SRP03322

# WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM

1905-?

# HEARINGS

BEFORE THE

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

OF THE

## COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

**S. 174, H.R. 293, H.R. 299, H.R. 496, H.R. 776, H.R. 1762, H.R. 1925, H.R. 2008, and H.R. 8237**

BILLS TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM FOR THE PERMANENT GOOD OF THE WHOLE PEOPLE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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# WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1961

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*Montrose, Colo.*

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 a.m., in the Fox Theater, Hon. Gracie Pfost (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mrs. PFOST. The Subcommittee on Public Lands will be in order for the consideration of the wilderness legislation.

At this point I should like to introduce the Honorable Wayne Aspinall, the distinguished chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. We had to hold hearings yesterday and the day before without our able chairman, and we are most delighted to have him here today leading us on this particular piece of legislation.

At this time the Chair recognizes the Honorable Wayne Aspinall.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman and members of the Subcommittee