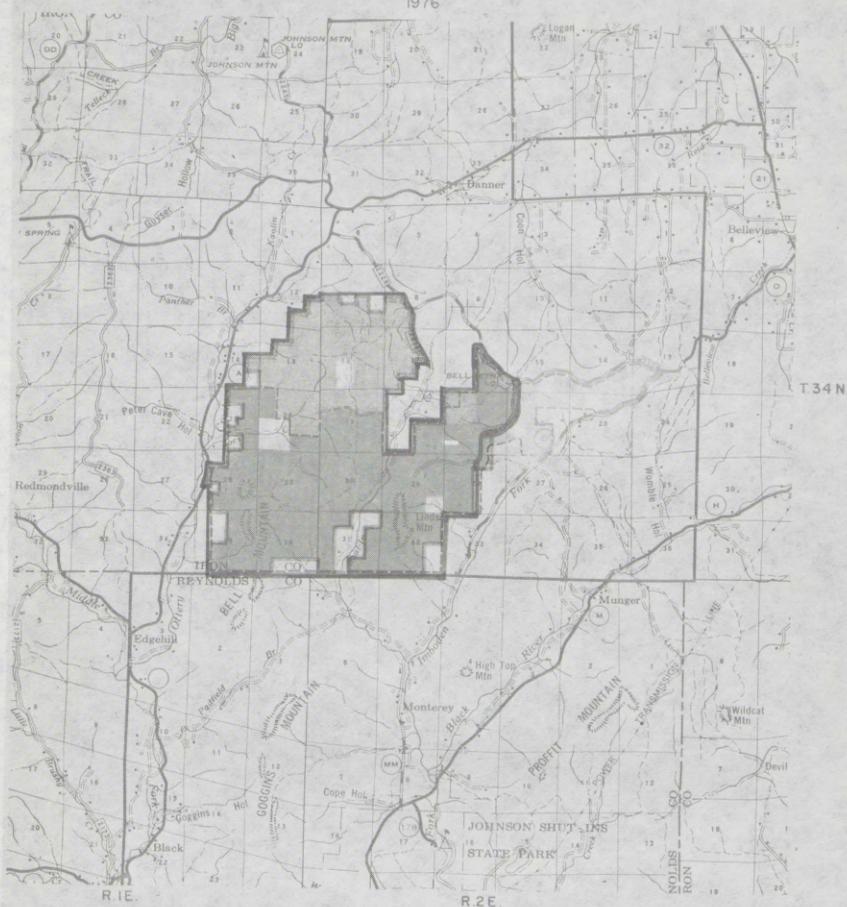
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ROCK PILE MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY AREA
 MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST
 MISSOURI
 1976



BELL MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY AREA
 MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST
 MISSOURI
 1976

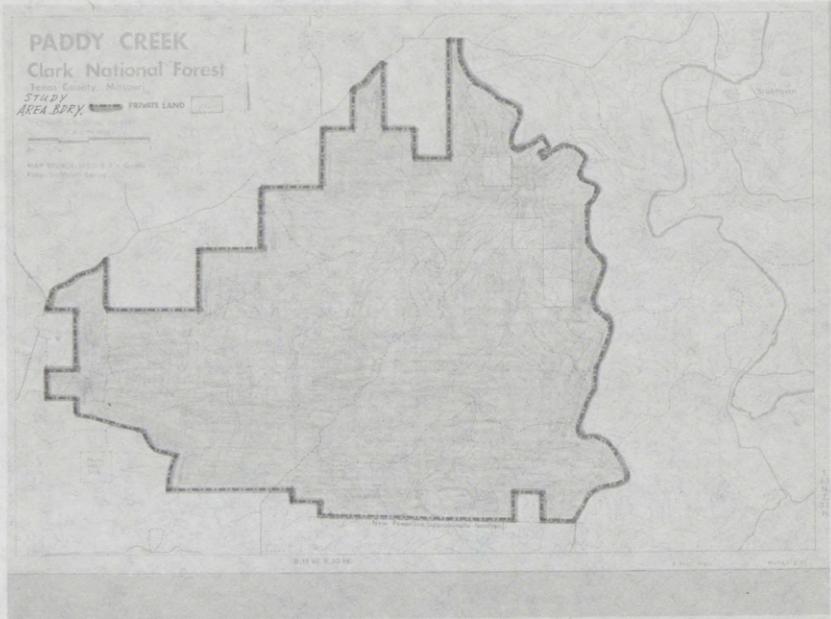


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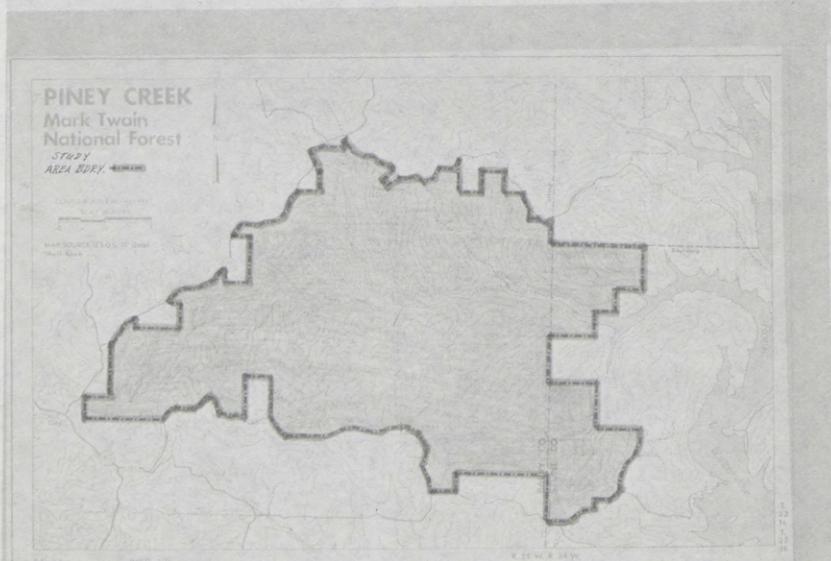
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-  NATIONAL FOREST ADMINISTERED LAND
-  OTHER OWNERSHIP

SCALE





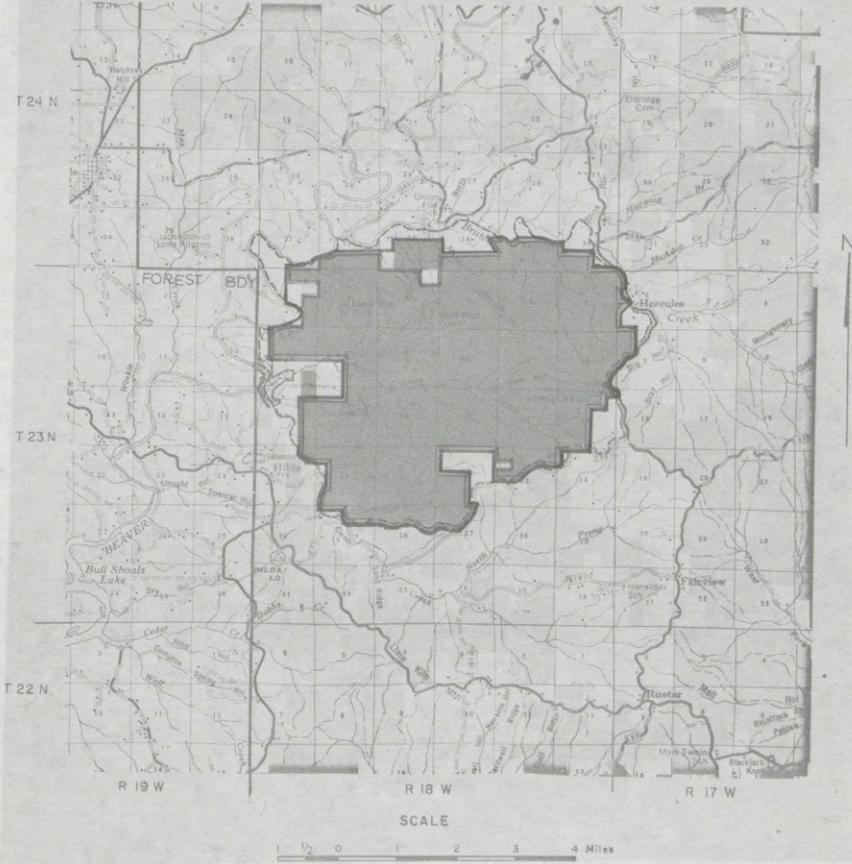
S.3204

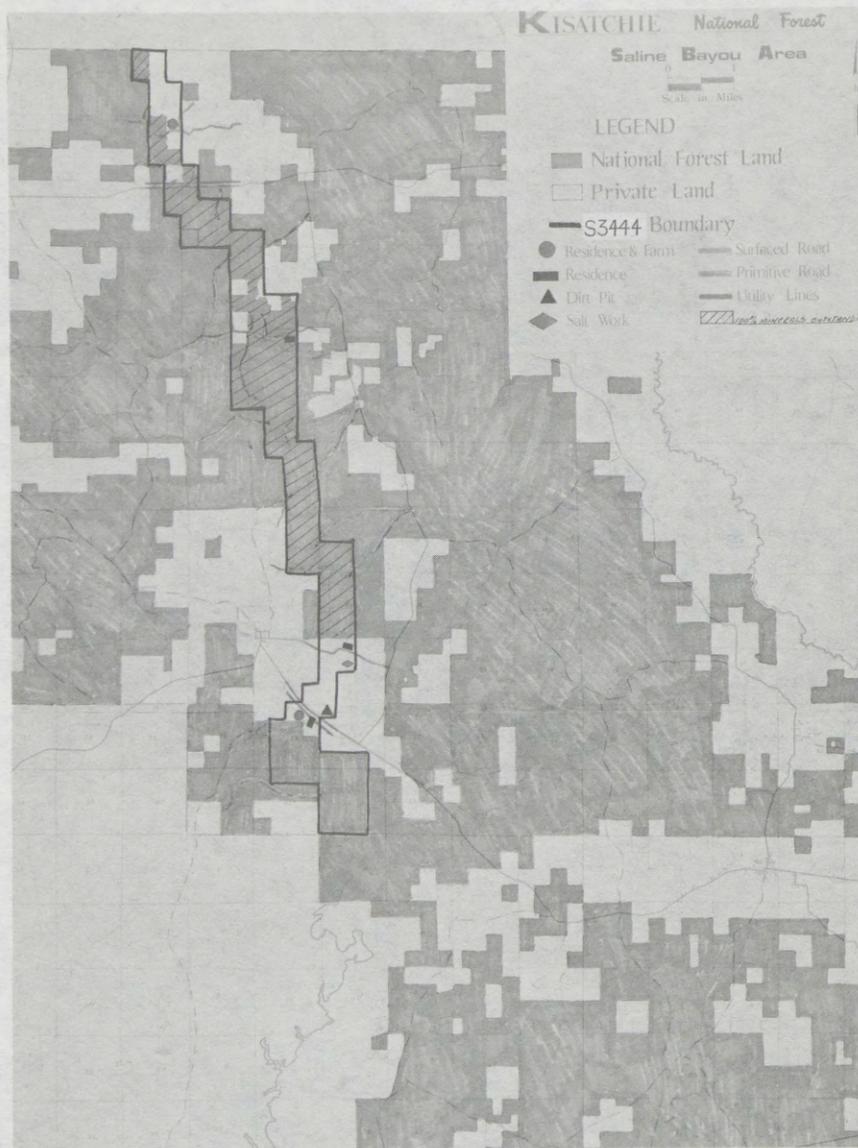


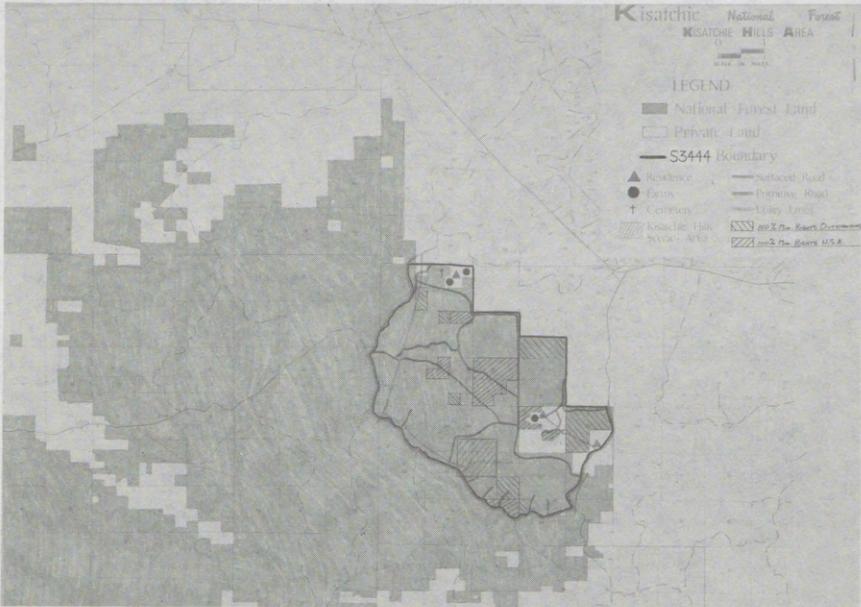
HERCULES WILDERNESS
 MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST
 MISSOURI
 1976

LEGEND

- OTHER OWNERSHIP
- NATIONAL FOREST ADMINISTERED LAND
- PROPOSED WILDERNESS H.R. 14530 S. 3676
- ADMIN. PROPOSED STUDY BDRY.







Mr. PETERSON. Thank you.

Starting with the Kisatchie Hills area which is the map on the right. This is a very beautiful area and has been recognized previously by us by the designation of a scenic area in 1961 near the center of the area. There is development in that area now in terms of nine picnic and camping units and served by a paved road along the western edge by some 27 miles of road within the area. It is an area of long leaf pine. There is a ridge with rock outcrops, and so on. It is a very beautiful area. It is an extensively used mountain for recreation, hunting and fishing.

There is within the area three farms that are on private land within the proposed study area. There is a utility line that goes through the area and also serves the scenic area. Although we are not objecting to studying this area, we think you should be aware that there is substantial development in the area now. It is heavily used for recreation.

The impact of putting wilderness in there would be—it would be to remove those family units, remove the utility lines, to remove some of the things that people are now using in the area. So it may get controversial.

Senator HASKELL. Thank you for calling that to our attention, Mr. Peterson. Senator Johnston will probably want to discuss it.

Mr. PETERSON. The second area, the Saline Bayou area, we are recommending that that be deleted from the study proposal. In the first place, this is a very narrow strip of land ranging from about a quarter of a mile to a mile in width along a very slow stream. It has already been designated under State law as a scenic stream. We have an agreement in the final stages of signing with the State which would provide for essentially management along that stream.

It is crossed by two State highways at the present time. It is crossed also by a Forest Service road or public service roads. It is crossed by a railroad. It has residence—two residences within the area that are occupied. It has utility lines.

We really don't see the Wilderness Act as being the correct vehicle for the management of a stream which is basically the concern here. We believe that the designation of this area under State law, under the cooperative agreement with the State will adequately provide for protection of the public resources there. And we recommend that this area be deleted from the study as wilderness.

Senator HASKELL. Thank you, Mr. Peterson. We will consider your testimony very carefully. Thank you.

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

Senator HASKELL. I understand that Ms. Raye-Page may have something to say on the Louisiana areas. Would you mind leaving the area maps there while she testifies?

Mr. PETERSON. We will be glad to and we will stay here.

Senator HASKELL. Fine. Thank you.

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. Mr. Chairman, I am Ms. Raye-Page, again representing the Wilderness Society. And since the Missouri people won't have a chance to respond to that, I would just like to mention several things on the Missouri areas in response.

For one thing, the mention of access to private lands is not a problem because the Wilderness Act anticipated this and in section 5A says that, quote:

In any case where State-owned or privately owned land is completely surrounded by national forest land within areas designated by this act as wilderness, such State or private land shall be given such rights as may be necessary to assure adequate access to such State-owned or privately owned lands by such State or private owner.

So I don't think we really see that as a problem. I am also told that there is no cropland in Piney Creek.

Now another thing is that Mr. Peterson mentioned about the private land boundaries and the intrusion into wilderness. Well, I think what this is really mentioning again is using buffer zones for wilderness and in this very room and before this Senate committee, I think that has been pretty well knocked down in the past.

As a matter of fact, in 1972 this Senate committee asked the various agencies to go back and rewrite their proposals that did have such things as enclaves and buffer zones. And also I think—

Senator HASKELL. I thought he was calling attention to the jagged boundaries.

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. That is right.

Senator HASKELL. Which, if they could be straightened out, it would be all to the good; wouldn't it?

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. I think that is true—

Senator HASKELL. That one particularly Bell Mountain. It seems to me that those lines could be in some way straightened out and everybody would be the winner. Maybe they can't, I don't know.

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. They would, except I think what has happened in the past is that there was a great deal of trauma over the private land.

Senator HASKELL. Yes. Well, as I say, as a practical matter perhaps it can't be done. I don't know.

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. I think what can be done is I heard in the Senate from all of the Congressmen and all of the Missouri people, I think we had about eight of them, is that they have worked very hard to solve this problem. And now that they have taken out from any wilderness designation the private land that the people feel fine about the wilderness.

So, I think that—

Senator HASKELL. I think as a practical matter that is probably right, but I think it is important for the Forest Service to look at the possibilities of different boundaries during the study.

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. That is right, but some people might be willing to, you know, sell their land.

Senator HASKELL. That's right.

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. But then if they are not, I think we are in a stage now of wilderness in which we can't have acres of wilderness buffer before we get to the designated wilderness. And that is going to happen to us more and more in any area. So I think we have got to have wilderness where we can find it.

Senator HASKELL. Well, I agree with you.

MS. RAYE-PAGE. And I also think, you know, the Congress addressed this when it passed the Wilderness Act, that in its purpose it stated that the purpose of establishing the Wilderness Act primarily was for preserving natural lands for their own intrinsic value, not just for people. So I think that the Congress has already made that decision.

Now, if I may go on to the Louisiana areas.

Senator HASKELL. Louisiana, yes.

MS. RAYE-PAGE. I am sorry the Louisiana people were unable to get here. So, they are very much in support of Senator Johnston's bill for both Kisatchie Hills and Saline Bayou. So I will not really go into Kisatchie Hills except to mention something that was brought out by Mr. Peterson in talking about the transition lines and various things.

And I think that we have come across this in many other wilderness areas and in some instances nonconforming uses may be permissible at some future time and it may be possible to remove those.

But I think that should not be a detriment to the wilderness. Now, my main consideration is for Saline Bayou which apparently the Forest Service does not want to consider as wilderness. Now, the people that are from that area could give you a much better statement on that, but this isn't the whole area, not just the stream. It is a very unique area. And it has a very interesting geological history. It has very diverse ecosystem. They have a full canopy of water. They have forests. They have some unique, very tall cyprus trees and cyprus swamps and some unusual plant forms that do not exist in other places in Louisiana. So I think this area really should be considered for wilderness study.

And not only—although the Louisiana people and the Wilderness Society support the study for the 5,000 acres, but also there is a proposal for increasing that to 27,450, I believe. And there is—I believe I called the committee or Mr. Johnston's office and I think they do have a copy of this booklet, which is the Saline Bayou wilderness review which spells it out quite well. And I will leave with the committee a copy of the map, which does designate the areas that they are talking about in this and—I will just leave that for the record.

So I think that while there are areas—and I think there are also areas—I guess I was talking with some of the people down there yesterday—that they think might qualify.

So we would wish that this committee would ask the Forest Service to study this larger area for consideration as wilderness.

Senator HASKELL. Thank you, very much indeed.

MS. RAYE-PAGE. Shall I give this to the—

Senator HASKELL. Yes. Mr. Williams will take that.

Let me just ask you one question. Why on the Saline Bayou there—

MS. RAYE-PAGE. On what?

Senator HASKELL. On the long, thin one there, why isn't there some kind of wild, scenic river designation?

MS. RAYE-PAGE. Well, it is a State scenic river. It is just that it is a very narrow area and apparently most of the Louisiana people think that there is a much broader area that is around the river that needs to be protected.

Senator HASKELL. I see. But that is not much broader, is it?

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. Yes.

Senator HASKELL. You mean the expanded proposal? Yes. Well, that to me has more appeal. It seems to me that if you are just going to study the 5,000 acres, the designation as a protected river is probably all that is needed, you don't really gain very much by calling it a wilderness. On the other hand, if you are going to expand the area, that is an entirely different story.

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. I think that is the reason for the Louisiana people wanting the study and expanded area. Apparently, as I said—

Senator HASKELL. In other words, what they would like to do is to amend that study area by enlarging it considerably.

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. Right. And ask the Forest Service to study that. You know, then they will come back with their study. I think you should have this booklet which is very excellent, which spells out—

Senator HASKELL. Maybe you could leave that for the files, or is that your only copy?

Ms. RAYE-PAGE. It is my only copy, but Senator Johnston's office has a copy which they said they would let you use. If you don't, why don't you get in touch with me and I will see if we can get you one.

Senator HASKELL. Fine. Thank you very much.

The hearing is adjourned and unless, Mr. Karel, your friends feel very strongly that their statement be included in the record, I am going to close the hearing. Do they feel very strongly about that?

Mr. KAREL. Mr. Bates indicated they were going to try to get it in the mail by early this week.

Senator HASKELL. Let me say this then: If it arrives here within a week from today fine, we will keep the record open until next Friday.

Mr. KAREL. I believe Congressman Taylor's staff does have copies of at least the Ozark Society's testimony.

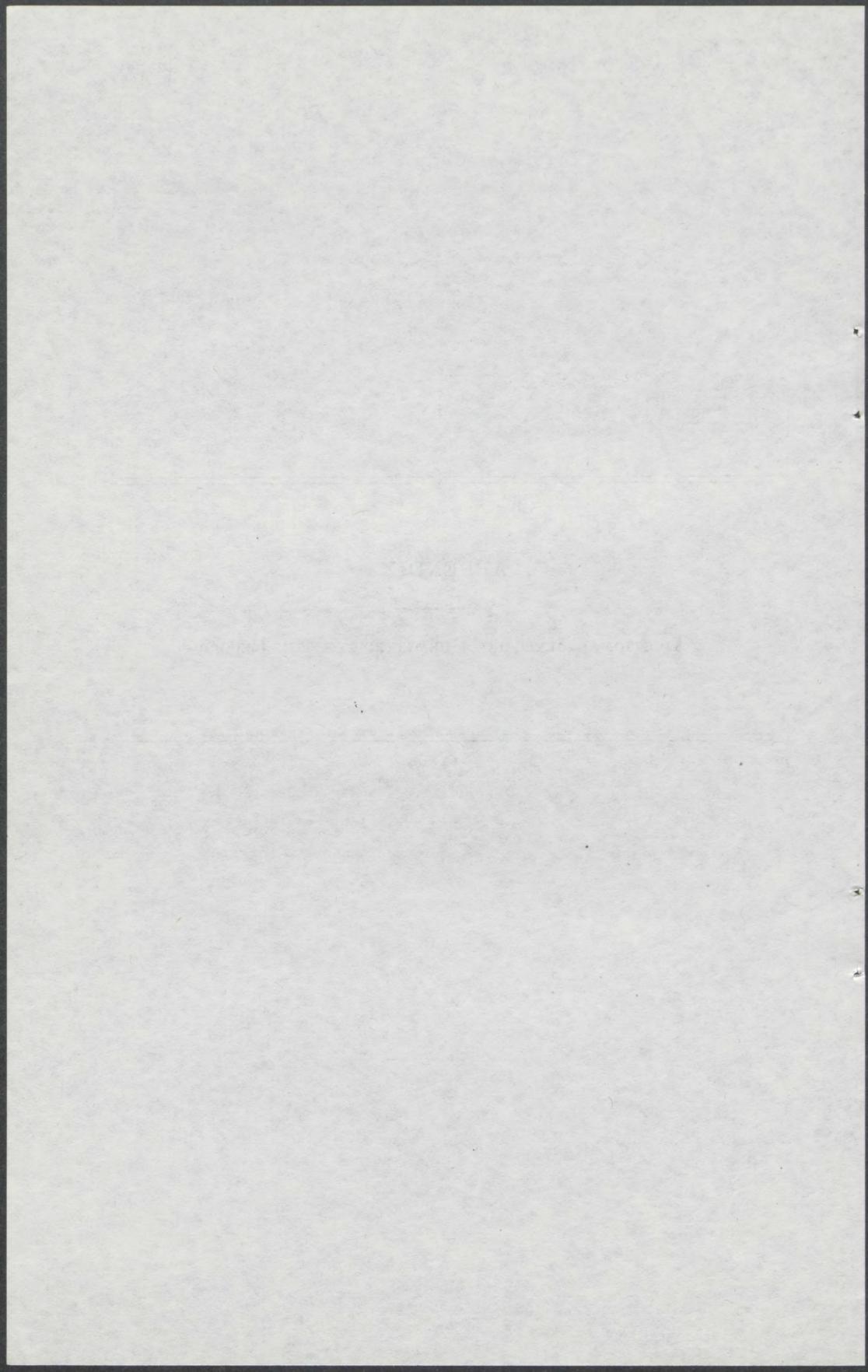
Senator HASKELL. I will leave it to him to get it over here and we will keep the hearing record open for a week. Thank you very much.

[See the appendix for the submittal from Mr. Bates of the Ozark Society.]

[Whereupon, at 10:08 a.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

APPENDIX

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD





OZARK SOCIETY

July 26, 1976
AUG 2 1976

H. R. Schoolcraft Chapter
P. O. Box 692 J. S.
Springfield, Missouri 65801

Senator Floyd Haskell
Sub-Committee on Environment and Land Resources
Washington, D.C.

Re: S 3204

Mr. Chairman,

I am writing to you as the Wilderness Committee Chairman of the Ozark Society's Schoolcraft Chapter. Our organization is a citizens group concerned with conservation issues affecting the Ozark Highlands. I wish to speak in favor of the Hercules (Glades) Wilderness Area as outlined on legislation recently introduced by Senator Eagleton as well as the four wilderness study areas contained on S 3204. These lands are all located within Mark Twain National Forest and their wilderness status is currently being considered by your sub-committee.

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 untrammled by man. The area contains a variety of habitats including, oak-hickory forest, open grassy balds and prairie-like glades, allowing for 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 deliberations on the Eastern Wilderness Act but was deleted from that legislation due to inholdings of private lands. 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. On this particular point we submit for your consideration the attached report and supporting documents.

The Ozark Society would also like to express its support of the proposed Piney Creek Wilderness Study Area. This area, located in 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 1 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.

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 S 3204, and the new legislation containing the Hercules Wilderness as an "instant area". The Schoolcraft Chapter of the Ozark Society being a regional organization has directed its efforts toward the two areas mentioned

above. We have therefore deferred promotion of the other study areas to individuals and groups who live in closer proximity to them. However, let me take this opportunity to urge favorable consideration for the following wilderness study areas; 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, all areas contained on S 3204. We appreciate your attention to our comments and request that they be made a part of the formal record of the hearings conducted recently on this legislation.

William D. Bates

William D. Bates

Wilderness Committee Chairman

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND
GOVERNOR



JAMES L. WILSON
DIRECTOR

missouri department of natural resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

314-751-3332

July 28, 1976

The Honorable Floyd Haskell, Chairman
Subcommittee on Environment and Land Resources
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
United States Senate
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Haskell:

The Department of Natural Resources is pleased to offer testimony before this Subcommittee regarding S.3204 and S.3676 designating 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 Area

S.3204 and S.3676 go far toward enactment of the wilderness proposals endorsed by the Department of Natural Resources. We strongly endorse both bills. 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.

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 the introduction of S.3204, this Department wrote to the Forest Supervisor requesting protection for the same areas. Again, the Forest Supervisor

The Honorable Floyd Haskell
July 28, 1976
Page 2

responded that he would not defer non-wilderness activities, scheduled for initiation this October, 1976. 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 S.3204 and S.3676 as a vital priority for a balanced natural resource program for Missouri.

Sincerely yours,

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



James L. Wilson
Director

JLW:jkd

Enclosure

cc: Senator Stuart Symington
Senator Thomas Eagleton

MISSOURI WILDERNESS PROPOSALS

Department of Natural Resources

June 25, 1976

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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, (8,533 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.

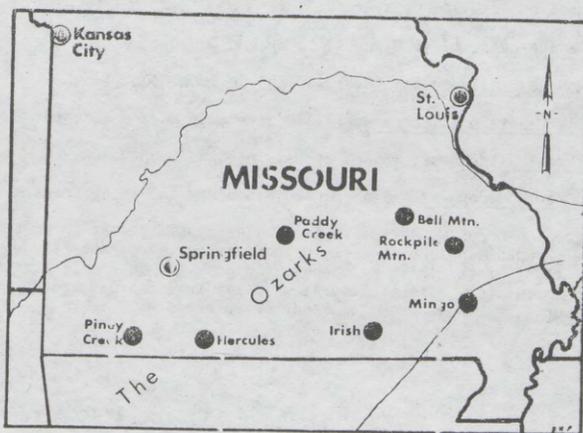
The proposed areas would remove from wilderness designation most of the privately-owned lands which were included in earlier proposals; would provide for study of the Irish Wilderness for possible future designation, rather than immediately establishing it as a wilderness area; and would add, for study,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

(March 1976)

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.

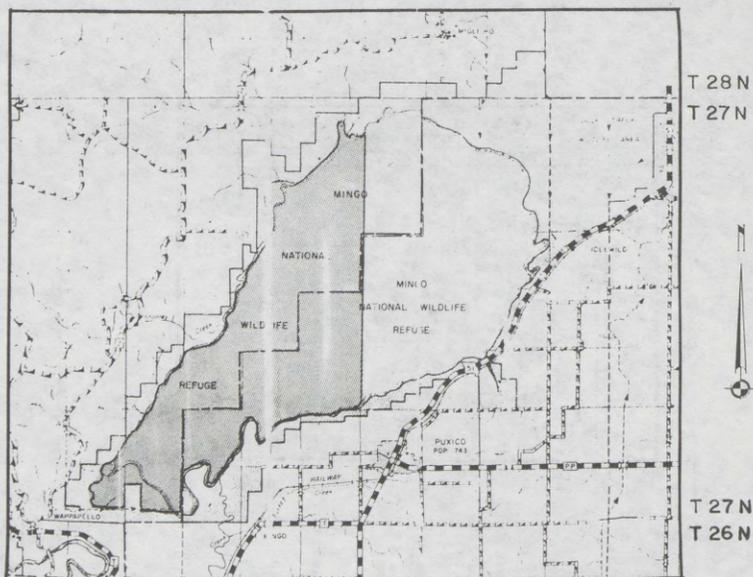
<u>Area</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mingo	8,000	Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Wayne and Stoddard Counties
Bell Mountain	8,533	Mark Twain National Forest, Iron County
Rockpile Mountain	4,170	Mark Twain National Forest, Madison County
Paddy Creek	6,888	Mark Twain National Forest, Texas County
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 Lootheel. 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)



WAYNE STODDARD
R 7 E R 8 E

R 8 E R 9 E

SCALE



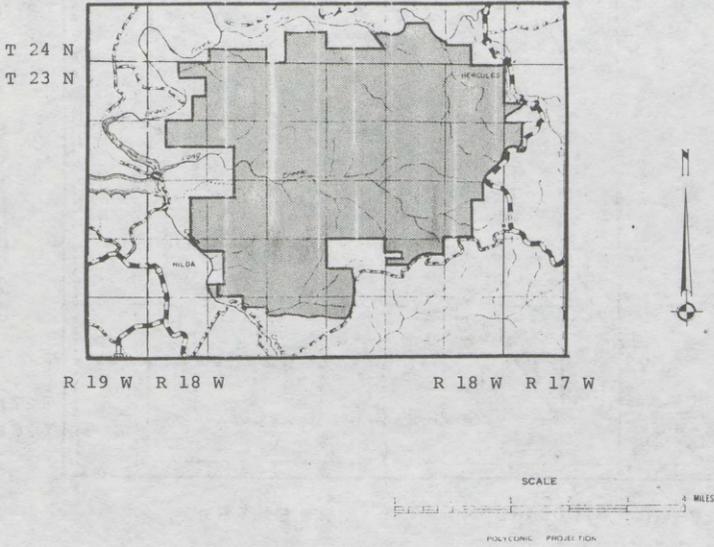
PROJECTION

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.

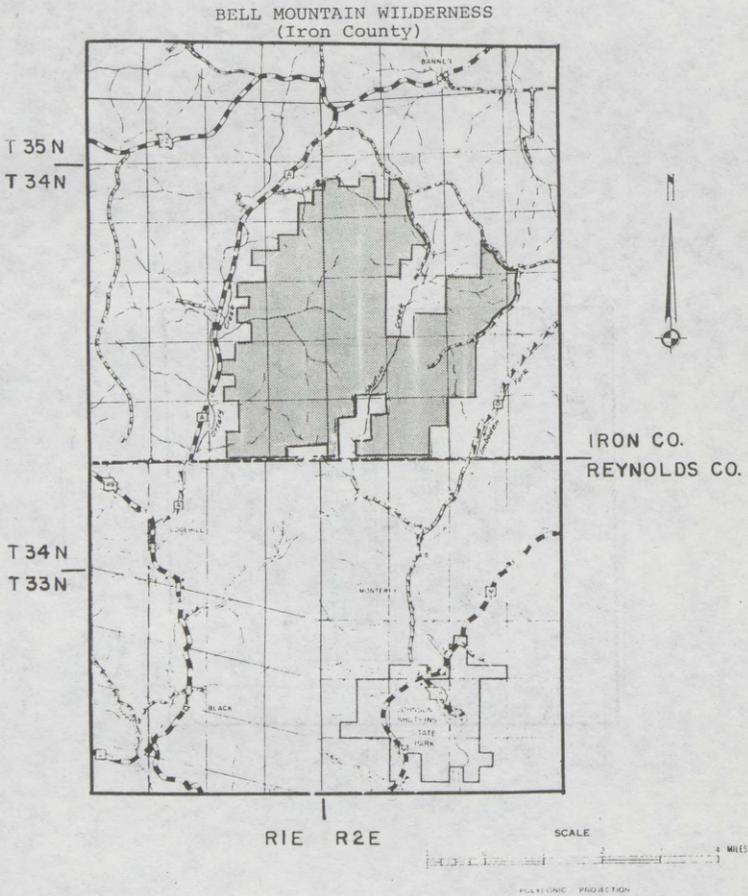
This area has been endorsed by the DNR and the Conservation Commission for instant wilderness designation.

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)

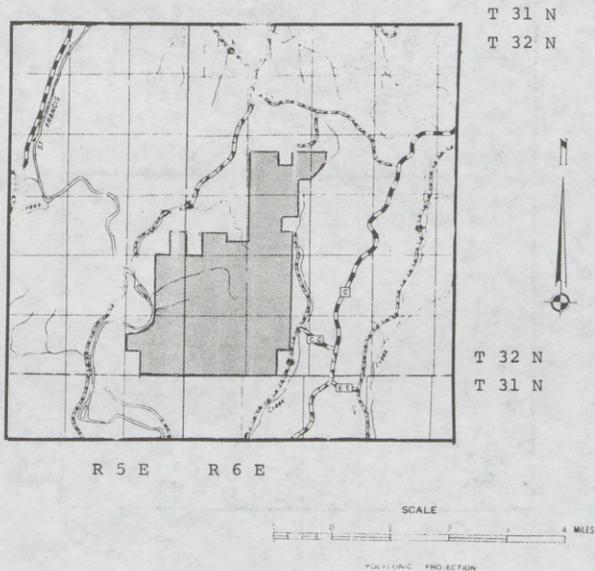


3. Bell Mountain Wilderness - This 8,533 acre proposal in Iron County lies in the heart of the St. Francois Mountains. A timber sale has been proposed here even though the area has a long history of consideration for wilderness designation. Large open barrens cover portions of the sides of the mountain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



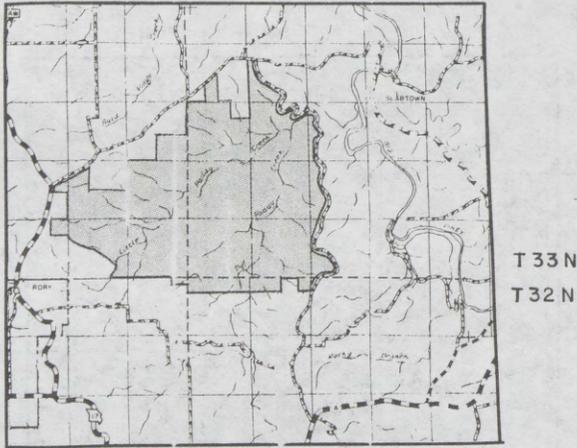
4. Rockpile Mountain Wilderness - This 4,170 acre proposed area is also in the St. Francois Mountains, but is more densely forested than Bell Mountain. The exposed pre-cambrian igneous rocks create shut-ins and areas of geologic interest. The area is also known for its recreational, archaeological and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

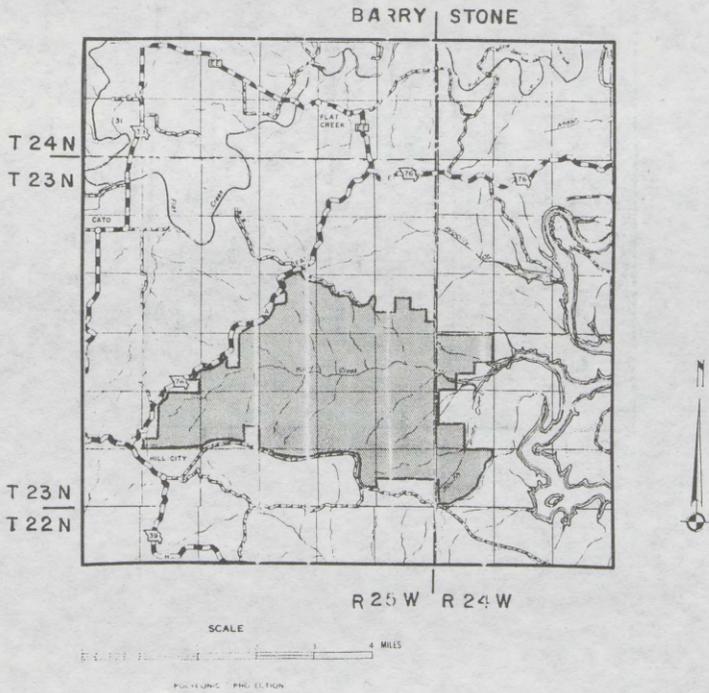


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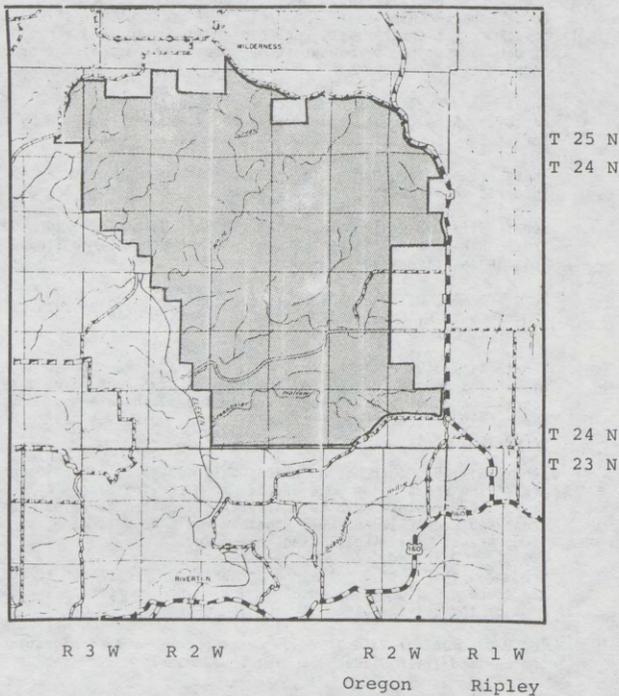
6. Piney Creek Wilderness - This 8,432 acre proposal would protect the entire watershed of Piney Creek for scientific and recreational purposes. It would be a fine complement to the adjacent Table Rock Lake Area. The area supports important habitat for great blue heron, bald eagle, and pileated woodpecker.

PINEY CREEK WILDERNESS
(Barry & Stone Counties)

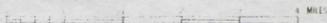


7. Irish Wilderness - The largest and most well known of all Missouri proposals is the 17,562 acre Irish Wilderness. This area is perhaps the most primitive area we have in public ownership. Several entire watersheds would be preserved, as well as the unique coves, sinkholes and springs in the area. 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



POLYCONIC 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
	Reynolds					
Rockpile Mt.	Madison	4,170	45,286	9	229,486	1.8
Paddy Creek	Texas	6,888	43,176	16	475,887	1.4
Piney Creek	Barry	8,432	67,131	13	440,931	1.9
	Stone					
Irish	Oregon	17,562	78,425	22	346,126	5.1
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 6 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.

National Forest Acreages
as of 06/30/75

County	Net NF Acreage	Forested Acres
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 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 MFPA 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
1. The proposed areas endorsed 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
 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
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
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.

Mr. Don Rollens

-3-

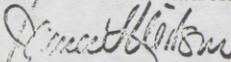
March 24, 1976

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.

March 23, 1976

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 Bonneterre 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 Bonneterre 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.

March 23, 1976

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 Bonneterre 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 Bonneterre, 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 Bonneterre 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 Bonneterre 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 Bonneterre 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 Bonneterre 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 Bonneterre 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.

Sedalia Capital
Sedalia, Missouri
Circulation: 1665

DATE

MAR 27 1976

Wilderness battle 134 needs citizen help

Although it is late in the game, a battle may be forming up to see that Missouri gets a piece of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The issue involves about 60,000 acres of Ozark forest land that have been suggested for inclusion in the national wilderness system. The citizen proposal is supported by the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Federation of Missouri.

Included are the following lands: Bell Mountain in Iron County, 8,533 acres; Rockpile Mountain in Madison County, 4,170 acres; Paddy Creek in Texas County, 6,888 acres; Piney Creek in Barry and Stone Counties, 8,432 acres; and the Irish Wilderness in Oregon County, 17,562 acres.

These areas typify a variety of Ozarks eco-systems, including glades, springs, streams, caves and pristine forests. The land already belongs to the taxpayers by virtue of being part of the national forest system. A wilderness designation would preserve it from exploitation by timber and mining interests.

But those very groups were successful at a recent Missouri House committee hearing in

getting an 8-4 vote against the wilderness designation. The full House is scheduled to take up House Resolution 110 next week.

An anti-wilderness resolution from the Missouri House would carry weight with Congress when it comes to designating future such areas.

More than two-thirds of the states have wilderness areas; Missouri has none. Yet it is richer in natural beauty than most states. Without preservation, however, that beauty is vulnerable to exploitation and development. In the last decade the state has lost more than 1.5 million acres of woodlands — a trend that if anything will accelerate in coming years.

The land in question is miniscule in relation to what already exists in the national forest system in the state. Yet greedy commercial interests seem determined to see that even these small parcels be reserved for the chain saw and the drill.

We don't think Missourians in general want this. But only fast action from conservation-minded citizens — who will take the time to contact their representatives — can keep it from happening.

**mirror
of public
opinion**

Missouri Wilderness Threatened

John A. Karel
In *The Ozark Sierran*

The Ozark Chapter has recently learned that the supervisor of the National Forests in Missouri, Donald Rollens, has flatly rejected a written request from Missouri's Gov. Bond to refrain from activities, such as timber sales and road building, that would damage the wilderness values of several proposed wilderness areas. We had earlier learned that a similar request from Senator Thomas Eagleton was likewise turned down.

This action is an unexpectedly callous reaction to the sincere efforts of these political representatives. It is also a serious indication of disregard for the long-enduring efforts of literally thousands of Missouri and Midwest conservationists to secure a wilderness resource and allow our state to participate in the National Wilderness System.

In frankness, we are reluctant to place full blame directly on Mr. Rollens or his staff. The sequence of events tends to indicate that anti-wilderness pressures are being brought to bear upon the Missouri national forests both from higher levels in the Forest Service and from self-serving commercial timber interests. Even so, the Forest Service bears full responsibility to protect the national forests for all Americans, not just the commercial interests.

In light of the fact that current legislative wilderness proposals add up, all told, to less than 4 per cent of national forest lands in Missouri, the denial of administrative protection is inexcusable. Administrative protection is crucial if Congress is

expected to have an opportunity for thoughtful consideration of wilderness legislation.

As a result of this apparent Forest Service disregard for our Senator and Governor, the Ozark Chapter has decided to initiate an appeal process to seek a change in agency policy. When any segment of the public feels that it has been aggrieved by a Forest Service decision, as is blatantly the case here, there are procedures set up within the agency that provide for official reconsideration of the offending action. This is the process we have begun.

We hope the Forest Service will step back briefly and review the situation: The state of Missouri has demonstrated its unmistakable majority will to protect these last Wilderness areas. Both of Missouri's resource agencies, the Conservation Commission and the Department of Natural Resources, have officially endorsed them. Our Governor and Senator have personally written in an attempt to prevent their desecration. Every major conservation organization in the state has endorsed them. Even a group that had earlier opposed wilderness, the Sho-Me State Heritage Association, has moved much closer to approval since needed boundary revisions were worked out.

In the face of all these realities, and in the face of our chapter's clearly unconditional commitment, Missourians can rightfully hope that the Forest Service will voluntarily reconsider its actions, protect the wilderness and come forward again as an open, responsible agency working with the people of this state for a balanced natural resource program.

St. Louis Post Dispatch 3/23/76

For unborn generations

It is always rather shocking to find that there still are those in this time of rapid depletion of our natural resources who would rape the land of even more for the little monetary benefit they might receive, even at the expense of future generations.

Such is the example being set by those who are opposing the tiny fragment of Missouri's forest land which conservationists are pleading with the federal government to preserve unspoiled for those to come in the years ahead.

These people appeared in force Tuesday night in Jefferson City to testify for a legislative resolution opposing the setting aside of 60,000 acres of Missouri's 13 million acres of forested land for wilderness, a mere one-half of one per cent.

Missouri at one time, authorities say, had 44 million acres of wilderness. The proposal for 60,000 acres comprises only one-tenth of one per cent of that once huge total. It seems infinitesimal in the comparison, and a small enough amount to save for boys and girls and men and women not yet born. Aren't they entitled to see what a part of the state once looked like?

Yet at the legislative hearing on a resolution sponsored by Reps. Earl L. Sponsler of Cabool and Don Hancock of Willow Springs, there were those who would let even this tiny vestige be subject to timber cutting, mining, road building or whatever might come in the future.

Rep. H. N. ("Doc") Sutherland, (D.-Bethany), appeared against the wilderness concept. Said he, "I can't see turning good, productive land back into nature. Why are we going to let this land go to pot?" and, it is "God's mission to have man take care of things." Well, we would observe that man hasn't done too well with what God has given him, and the Sutherland approach would open wide the gates to further destruction.

We should point out that the 60,000 acres under consideration by the federal government is in national forest land, not in the private domain. The Forest Service has indicated it plans to remove timber from some of the proposed wilderness areas, a part of it by clear cutting.

This is not virgin timber. Like the rest of the Ozark forests, it was cut over 50 or more years ago and the present stand is what has come back in this renewable resource. The point is, enough time has elapsed to allow the timber to grow to the point where it is approaching, and will reach, the stature that virgin timber once had in Missouri.

As reported in The Missourian earlier this week, the areas proposed by the

federal government for wilderness are: Bell Mountain (8,533 acres), Rockpile Mountain (4,170 acres), Paddy Creek (6,888), Piney Creek (8,432), Irish Wilderness (17,320) and Hercules Glades (12,605).

All but Hercules Glade have been proposed for study to determine through evaluation the resources and potential uses. Hercules Glade, however, because of its unique significance, has been urged for immediate placing as a wilderness area.

By such designation, the areas would be held free of motorized vehicles, powerline construction, commercial timber cutting and road construction. Uses permitted would be hiking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, photography, nature study, bird watching, swimming and scientific research.

We think it is asking very little to preserve this national forestland free from human exploitation — and that is exactly what Rep. Sutherland and his cohorts are seeking. What they would do is despoil for dollars a tiny birthright that we today have an obligation to save for our descendants. The dollars they see in their pockets aren't worth it.

In an 18-year period, from 1954 to 1972 Missouri lost 2 million acres of its forest land. The attrition rate is accelerating. One has only to fly over the timbered Ozarks, or drive the highways and see the magnitude of forest land that is being removed by civilization.

In Biblical times portions of the Middle East were covered by great forests. Today they are a wasteland, denuded of trees, barren stretches of hill after hill, with no trees, no growth, only the brown of rocks and sun-scorched earth.

Is this what we are to leave for those to come because we are not stewards of the land? Because there now seems so much does not mean that it will always exist. Timber may be a renewable resource, but it is not so if it is removed to the point where erosion takes over and washes away the tilth, leaving only bare rocks.

The time to conserve is now. The U.S. Forest Service has taken over thousands of acres of land and has exercised good management practices. These, no doubt, will continue and these lands will be preserved.

Yet we have a strong feeling that those wee little areas conservationists want preserved should be held inviolate from even selective timber cutting, from mining and from other inroads by man as microcosms of the resources Missouri prides.

CAPE

GIRARDEAU

SOUTHEAST MO

MARCH 21, 1976

MAR 28

The Tribune's view

Wilderness preserves

Time to send a message

Congress is considering a law which would include seven areas in Missouri in the national Wilderness System and protect them in their natural state. Missouri is one of the only states without such a system.

Conservationists have worked hard to designate areas which are made up almost entirely of public lands so there will be a minimum of interference with private landowners' holdings. The acreage involved is very small, representing only about 4 per cent of the state's National Forest total. Gov. Bond, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Commission support the designation.

Things were looking rather good. Earlier resistance from private landowners in the affected areas had been softened by redrawing the boundaries

of the proposed areas to leave out the private land. The congressmen from the districts involved, without whose agreement the Congress would never pass the bill, appeared ready to go along. But then trouble came.

A resolution inspired by lumbering interests was introduced in the Missouri House of Representatives by Reps. Earl Sponsler (D-Cabool) and Don Hancock (D-Doniphan) opposing the impending congressional action. This surprise involvement by the state legislature introduced a new wrinkle into the matter. It was heard by Sponsler's committee on parks, recreation and natural resources and, not surprisingly, was passed out with a positive recommendation.

The entire House will vote on this matter in the next week or two. It has all

happened so quickly and with such little advance information in the legislature that there is danger it will just slide through on the recommendation of the committee.

It would be a good time for interested people to write their state representatives. The areas in question are all located in the Ozark highlands. They are beautiful, remote wilderness areas which should be preserved. The acreage involved in Missouri is miniscule compared to the territories protected in many other states. No private interests are being unfairly damaged.

We hope the Missouri House will defeat HR 110. This action will send a message to Congress and to the involved congressional delegates that hopefully will result in this reasonable wilderness protection.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch
 St. Louis, Missouri
 Circulation 279,015

DATE Jan 20 1967

47 No Missouri Wilderness?

Missouri is anything but the most conservation-minded state, perhaps on the theory that its beautiful hills and streams have always been there and always will be. So the state has no legally-protected wilderness areas. And that is an issue now arising in both Jefferson City and Washington.

The U.S. Senate has scheduled a committee hearing April 8 to include six areas in Missouri in the national wilderness system. Under the 1964 Wilderness Act, no development or exploitation is permitted in such areas. They are kept in a natural state, unlike national forest and other federal lands.

Indeed, the six areas proposed for Missouri have been federal property for years, being in the large Mark Twain National Forest. They are the Bell Mountain wilderness in Iron County and the Rockpile Mountain wilderness nearby, about 100 miles south of St. Louis, and the Irish wilderness, Paddy Creek area, Piney Creek wilderness and Hercules Glades wilderness, all in southernmost Missouri counties.

A few days ago the Missouri House Committee on State Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources approved a resolution urging Congress to leave Missouri out of the wilderness system. Proponents of the measure, being opponents of the wilderness system, argued that this state had already "lost" 1,500,000 acres of forest land to various public programs and that the proposal to set aside another 60,000 acres as wilderness represents another attempt to take land out of production.

The issue, then, is not ownership, since the wilderness land is federal land. The issue is land use. In effect, no use would be permitted in those 60,000 acres, but they are a small part of public lands in Missouri. Furthermore,

considerable land use is permitted in the way of timbering and mining in national forests.

The opponents of the wilderness system want to continue the system of usage. Opposition by lumbering firms and interested parties is understandable enough. There is also, however, a strong feeling through the Ozarks against governmental control of land, and an accompanying belief that the lands will remain well enough as they are without the need for controls.

These were the sentiments that for years kept Missouri from closing its open range, and that in the late 1960s prevented the Legislature from adopting a state system of protection for scenic rivers through easements. It was not enough to say then that land and water, forest and field, hill and valley cannot be regarded as both enduring and useful.

In the case of the new wilderness proposal, however, there is powerful support from every conservation organization in Missouri, and from the Conservation Commission and Gov. Bond. Moreover, the final decision will be made in Congress, and it was Congress that placed the Current and Jacks Fork rivers under National Park Service protection and the beautiful Eleven Point under Forest Service administration as a scenic river.

Congress now should adopt the new wilderness plan for Missouri. It would cost nothing. The five tracts amount to less than one half of one per cent of the state's remaining forest land. This state can afford to have them set aside from exploitation. It cannot afford the notion that wilderness will remain wilderness forever. What little of it is left should be guarded so that coming generations can experience a little of the natural beauty of America's fading past.

FRIDAY MARCH 26, 1976

Wilderness battle needs citizen help

Although it is late in the game, a battle may be forming up to see that Missouri gets a piece of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The issue involves about 60,000 acres of Ozark forest land that have been suggested for inclusion in the national wilderness system. The citizen proposal is supported by the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Federation of Missouri.

Included are the following lands: Bell Mountain in Iron County, 8,533 acres; Rockpile Mountain in Madison County, 4,170 acres; Paddy Creek in Texas County, 6,888 acres; Piney Creek in Barry and Stone Counties, 8,432 acres; and the Irish Wilderness in Oregon County, 17,562 acres.

These areas typify a variety of Ozarks eco-systems, including glades, springs, streams, caves and pristine forests. The land already belongs to the taxpayers by virtue of being part of the national forest system. A wilderness designation would preserve it from exploitation by timber and mining interests.

But those very groups were successful at a recent Missouri House committee hearing in

getting an 8-4 vote against the wilderness designation. The full House is scheduled to take up House Resolution 110 next week.

An anti-wilderness resolution from the Missouri House would carry weight with Congress when it comes to designating future such areas.

More than two-thirds of the states have wilderness areas; Missouri has none. Yet it is richer in natural beauty than most states. Without preservation, however, that beauty is vulnerable to exploitation and development. In the last decade the state has lost more than 1.5 million acres of woodlands — a trend that if anything will accelerate in coming years.

The land in question is miniscule in relation to what already exists in the national forest system in the state. Yet greedy commercial interests seem determined to see that even these small parcels be reserved for the chain saw and the drill.

We don't think Missourians in general want this. But only fast action from conservation-minded citizens — who will take the time to contact their representatives — can keep it from happening.

Business Interests Threaten Wilderness

By Gary D. Warner
Outdoor Editor

Jefferson City—One would think that of Missouri's original 44 million acres of wilderness we might save six small areas, totaling 60,000 acres, and allow them to flourish naturally instead of being uprooted by the heavy hand of man. That is the American way.

One would think there would be few Missourians of vision and intelligence who would oppose the wisdom of establishing wilderness areas in Missouri. Because Missouri still has 13 million acres of forested land the protection of 60,000 acres is relatively inconsequential at this time. But our land is being used up with frightening speed by business and residential development, by highways, reservoirs, airports, utility transmission routes. That is the American way, too.

Nor, it would seem, could anyone advance a fiscal argument against wilderness in Missouri. The six proposed areas are already public property, owned by the U.S. Forest Service. They would cost us nothing to acquire.

Yet, while this effort to save these six areas is a noble one, it is also an endangered one. It is being opposed. There is no law of the land requiring Missourians to be noble or wise or in-

The Outdoor Orbit



telligent, or to see farther than the ends of their noses. Missouri proudly claims Mark Twain, Thomas Hart Benton and Harry S Truman, but we must remember that Missouri has also produced the mule.

On Tuesday evening the House Committee on State Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources will consider House Resolution No. 110, which if approved by the House membership, would put that group on record as opposing the use of national forest land in any Missouri wilderness area. The resolution was introduced by Rep. Earl Sponser and Rep. Don Hancock, but the voices that one hears are those of the timber and mining industries in Missouri, which are so influential—one wonders why—that they can reach into the House and force an action that could cripple the effort to save these lands. Unfortunately that too, is the American way.

That the resolution will be approved by the committee is unhappily con-

ceded by conservation-minded citizens who support the wilderness effort. "They won't go against their chairman," said one observer. The chairman? Mr. Sponser.

The resolution notes that "national forests in Missouri are managed under a multiple-use concept that provides for the balanced use of the land by all citizens," but obviously its purpose is to stop the preservation and recreational use of 60,000 acres—out of a total of 1½ million acres of national forest land in the state. Timber and mining want it all."

The resolution claims that mining and timber activities are important sources of income to counties and that allowing these six areas to be designated as wilderness would "drastically curtail . . . income to Missouri counties."

Yet even if all six were set aside the loss of timber revenue to local counties would range from \$4 a year to a maximum of \$400 a year.

It is not the counties worrying about their pocketbooks.

The resolution states that the harvesting of forest products from na-

tional forest provides needed income and important jobs for many Missourians. But would the felling of trees in Missouri stop because 60,000 acres were protected? Would anyone lose jobs? Could they not harvest timber elsewhere in the 1½ million acre national forest?

The resolution says that the largest lead-zinc deposit in the world was on national forest land in Missouri. But there is no discovered ore deposit closer than 40 miles to a proposed wilderness area, and there is no evidence suggesting the presence of mineral deposits on any of the proposed wilderness sites.

The weakness of the resolution allows only one conclusion—that the creation of wilderness areas in Missouri is opposed by the timber industry because it could be barred from the trees and the money, on 60,000 acres of land; and is opposed by the mining industry because some day somewhere in those

areas it might want to search for new sources of ore—and money.

Still, the resolution will get out of the committee, even though there will be some opposition there from both committee members and from citizens. If it is to suffer the fate it deserves—burial—that will have to happen in the House, where, hopefully, there are enough men and women of vision, intelligence and strength to see it for what it is.

3/20/76
Global Democrat

Citizen support needed for wildlife areas

We like to think of our Missouri as a leader in the march of American progress but sadly, this is not always the case. There are some occasions where we lag at the very end of the national procession, and one of these has been in our lack of interest in preserving any of our fine wilderness areas.

Truth is that the struggle for wilderness preservation in America has been a long and sometimes bitter one. We have too often considered that our natural resources are meant only to be turned into profit—and that the preservation of even some tag ends so that we may observe, enjoy and study to gain an understanding of our cultural heritage, is a waste of time and money.

FORTUNATELY there has always been a small band of dedicated conservationists who believed differently. In the end, the champions of wilderness won, although it was not until 1964 that the Wilderness Bill was finally enacted by Congress and signed into law by President



Leonard Hall

Lyndon Johnson. But the bill had been fought by exploitive interests including the timber, mining, oil and grazing industries. When the law passed, however, public interest grew apace. Thus by the close of 1974 the Congress had passed an Eastern Wilderness Act which added 16 National Forest wilderness areas to the 110 already existing, to make a total of 12,700,000 acres in the Wilderness Preservation System. This, however, was not the end, for the Forest Service, National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service are today studying an additional 150 areas for possible inclusion. Forty states are involved in wilderness preservation, proposed areas in

Alaska would add 70,000,000 more acres, while California today boasts 12 wilderness areas with 15 more under study.

IT SHOULD COME as a shock to Missouri conservationists that our state with its magnificent wild lands was not even included in the first proposal for eastern wilderness. The explanation was that our citizens had shown no interest. This situation was soon remedied, however, when a revised draft of the law was put forward by the Subcommittee on Public Lands. This called for 18 eastern wilderness areas to be immediately established with four Missouri areas included; a number now increased to six.

Tracts selected are all located in the Ozarks. They include the 18,000 acre Irish Wilderness, 13,000 acre Glade or Hercules Wilderness, 9,000 acre Bell Mountain in Iron County, 4,000 acre Rockpile Mountain, 7,000 acre Paddy Creek and 9,000 acre Piney Creek. Every conservation force in Missouri is wholeheartedly behind the movement to

establish these areas. They include, among others, the Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, Conservation Federation, Natural Resources Department and Conservation Department.

Governor Bond has backed the proposal in the strongest terms, urging the Forest Service to maintain all the areas in their present state until final action has been taken and they are included in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Recently we have learned that for reasons impossible to understand—except that they can only be selfish ones—that a State Representative has introduced a resolution in the State Interior Committee which could delay or even prevent Congressional action on the establishment of our Missouri Wilderness Areas. This would be a tragedy for our state that can best be prevented by citizen action in urging our senators and representatives to stand firm on the inclusion of the Missouri areas in the final legislation.

GLOBAL

No Missouri Wilderness?

Missouri is anything but the most conservative-minded state, perhaps on the theory that its beautiful hills and streams have always been there and always will be. So the state has no legally-protected wilderness areas. And that is an issue now arising in both Jefferson City and Washington.

The U. S. Senate has scheduled a committee hearing April 8 to include six areas in Missouri in the national wilderness system. Under the 1964 Wilderness Act, no development or exploitation is permitted in such areas. They are kept in a natural state, unlike national forest and other federal lands.

Indeed, the six areas proposed for Missouri have been federal property for years, being in the large Mark Twain National Forest. They are the Bell Mountain wilderness in Iron County and the Rockpile Mountain wilderness nearby, about 100 miles south of St. Louis, and the Irish wilderness, Paddy Creek area, Piney Creek wilderness and Hercules Glades wilderness, all in southernmost Missouri counties.

A few days ago the Missouri House Committee on State Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources approved a resolution urging Congress to leave Missouri out of the wilderness system. Proponents of the measure, being opponents of the wilderness system, argued that this state had already "lost" 1,500,000 acres of forest land to various public programs and that the proposal to set aside another 60,000 acres as wilderness represents another attempt to take land out of production.

The issue, then, is not ownership, since the wilderness land is federal land. The issue is land use. In effect, no use would be permitted in those 60,000 acres, but they are a small part of public lands in Missouri. Furthermore, considerable land use is permitted in the way of timbering and mining in national forests.

The opponents of the wilderness system want to continue the system of usage. Opposition by lumbering firms and interested parties is understandable enough. There is also, however, a strong feeling through the Ozarks against governmental control of land, and an accompanying belief that the lands will remain well enough as they are without the need for controls.

These are the sentiments that for years kept Missouri from closing its open range, and that in the late 1960s prevented the Legislature from adopting a state system of protection for scenic rivers through easements. It was not enough to say then that land and water, forest and field, hill and valley cannot be regarded as both enduring and useful.

In the case of the new wilderness proposal, however, there is powerful support from every conservation organization in Missouri, and from the Conservation Commission and Gov. Bond. Moreover, the final decision will be made in Congress, and it was Congress that placed the Current and Jacks Fork rivers under National Park Service protection and the beautiful Eleven Point under Forest Service administration as a scenic river.

Congress now should adopt the new wilderness plan for Missouri. It would cost nothing. The five tracts amount to less than one half of one per cent of the state's remaining forest land. This state can afford to have them set aside from exploitation. It cannot afford the notion that wilderness will remain wilderness forever. What little of it is left should be guarded so that coming generations can experience a little of the natural beauty of America's fading past. — From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

St Louis
Post-Dispatch
MARCH 20, 1976

AND

ROLLA DAILY NEWS
MARCH 25, 1976

The Columbia Missourian
Columbia, Missouri
Circulation 7,192 1976

DATE

MAR. 30 1976

State House should back 134 wilderness preservation

A resolution before the Missouri House of Representatives to exclude six tracts of Missouri forest lands from inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System would leave the state with no wilderness areas. The resolution is a threat to the ecological and recreational future of Missouri.

A hearing is scheduled for April 8 in the U. S. Senate to determine whether to include these areas in the national wilderness system.

At present, Missouri has no wilderness areas. None.

The resolution before the state legislature will not be binding on the Missouri congressional delegation that will eventually vote on the matter, but the decision of the state house certainly will represent a powerful message.

The message ought to represent the thinking of state

citizens. To date, it is questionable how much input the citizenry has had on this matter. At least it is questionable compared to the input and apparent effect of the special interest groups — the Missouri Mining Council and the Forest Products Association — who are enthusiastically lobbying for passage of the exclusion resolution.

The resolution already has been approved by the House Committee on State Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources which is charged with protection of citizens' interests in environmental and recreational areas. Its approval passed the issue on to a vote by the entire House.

Preservation of this resource-rich area does not represent a threat to state tax revenues. Missouri is hard-pressed for money, but we are

not so strained that we cannot afford to grant ourselves the luxury of this minimal amount of wilderness. The total area of these forest lands is one ten-thousandth of the total acreage in the state. Turning these lands over to the logging and mining interests would be a serious injustice.

We hope Missourians will react to the threat posed by this exclusion resolution. Wilderness areas are every bit as important to the beauty and welfare of our state as areas devoted to industry. We may be robbed of these forests, however, if legislators heed only the special interests who stand to profit. Once these areas are turned over to industrial concerns it will be too late to redeem them. All Missourians stand to benefit from preservation of these unsullied wilderness lands.

West Plains Daily Quill
West Plains, Mo.
April 7, 1976

Wilderness Areas: Nature's Chance To Change Man

By Jim Cox

Hearings will begin in the U.S. Senate tomorrow on proposals to set aside several forest areas in southern Missouri as wilderness areas or wilderness study areas, including the "risky" area in Oregon County.

Missouri Gov. Christopher Bond said he favors the proposal, as do a number of conservation groups.

But the wilderness proposal, which would withdraw about two percent of Missouri's forest land from timber

Commentary

production, is opposed by Missouri House Committee on State Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources and by the lumber industry.

Many people who have been reading about the wilderness proposal may feel a little uncertain about just what a wilderness is and why it should be important to anyone. What is the difference between a wilderness and the rest of the state's forests, and what are the benefits and costs?

A wilderness, says Bill Moriarity, district ranger for the U.S. Forest Service in Willow Springs, is an unmanaged area as free as possible from human interference. Timber is not cut and sold from it, as is done in managed forests. Forestry crews perform no thinning or removal of diseased or undesirable trees.

NO SPECIAL PROVISIONS

No special provisions are made for improving wildlife habitat. No roads are built into the wilderness area, and fires are fought only with hand tools, with some lightning-caused fires allowed to burn themselves out.

Moriarity says hunting, camping, fishing and other outdoor activities are permitted in a wilderness, but all motorized traffic, including trail bikes and snowmobiles would be banned.

Allowing nature to take its course, says Moriarity, will slowly bring about a number of changes in the character of the wilderness. Eventually the wilderness will reach an "equilibrium," as the different species of plants and animals adapt to the conditions and to one another.

Since mature trees will not be harvested, as in a managed forest, the average tree will be somewhat older and larger. A younger tree under the high canopy will face more competition for sunlight until one of the older trees dies to leave it space.

NO CUTTING

With no cutting or thinning, fewer openings will occur in the forest, leaving less forage for some wildlife, although Moriarity says the wildlife in many cases will thrive on the forage available on clearings adjacent to the wilderness. Some species such as quail may decline under these conditions, while others such as beavers and coyotes may find them more suitable habitat.

To the people of Missouri, the creation of a wilderness area would mean a slight loss of revenue from the sale of timber and other raw materials. And of course those who need trail bikes or truck-mounted campers to enjoy the outdoors would have to go somewhere else.

It is no surprise then, that the wilderness proposal has had mixed response. Some see it as a threat to their vested interests, while the population in general apparently has never really thought about appreciating wilderness for its own sake.

Since earliest history, man typically has looked upon wilderness with fear, as the abode of evil spirits and robbers.

AMERICAN WILDERNESS

To our pioneer forefathers, the American wilderness—often so thick it was difficult even to walk through—was something of an enemy, to be conquered to make way for farms, roads and towns. America's vast primal forests were later seen as an inexhaustible source of countless products. Little room was left then for any romantic notions about preservation.

In 1756 John Adams wrote proudly of how much of the "useless and unsightly" frontier wilderness had been removed by fire and axe in the short time since the first settlements. Bruce Catton, in the book "Waiting For The Morning Train," reports

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

West Plains Daily Quill
West Plains, Mo.
April 7, 1976

Wilderness Areas...Nature's Chance
to Change Man (contd.)

some 100 million board feet of lumber were taken from the pine forests of northern Michigan in one 10-year period in the last century. No one seemed to even conceive then of the need for any kind of restraint or that the trees were put there for any other purpose than to be cut down.

Paul Brooks, author of the book "Road to Nowhere," suggests it has been only in the last 100 years that anyone has spoken about wilderness in any positive way. Perhaps the alarming species in which the wilderness was being removed caused many Americans to stop and think about what was happening, says Brooks. He says most of the wilderness of the United States and the rest of the world has gradually faded away without notice.

WRITERS AND POETS

A number of writers and poets from the last 100 years—Emerson, Thoreau, Longfellow, Bryant, Whitman, Muir, Leopold and others—are remembered now for their insistence that primitive nature is not an enemy but an essentially of the human spirit.

We need wilderness, they said, just as we need wood products. Both represent the diverse elements out of which a healthy society and a satisfying human existence are made. We need wilderness along with farms, towns and managed forests just as we need both freedom and order, solitude and togetherness and beauty as well as function.

Wilderness is useful for a number of things, said Aldo Leopold in his famous book "Sand County Almanac." It is a place for perpetuating the ancient skills of primitive camping and hunting, reminding "civilized man" of his origins and reaffirming his kinship to nature. This is something the motorized camper, complete with bedsheets and 600-watt generator, can never hope to understand.

Leopold also says the wilderness is needed as a laboratory for scientific study. The increased production of a managed forest is extolled, but we are kidding ourselves if we think we already know everything about plants

and animals and their complex interrelationships, Leopold said. To restore and preserve the environmental balance that is vital to our own survival, we need models of healthy ecological systems to learn from. And the only such models we have are primitive wilderness areas.

Certain species of wildlife, meaning grizzly bears, timber wolves and others, can survive only in wilderness areas, Leopold added. Some people, in their ignorance say, "So what? What are they good for anyway?"

GOAL OF CONSERVATION

The most important goal of conservation, then, is education of the American public to understand the intricacies of the "web of life" and to see that web is not maintained as well as some think in an environment totally dominated by human activities. Only then will they understand why a world that cannot support grizzlies and wolves is also less desirable for human beings, Leopold said.

But the pressure of civilization threatens to destroy a little more of the wilderness each day, as cries are heard that we "need" this area for an airport, and this area for lumber and that area for a dam. Somewhere a line has to be drawn, Leopold said. Man does not have to consume, possess or invade nature to enjoy it.

Perhaps the greatest value of a wilderness area lies in its non-usefulness. Like a living work of art, a wilderness area would be a masterpiece over which nature, not man, has the last word.

Man has been working for thousands of years to change nature, and in many ways man's changes have made nature a better place for him. Now it is time for man to give nature a place to make her own changes and see what changes it can make in him.

We might find that in a time of diminishing natural resources, many of which cannot be brought back once used, an area set aside for man's simple enjoyment only is a very useful thing indeed, even if his only use of it is just knowing it's there.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch
4-25-76

It Could Be Now Or Never

Chance To Preserve Missouri Wilderness Areas May Not Beckon Again

An Editorial In The Springfield (Mo.)
Sunday News & Leader

Oh, if you could have seen it then. If you could have seen the forest then. You'd have thought you had a forest, then.

Those words, powerful and simple, are the words of a man old and filled with memories and love of the Irish Wilderness, a man named Jimmy Simpson. When these newspapers published Jimmy Simpson's words of love for the Irish Wilderness, on March 5, 1972, the world

cut an image of the thinly settled world of shortleaf pine into which he was born in 1888 — the Irish Wilderness of south central Missouri, from which were carved Oregon, Carter and Ripley counties.

Four years later, we cannot find better words to jab the consciences which have so far neglected to include any of Missouri's vanishing wilderness in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Jimmy Simpson could never lose the world we have left behind because the trees in his memory could never be killed. We can lose this world, and we will, unless we preserve not only the Irish Wilderness, but other tracts of the Missouri that was.

The Eastern Wilderness Act approved by Congress in 1964 did not include any areas in Missouri, either for study by the Forest Service or for immediate wilderness designation. Four areas — the Hercules Glades of Taney County, the Irish Wilderness of Oregon County, Bell Mountain in Iron County, and Rockpile Mountain in Madison County — were on the bill until virtually the last minute, but fell away because of what seems to have been simple lack of interest.

We regret to tell you that neither the Glad's in Taney County nor the Irish is covered by a pending federal bill that would make wilderness study areas of Bell, Rockpile, the Paddy Creek area of Texas county, and the Piney Creek area of Barry and Stone counties.

The pending bill is sponsored by Senator Thomas Eagleton and Representative James Slayton. The bill is not enough, but it seems to be the best that can be done for now in the face of opposition from timber and mining interests, and that far more meritorious reservations of Representative Gene Taylor of Sarcoxie and landowners in and around the Hercules Glades.

What would wilderness designation mean for the protected areas? It would prohibit the presence of motorized vehicles, powerline construction, commercial timber cutting and mining, and road construction. It would allow hiking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, photography, nature study, bird watching, swimming, and controlled research. If placed under a study that could last no longer than six years, the proposed wilderness areas would have this protection during the study.

We will speak, first, to the opposition of timber and mining interests. If each of the 60,000-odd acres that make up the six areas that are apt candidates for wilderness were made "instant" wilderness today, less than one half of 1 per cent of the state's 13,000,000 acres of forest would be closed to cutting. In the case of the Glad's, a unique tract of prairie-like, treeless hillocks punctuated by uneconomic stands of timber, no one warns of economic loss to lumbering.

The only area with the smell of minerals about it is the Irish. The Irish is near the lead-rich Viburnum trend, but if lead and zinc are to be had in the Irish, the Missouri Department of Natural

Resources believes they would be found no nearer the surface than 2000 feet, a level 1000 feet below Viburnum. There is no commercial activity at present. And even if the area were to be designated only for study, mineral claims filed before 1983 would be honored.

How about that other staple issue of federal land questions, loss of revenue to county governments? The Forest Service pays counties with National Forest lands 25 per cent of the service's timber and mining income. Total loss to all affected counties, shared on the basis of their Forest Service acreage, would be \$6000 annually, estimates the Department of Natural Resources (which supports the wilderness proposals). We know of no one who disputes the department figures. And how much is \$5000? Goodness, we suspect that the citizen conservation groups behind the wilderness push would raise that much on their own if they thought it would do the job.

Representative Taylor's problem with the Hercules area seems to be his pledge that he would never support involuntary inclusion of private land within a Forest Service wilderness. This is the always volatile "in-holding" issue.

Presently, the sticking point on the Glad's — with Mr. Taylor's support, there should be no question that the area would be approved for either study or "instant" wilderness — is 40 acres of in-held land owned by two men who use it for deer-hunting. One owner lives in Buckner, Mo., the other in Indiana.

The first time around, the Hercules proposal contained 300 acres of in-held land. Reduction to 40 acres represents substantial progress. We hope the two owners can be persuaded either to accept nearby Forest Service land in trade, or to withdraw their objections to a surrounding wilderness in return for guaranteed access to the 40.

We understand Mr. Taylor's reticence, and we sympathize with it. His defense of the idea that private property rights must be accorded scrupulous respect strikes a strong chord with us. And he is correct that the Glad's is in no danger of losing its character for many years.

But many years ago, the endless forest of shortleaf pine called the Irish Wilderness was in no "immediate" danger. What is needed presently is an end to the seemingly automatic opposition from timber and mining interests, and a common recognition by the other, utterly sincere opponents that a very great thing is at stake here, an opportunity to save something precious that we must sooner or later lose forever, if we fail to act.



ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH

April 14, 1976

Wilderness Friend

An article in the April 2 issue of the *Post-Dispatch* was headlined "Missouri Agencies Oppose Eagleton's Wilderness Bill."

I would like to set the record straight. I have been in contact with the director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, James Wilson, who assured me that not only does the department support my bill, but it was issuing a press release which indicated that support. Osal Capps, state forester with the Department of Conservation, told me that my bill was "exactly what we've been working toward."

The article arose over the difference between my bill, which would include Piney and Paddy creeks and Bell and Rockpile mountains as wilderness study areas, and the department's proposal, which would add Irish Wilderness as a study area and Hercules Glades as an instant area.

A separate Senate bill does include Hercules Glades and Irish Wilderness, both of which I support with revised boundaries — the same boundaries supported by the two agencies this year. But in an attempt to get some wilderness study areas for Missouri, I introduced my bill as a compromise. It has the support of the Missouri congressmen, and therefore a better chance to pass both the Senate and the House. The congressmen do not support Hercules Glades and Irish, and would delete the areas and possibly kill the entire bill, as they did when the original Eastern Wilderness Areas Act was passed in 1975.

Not only do my efforts have the support of the state agencies, but also conservation groups such as the Sierra Club and the Conservation Federation.

Senator Thomas F. Eagleton

Washington, D.C.

The Daily Record
Lebanon, Missouri
March 10, 1976

Wilderness areas . . . reflecting Missouri character

By DENNY BOPP

Have you ever walked in the deep forest? Heard the crunching and ruffling of the leaves? Heard the crazy call of the pileated woodpecker or the gobble of the wild turkey? Many of the people of the Lebanon area are lucky. They have heard these sounds and they appreciate them. With the onslaught of houses, pavement and people these sounds are becoming harder to find. One way many of Missouri's conservationists are trying to protect the habitat in which many of the wild creatures live is through the National Wilderness Conservation System. Missouri's conservation minded people are pushing for seven areas to be included in this national system.

I was dismayed the other night to hear on the news of the United States Forest Service plan to allow timbering in the Bell Mountain, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek wilderness areas of the Mark Twain and Clark national forests. To see undoubtedly set a precedence for all of our wilderness forests lands in Missouri. Wilderness areas exist in very few places in Missouri, perhaps 10 at most. It would be a sad day for our state to lose even one of these small wilderness areas.

What is a wilderness? Where are Missouri's wilderness lands? Wilderness areas are areas which reflect the character, as near possible, of Missouri in its presentlement days. Wild areas are characterized by wide varieties of flora and fauna native to that type of environment, natural beauty inherent in that area and a lack of human encroachment such as farms, houses roads and the like. The character of a wilderness area takes one back a century or more in feeling.

The people of Lebanon and south central Missouri are particularly lucky to live where they do. They are not only close to most of Missouri's streams but also reside nearby many of the proposed wilderness areas.

One reason the timber cutting issue strikes me so hard is Lebanon's closeness to my favorite and one of the most scenic of the wilderness areas - Paddy Creek. Paddy Creek is about one hour from Lebanon. It can be reached by taking Highway 32 east from Lebanon to Highway 17 at Roby, from Roby follow 17 north and watch for the Forest Service signs. A visit to the Paddy Creek Wilderness Area will show anyone why unique areas such as these should not be raped or a few more board feet of lumber.

The other six wilderness areas in Missouri have a character all their own, which reflects the unique wilderness system for our state.

If you have ever heard the word wilderness in Missouri before now it has probably been in connection with the Irish Wilderness in Oregon County. This wilderness area of approximately 18,000 acres is located in the Mark Twain National Forest. Even though it lacks the mountainous effect that many people associate with the wilderness, one might alone in an area like this will convince anyone that it is truly a wilderness area of the first degree.

Another of Missouri's wild areas is the Hercules Wilderness Area in Taney County about 10 miles east of Forsyth. This area has a beautiful combination of the typical Oak-Hickory forest combined with glades area which promote tall grass prairie communities. This area is also referred to as the Hercules Glades Area.

Bell Mountain, one of the areas to be timbered, lies in the oldest mountain ranges in North America. This feature alone makes the area unique, but couple this with shut in type

streams typical of the St. Francois Mountains and the unique scenic vistas and the area cries for wilderness designation. Along with that designation goes the cry for protection. The Bell Mountain Wilderness which is a few miles southwest of Bellevue, Missouri contains nearly 9000 acres of Clark National Forest in Iron County.

Rockpile Mountain, currently the smallest of the areas proposed, contains only about 4000 acres. This area lies just southeast of the Bell Mountain Area. This small wilderness contains a combination of archeological, geological, botanical, and recreational aspects that make this small area worthy of inclusion in the wilderness system.

The Piney Creek Wilderness Area contains approximately 9000 acres encompassing one of the last free flowing stream

(CONT. LINED ON NEXT PAGE)



Denny Bopp of Route 1, Lebanon, graduated from Warrensburg State University in November of 1974 and began work Feb. 10 last year at Region III of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Recreation as recreational coordinator. His duties include coordinating recreational activities for eight parks in southwest Missouri, such as Bennett Spring Hillbilly Days the Governor's Cup sailing Regatta at Stockton and the 'Learn to Camp' Program out of Pomme de Terre State Park. (Staff photo)

The Daily Record
 Lebanon, Missouri
 March 10, 1976

Wilderness Areas...reflecting Missouri
 character (contd.)

watersheds in Missouri. It is located in Stone and Barry counties. Two of Piney Creek's claims to wilderness fame are the unique topography of the area and the attraction the area has for large birds. Eagles, turkeys, heron, turkey vultures and pileated woodpeckers abound in the Piney Creek wilds.

Last and not least is the Mingo Wilderness Area. This area located in Wayne and Stoddard Counties is perhaps the most unique area in Missouri. This swampland is typical of what was once very common to the boot heel area. This 8,000 acre wilderness area plus much of the surrounding land provides homes for a wide variety of wildlife.

As one can see the wilderness areas in Missouri are both unique and reflective of a well endowed wilderness system. Wilderness areas are not developed or bought, they are a product of time and "Mother Nature." Should timber be harvested from any one of these areas it could ruin the wilderness designation for that area for the better part of a century.

The controversy of national ownership of areas, whether they be national forests, parks, recreation areas, scenic rivers or wilderness areas, is age old and very deep seeded. Missouri is no stranger to this controversy. Many of these same lands were deleted from Eastern Wilderness Legislation in our state because they contained too great a percentage of private lands. Since then the plan has been revised to include very minimal parcels of private land.

It is discouraging to see a federal agency that is designed to manage national forest lands encouraging such a gross injustice as timbering in wilderness areas, particularly our own. Don't take me wrong, timber harvesting and farming must play an important role in America's future. Wood must be produced to meet growing needs. Seemingly the United States Forest Service would be the agency to handle such a delicate task of National Forest timber harvesting but I condemn the harvesting practice in wilderness areas and wilderness study areas. If the federal government allows this atrocity to occur they will be adding more wood to the controversial fire of public ownership versus private ownership of scenic lands. If the Forest Service cannot handle these wild areas with more intelligence than they are showing perhaps private citizens can control these areas better?

Bell Mountain, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek plus others have been endorsed by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Missouri Department of Conservation, for inclusion in the National Wilderness Conservation System. These two agencies are the two premier resource agencies for the State of Missouri.

On the legislative scene both Senator Thomas Eagleton and Governor Christopher Bond have written to the supervisor of national forests in Missouri, Donald L. Rollens, asking these areas be preserved and managed as wilderness by halting timber sales in these areas. Rollens refused and timber sales will undoubtedly proceed as scheduled.

The loss on any timber in Bell Mountain, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek will undoubtedly effect those areas chances for inclusion in the National Wilderness Conservation System. Acreage in all seven proposed wilderness areas in Missouri amounts to around 4 per cent of Missouri's total national forest lands. With all of the other national and private lands in Missouri many people, including myself, feel that leaving 4 per cent of national forest land wilderness is a small price to pay for something so valuable.

ALERT PUBLISHED BY THE COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
ST. LOUIS REGION APRIL, 1976

Struggle to preserve wilderness continues

The Wilderness Campaign has changed since Civil War days, but then so has the wilderness. And it will continue to do so if supporters of legislation to place certain Missouri wilderness areas within the National Wilderness System don't get their way.

Presently three aspects of the struggle are coming to their respective heads. The first concerns activities of the National Forest Service in Missouri which are detrimental to proposed wilderness areas; the second, a resolution introduced in the Missouri House which opposed proposed Missouri wilderness areas; the third, legislation introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senator Thomas Eagleton and into the House by Representative James Symington which would place certain wilderness areas (Bell Mountain, Rockpile Mountain, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek — four of the six areas recommended by the Coalition and others) into the National Wilderness System.

The first aspect was discussed by John A. Karel in the February-March 1976 issue of the *Ozark Sierran*:

We hope the Forest Service will step back briefly and review the situation: The state of Missouri has demonstrated its unmistakable majority will to protect these last Wilderness areas. Both of Missouri's resource agencies, the Conservation Commission and the Department of Natural Resources, have officially endorsed them. Our Governor and Senator has personally written in an attempt to prevent their desecration. Every Major conservation organization in the state has endorsed them. Even a group that had earlier opposed wilderness, the Sho-Me State Heritage Association, has moved much closer to approval since needed revisions were worked out.

In the face of all these realities, and in the face of our Chapter's clearly unconditional commitment, Missourians can rightfully hope that the Forest Service will voluntarily reconsider its actions, protect the wilderness, and come forward again as an open, responsible agency working **with** the people of this state for a balanced natural resource program.

The Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club has recently learned that the supervisor of the National Forests in Missouri, Donald Rollens, has flatly rejected a written request from Missouri's Governor Bond to refrain from activities, such as timber sales and road building, that would damage the wilderness values of several proposed wilderness areas. We had earlier learned that a similar request from Senator Thomas Eagleton was likewise turned down.

This action is an unexpectedly callous reaction to the sincere efforts of these political representatives. It is also a serious indication of disregard for the long enduring efforts of literally thousands of Missouri and Midwest conservationists to secure a wilderness resource and allow our state to at last participate in the National Wilderness System.

In frankness, we are reluctant to place full blame directly on Mr. Rollins or his staff. The sequence of events tends to indicate that anti-wilderness pressures are being brought to bear upon the Missouri National Forests both from higher levels in the Forest Service and from self-serving commercial timber interests. Even so, however, the Forest Service bears full legal and moral responsibility to protect the National Forests for all Americans, not just the commercial interests.

In light of the fact that current legislative wilderness proposals add up, all told, to less than 4% of National Forest lands in Missouri, the denial of administrative protection is inexcusable. Administrative protection is crucial if Congress is expected to have opportunity for thoughtful consideration of wilderness legislation.

As a result of this apparent Forest Service disregard for our Senator and Governor, the Ozark Chapter has decided to initiate an appeal process to seek a change in agency policy. When any segment of the public feels that it

has been aggrieved by a Forest Service decision, as is blatantly the case here, there are procedures set up within the agency that provides for official reconsideration of the offending action. This is the process we have begun. We are sincerely hopeful that the Forest Service will respond positively.

The Conservation Federation of Missouri recently issued the following state on the political situation in the state legislature:

In a last minute attempt to stop Missouri from ever having any areas in the State designated as "wilderness," Representative Earl Sponsler, D-Cabool, and Representative Don Hancock, D-Doniphan, in behalf of logging interests, have introduced a resolution expressing opposition to any wilderness area in Missouri or even to the study of any area for possible inclusion into the Eastern Wilderness Act.

Following a hurry-up session of the House State Parks, Recreation and Natural Resource Committee, which attracted a large number of opponents

to the resolution but also some supporters — basically lumber and other forest product people — the House Committee of which Mr. Sponsler is chairman, passed HR 110 by an 8-4 vote with one member voting present. The vote came in another hurry-up executive session when only 13 of the committee's members were present.

Thus the Committee is on record recommending to the House that the House urge Congress to oppose any consideration of the six proposed Missouri wilderness areas that conservationists have worked and fought so hard to have considered.

If adopted by the House, the committee's recommendation of opposition has no force of law but it serves as an expression of opinion on the plan to the Missouri Congressional delegation.

This all comes at a time when we are so close to victory. Congress is scheduled to consider in the near future if any of the six sites should be made or at least studies for wilderness areas. The proposal for the six areas totalling only 58,000 areas has the support and endorsement of the

Conservation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, Governor Bond, the Conservation Federation, the Coalition for the Environment, the Sierra Club and many, many, many others in Missouri.

The resolution, HR 110 now goes onto a short House Resolutions calendar and could come up for consideration at any time.

Hearings on the legislation introduced the last week of March by Eagleton and Symington will be held in the near future.



The Following is summary of the proposed areas.

Area	Acres	Location
Bell Mountain	8,533	Iron County
Rockpile Mountain	4,170	Madison County
Paddy Creek	6,888	Texas County
Hercules	12,605	Taney County
Piney Creek	8,432	Barry and Some Counties
Irish Wilderness	17,562	Oregon County
Total	58,190	

"STRUGGLES TO PRESERVE WILDERNESS (CONTINUES)
(CONTD.)"

ALERT
APRIL, 1976

ROLLA DAILY NEWS

ROLLA, Mo.

SEPT. 30, 1975

Wilderness Areas Sought

A low-key but determined effort to preserve some 70,000 acres of Missouri land in its natural state involves a sizable tract, known as Paddy Creek, south of Rolla in Texas County.

Paddy Creek includes 6,888 acres of land, most of it federally owned. It is one of six such areas in southern Missouri that promoters of the project want designated as an official Wilderness area.

Wilderness areas already exist in most states, however, Missouri has been excluded up to now because congressmen in the areas involved have not given the project their complete blessing. (Federal legislation is required for land to come under the Wilderness Act.)

Feared Too Much Limitation

Rep. Richard Ichord, D-Houston, did not favor the proposal the last time it came before Congress because he feared the

mining of lead in the Irish Wilderness Area in Oregon County might be prohibited. Rep. Bill Burlison, D-Cape Girardeau, and Rep. Gene Taylor, R-Sarcoite, were also hesitant to grant approval.

Since then though, Ichord has been assured that mining in Wilderness areas is not limited by the act and now is believed to favor the establishment of the six Wilderness areas in the state. Burlison and Taylor are also expected to go along with the project.

Why a Wilderness Area?

According to John Karel, chairman of the wilderness committee of the Ozark chapter (Missouri and Arkansas) of the Sierra Club, main promoter of the project, and a wildlife major at the University of Missouri-Columbia, wilderness areas need to be set up for several reasons. "Mainly," he told the Daily News in a

recent interview, "it is to preserve some fragment of this country as it was when our forefathers found it."

According to Karel, no commercial exploitation is permitted in a Wilderness area. There can be no reservoirs, power lines for permanent buildings built in the area. Mechanized vehicles are prohibited and harvesting of timber is not allowed. "But," Karel emphasizes, "everything that is natural — hunting, fishing, swimming and hiking — is permitted and encouraged in Wilderness areas."

Virtually all of the land proposed for Wilderness designation in Missouri is owned by the federal government. The some 70,000 acres in National Forest land of which there is some 1.3 million acres in the entire state.

Forest Service Position

Donald Rollens, supervisor of the

National Forest office in Rolla, said the Forest Service approved of four original Wilderness areas (Bell Mtn., Rockpile Mtn., Hercules and Irish — see map), but has not given its okay to Paddy Creek and Piney Creek near Cassville.

"We are in a wait and see position right now," Rollens said, and indicated that Forest Service approval is only a formality. "We endorse the concept, yet must take a closer look at the Paddy Creek and Piney Creek boundaries before giving our go-ahead for the entire project."

In addition to the Sierra Club, the Conservation Federation of Missouri and the Ozarks Society are strong supporters of the Wilderness project.

"We missed in Congress in 1974, but are hopeful we'll win designation for the six Missouri Wilderness areas in this session," Karel said.

WANTED: Wilderness in Missouri

by Don Pierce

Conservationists gained a major victory when the Wilderness Act of 1964 was passed. Under this law 9 million acres of federal land were protected and were preserved as the present day visitor and future generations may enjoy their natural beauty. In order to be included in the Wilderness System, the land had to have its primeval characteristics, no improvements and no human habitation. Since this law was signed, the amount of land designated as wilderness has increased.

However, no large tracts of land in Missouri qualified for the wilderness system because much of the state was timbered in the past (see MEA article entitled Use and Decline of Missouri Forest—1930). Since the 1964 law stated that land could only be included if "man's work is substantially unnoticeable," the amount of land that qualified for wilderness has been restored and now appear quite natural could be added to the Wilderness System.

In 1973, the Eastern Wilderness Amendment was passed which made it possible to designate new wilderness areas that were located within the timbered areas of the 10th Amendment. This law makes it possible to include land that has been on his own works have once significantly affected the landscape but where the imprint of man's work is substantially erased and generally reverted to a natural appearance. With this law, certain wild areas in Missouri could be added to the Wilderness System.

For years the Sierra Club has researched wild areas in Missouri for possible addition to the Wilderness Preservation System. They have developed specific proposals for six areas within the state. These areas are categorized as either "instant" wildernesses or wilderness study areas. Permanent wildernesses are areas that require no immediate designation; Wilderness study areas must receive interim protection "so as to maintain their presently existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System."

The Sierra Club has found two areas suitable for immediate designation and four wilderness study area classifications. The Irish Wilderness (Oregon County) is a 19,000 acre tract in Richard Ichor's congressional district. The 16,400 acre Hercules

Glades Wilderness (Taney County) lies within the congressional district of Representative Gene Taylor. Both of these areas were classified in past legislation as immediate wilderness areas. Bill Melcher (7-169) of the Missouri House of Representatives (Rock Pine Mountain area (6,400 acres in Madison County) are both considered Wilderness study areas and are located within the congressional district of Representative Bill Burlison.

All four of these proposed Missouri wilderness areas were included by the Senate. The Eastern Wilderness Bill was sent to the House in 1973. The House House Subcommittee on Public Lands, chaired by Representative John Melcher of Montana, Melcher canvassed all the congressmen from the districts where the wild areas were located. Both Missouri representatives, Melcher and Burlison, were opposed to the designation of these lands. The bill was dropped from the list of wilderness to be included in the Eastern Wilderness Bill. According to an article in the "Ozark Sierran," Ichor opposed the Wilderness designation because he felt that the permanent withdrawal of these tracts will prohibit the mining and timbering activities which have been conducted outright opposition to wilderness designation for Hercules Glades because of local opposition to private lands within the wilderness proposal. Though Representative Burlison did not express opposition to wilderness designation, he responded with indifference. Therefore, the wilderness study areas were not included in the bill.

As a consequence, all Missouri wild areas were left out of the Eastern Wilderness Bill which was passed by Congress on December 19, 1974. There are two other areas considered worthy of wilderness classification, according to John Karel, Chairman of the Sierra Club's Subcommittee-Ozark Chapter, the Fish Wilderness and the Patty Creek area in the past legislation but are worth mentioning. They are Patty Creek area (7,390 acres, Texas County, Ichor's district) and the Piney Creek area (9,000 acres, Barry County, Taylor's district).

In response to Ichor's opposition to the Irish Wilderness designation based on the fact that it should be noted that there is no actual field evidence to support this claim. Furthermore, even if there are minerals beneath the Irish Wilderness, this area has

greater value to Missourians in its unique natural condition that it would have if it were simply on more mine added to an already thriving mining industry.

In response to Taylor's opposition, it seems likely that the entire 16,000 acre area would be included because a few acres are inhabited. Amendments could be added to the original proposal which could exclude these private lands from the wilderness designation.

It is hoped that Bill Burlison will take a stronger position on the proposed wilderness designations study areas within his district. He is to be commended for his sponsorship of the Mingo Wilderness which is coming up for legislation next year.

MoFOE feels that all six of these areas should be introduced early in the next Congress. We are introducing a bill in the Missouri House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. to set on the matter; however, active grassroots support is an essential factor in spurring Congress to act effectively on wilderness proposals.

All Missouri citizens are strongly urged to write their elected officials in support of Missouri wilderness areas. Citizens in the 10th and 7th congressional districts have a special responsibility to write their congressmen, urging them to change their positions, and support the wilderness designations within their districts.

Also a letter of appreciation is in order to the U. S. Senators, Eagleton and Symington, who voted for the bill. Their letters should be sent to Representative Melcher.

A third way to get involved in the Missouri Wilderness campaign is to protect the wild areas even before they are designated for inclusion into the Wilderness Preservation System. You should organize one of the Forest Service to prevent incursions on wilderness character; (2) study and develop final boundaries; (3) conduct detailed studies for your own and the Forest Service's use; and (4) educate the public, the media, and your congressmen to the merits of wilderness status. It is your part to this issue. Let's work together to initiate the inclusion of Missouri's six wild areas into the Wilderness Preservation System.

Cape Girardeau Southeast Missouri
11/2/76

Editorials

The Missourian's Views

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. —II Corinthians 5:21.

A wilderness threat

Some of Missouri's most picturesque and unsullied areas of forest land would be subject to logging operations, including controversial clear-cutting, under a change in policy proposed by the U. S. Forest Service.

Donald L. Rollens of Rolla, National Forest supervisor, has reversed a long-standing protection policy to allow opening of four Missouri wilderness areas within the forest system to timber operations.

These are the Paddy Creek, Piney Creek, Bell Mountain and Devil's Backbone wilderness areas in the Ozarks, none very far from Cape Girardeau, and all worthy of saving as unspoiled as possible for future generations.

These are not officially designated wilderness areas by federal standards. They are, however, with the exception of Devil's Backbone, among seven rugged sections of the Ozarks, relatively unspoiled as yet by civilization, which conservationists want named as official wilderness tracts, preserved thereby from inroads of civilization.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Missouri Department of Conservation have officially endorsed Bell Mountain, Paddy Creek and Piney Creek for inclusion in wilderness legislation now before Congress.

Sen. Thomas F. Eagleton and Gov. Christopher S. Bond, recognizing citizens' efforts to preserve the integrity of these forest areas, had written Mr. Rollens urging that they remain protected until Congress has had thorough opportunity to determine if they should be given wilderness designation. The Forest Service rejected their requests.

In view of the forest supervisor's proposal for logging, the Sierra Club has

also joined in urging that he reconsider his proposal. The club asks that the Forest Service continue its previous policy of sparing these wild areas from commercial uses that would damage their unique wilderness qualities in an era when man is ever encroaching on the environment.

In its comment on the Forest Service plan, the Sierra Club observed that the acreage in all of the four areas combined adds up to less than four per cent of Missouri's nationally designated forest lands.

We join with Sen. Eagleton, Gov. Bond and the Sierra Club in urging the Forest Service to stay this order to allow logging.

There is a constant attrition on the forests that cover much of the southern part of Missouri. Anyone who flies over the area cannot but be astonished with the amount of woods being taken for roads, farms, utility lines, gas lines, homes, and pasture lands.

Our Missouri timber is one of the great natural resources of the state. At the rate we are reducing its acreage, there will be little left by the end of the next half century, and the Ozark hills will begin to look like those in other parts of the world where man has made a bleak desert out of what once were heavily timbered mountains. It must not happen.

We feel the Forest Service has an equal obligation with the people of Missouri to preserve these special and select areas. They should be allowed to stand unspoiled by saw and axe, or by chain and bulldozer.

We urge those who are concerned to write the Forest Service, their congressman and both of Missouri's senators urging that the proposal be abandoned so the lands can remain as they are.

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Editorial

Ozark Graphic
January, 1976

Forest Service Rejects Pleas To Save Wilderness

By Bill Royce

"Missouri is one of the very few states with no designated wilderness areas," says John Kernl, Chairman of the Wilderness Committee of the Sierra Club's Ozark Chapter. "America was born in the wilderness. It helped to shape this nation's character, and we hope it always remains part of our national heritage."

The American Forest Service to begin cutting trees off potential Wilderness areas in Missouri, just because the Forest Service didn't support the areas' inclusion within the Wilderness System. The Forest Service is like the actions of a spoiled pampered child than the work of an organization which professes knowledge of the public's need for beautiful forests.

And, the Forest Service flatly rejected pleas from Governor Bond and Senator Eagleton that the Forest Service re-consider their immediate timber harvest plans. Forest Service spokesmen at Rolla admit they support the possible inclusion along with Bell Mountain, Rock Pile Mountain and the Glades areas into the Congressional Wilderness System. That makes sense. But just because the Forest Service does not support the Paddy Creek, Piney Creek and Devil's Backbone areas of the Ozarks as potential Wilderness does not mean they should ignore the repeated pleas from Missourians to at least give the three areas a chance to escape the sawy's blade.

Agreed, Congress has not yet looked at the Paddy Creek, Piney Creek and Devil's Backbone areas, yet. But there is a good chance Congress might consider these areas as potential Wilderness. There

is growing support in this direction, and both the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Conservation have endorsed the wilderness designation in any future Wilderness legislation.

These facts alone should be sufficient to cause the Forest Service to not be hasty, but apparently the Forest Service has closed its ears.

Ozark Graphic was told the decision to proceed with timber harvest plans on the three areas is basically due to the fact the Forest Service doesn't think the three areas have enough Wilderness potential to suit the Forest Service's needs.

Many states in the United States are seeking out areas for Wilderness classification. They're doing this so unborn Americans might at least have a chance to observe what our country looked like when our white forefathers came on the scene. That makes sense. Many of us alive today enjoy witnessing such a vision, but we never shall. Ozark Wilderness must be established if man lets God do his work without man's interference.

Wilderness in Missouri would involve only a small percentage of land considering the acreage the Forest Service already holds in the Ozarks. Even if all four potential areas did, in fact, become Wilderness the Forest Service and the lumber industry would not starve. The



"ONE OF YOU GUYS TEAR THAT DUMB SIGN DOWN SO WE CAN GET BUSY CUTTING THESE TREES"

tourist traffic to see Wilderness could write-off any long term financial deficit.

We join with Bond and Eagleton and those far-sighted groups seeking to preserve for Americans of the future. We see the dictates of the U.S. Forest Service, from whatever level of decision, to proceed with

timber harvest plans, including clear cutting on lands of such rugged beauty is an act of unimaginable selfishness.

These lands should be permitted to remain undisturbed until the final will and opinion of our Fore Service of potential natural beauty appears deplorably inefficient.

THE SEDALIA DEMOCRAT
 SEDALIA, MO
 MARCH 28, 1976

Wilderness preservation favored

Preserving Missouri's natural wilderness areas received a favorable response from 89 per cent of the readers who answered last Sunday's Democrat-Capital Sound Off question.

They were asked: "The Missouri legislature is expected to express its view to Congress on the proposal to set aside 60,000 acres of forest in Missouri, most of it already in the national forest system, as a wilderness area, where no logging, mining or other commercial activities would be permitted. Do you favor such a plan?"

One reader who asked not to be identified wrote, "I think setting the 60,000 acres of forest aside in Missouri as a protected wilderness area is one way to replenish our forests ..."

John Drenon, 1711 West 16th, wrote, "As a life-long resident of Missouri, I am very proud of the natural beauty of my state. I realize that it is often necessary for some of this beauty to be sacrificed for the sake of our economic needs, but if we look closely at the Missouri wilderness we see it disappearing, giving way to

healthy stock of wildlife," Drenon wrote. He then added: "We should ask ourselves if we are interested in maintaining a wise balance between natural beauty and economic development. I believe that everyone who takes the time to visit some of Missouri's wilderness will feel a strong need to stop its sacrifice and maintain the balance as it stands today."

Another unidentified note said simply, "Yes. I think 'Trees' should be required reading for everyone ..."

farming, timber harvesting and developing of residential areas (not to mention that which has been covered with water by the Army Corps of Engineers).

"Of course, all of the above (especially power provided by dams) are vital necessities to our state. But I believe we are now in danger of tipping the scales too far toward economic considerations. If we continue to sacrifice our wilderness at the rate we are now, we may be seeing the last of Missouri's natural beauty, including its tree covered hills and its

Sound Off

QUESTION — The Missouri House has passed a bill that requires most communities to fluoridate their water supplies as a step to counter tooth decay. Do you favor this legislation?

Comments and signed letters are appreciated.

Name will not be used if checked here.

YES

NO

Sound Off is a regular feature of **The Democrat-Capital** in which readers may express their views on topics of current interest. Clip and return mailed to **The Democrat-Capital**, 700 South Main—Charlottesville, Sedalia, Mo., 65201.

Mining Industry Council of Missouri



Tel: (314) 635-7308 • Box 726 • 210 Monroe St. • Jefferson City, Mo. 65101

Comments of

WILLIAM E. MARBAKER II
Executive Secretary

to the

Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee

S. 3204

July 26, 1976

Mister Chairman and Members of the Committee:

As noted in our cover letter, we are deeply concerned with the issue of mineral entry on Federal lands and the effect that the legislation which is the subject of this hearing will have on it.

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 S. 3204.

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 pro-

cedures would not stimulate interest of mining companies in wilderness areas; the geology of an area would 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, S. 3204, 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 bill before the committee.



MISSOURI FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION

Suite B-43 · Baptist Building · 400 E. High · Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 · Telephone: (314) 634-3252

July 28, 1976

The Honorable Floyd K. Haskell, Chairman
Senate Environment & Land Resources Sub-Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20025

Dear Senator Haskell:

Representatives of the Missouri Forest Products Association will be unable to appear before your committee July 30th to testify on S. 3204. However, I hope the following comments will assist you and your committee when you consider the proposed legislation.

Regarding S. 3204, 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 approximately 300,000 acres (Missouri 1972 Forest Resources) of public commercial forest lands in Missouri that have been removed from forest management activities and remain undeveloped. These areas in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, State Parks, Department of Conservation Natural Areas and Corps of Engineers lands currently offer the opportunity for wilderness experiences.
2. The U. S. Forest Service has identified 125,000 acres in the "Plan for Managing the National Forests of Missouri" 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.

Representing Wood-Using Industries And Forest Landowners Throughout
The State of Missouri

2--Floyd K. Haskell--7/28/76

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."

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". Also, it is our understanding that rural water lines are located within the proposed boundaries in S. 3204 for Paddy Creek. We do not believe such an area is eligible for even "study" classification.

In addition, we understand that your committee will be asked to consider a proposal to designate approximately 12,000 acres as the "instant" Hercules Glade Wilderness which 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 redcedar. 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 redcedar has a value of two to three times the board foot value of the more common oak and hickory species. Eastern redcedar 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.

3--Floyd K. Haskell--7/28/76

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.

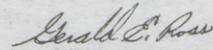
What is really being sought in the proposed legislation is a very special recreation experience by a very few people in addition to special management consideration on unique public lands. This has some merit.

OUR POINT IS SIMPLY THIS:

1. The areas proposed for Wilderness Study Classification in S. 3204 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 redcedar resource. A smaller area merits study classification to determine what the impact 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

OZARK SOCIETY,
H. R. SCHOOLCRAFT CHAPTER,
Springfield, Mo., July 30, 1976.

THE HERCULES (GLADES) WILDERNESS

A CASE FOR "INSTANT AREA" DESIGNATION

The proposed Hercules (Glades) Wilderness is an area of approximately 12,325 acres located in southwest Missouri within the Mark Twain National Forest. It is composed of a series of east-west ridges rising up to six hundred 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 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 considered for wilderness designation because of the high quality of primitive recreational experience it affords. In this report I will attempt to outline and document a few of the many reasons why "instant area" designation is warranted for the proposed Hercules (Glades) Wilderness.

1. Hercules as an "instant area" was favorably reported by the Senate Interior Committee during its consideration of the Eastern Wilderness Act in the preceding Congress. It was passed as such by the Senate (S. 3433). Later, in conference, it was deleted from this historic legislation due only to problems with boundaries and private land inholdings. These problems occasioned lengthy studies of boundary placement and resulted in a solution satisfactory to all concerned. The 12,325 acre area, as outlined in the attached map,* contains no inholdings of private land. Therefore, the one remaining barrier to its favorable consideration has been eliminated.

2. The popularity of the Hercules area and its public exposure through articles in numerous publications, has resulted in 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. Various state and federal agencies including the United States Forest Service have compiled information concerning the area's wildlife, timber value, mineral prospects, economics, and sociocultural factors. It is our contention that no further study is necessary and that Congress has sufficient information to properly consider the matter.

3. To commission further studies for the sole purpose of determining the Hercules area's wilderness potential would require an unnecessary expenditure of funds and use of manpower.

4. For the last four years there has been extensive public exposure to the proposed wilderness designation of the Hercules area. We, therefore, believe that interested individuals in the vicinity have had the opportunity of becoming informed and offer input into the legislation process.

The Hercules area has been the subject of numerous articles in the Springfield News and Leader (the newspaper with the widest regional circulation) and other local newspapers in Taney county where Hercules is located. It has also been featured in the Ozarks Mountaineer, a magazine published in Forsythe, Missouri, the county seat of Taney County.

An editorial endorsement appeared in the 1976 Easter Sunday edition of the Springfield News and Leader. Hercules received national exposure as a chapter in one of The American Wilderness series of Time-Life books, "The Ozarks". Copies of these and others along with a list of editorial endorsements are attached.*

The Ozark Society has promoted the proposal from the beginning and has informed interested groups through maps, publications and slide programs. We have provided information to concerned individuals including landowners adjacent to the area.

5. Endorsement of and support for the Hercules (Glades) Wilderness as an "instant area" has come from many quarters. The following is a list of major sources of that support: Congressman Gene Taylor, in whose district the area is located (see attachment),* Governor Christopher S. Bond along with the

*Retained in committee files.

Missouri Conservation Commission and Department of Natural Resources (see attachment),* The Conservation Federation of Missouri, Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club, Missouri Friends of the Earth, Wilderness Society, Webster Groves Nature Study Society, Coalition for the Environment, Missouri Audubon Society, Columbia Audubon Society, and others.

6. The Missouri Division of Geology and Land Survey in their report of March 23, 1976, state that there are no known metallic mineral deposits in the area and the possibility of discovering new deposits is considered unlikely. (see attachment)*

We hope this report and attached information has been of use to you. The Ozark Society strongly supports "intant area" designation. We feel that after careful consideration of these facts you will conclude that instant status for the Hercules area is necessary and warranted.

Please feel free to contact us for further information.

WILLIAM D. BATES.

* Retained in committee files.

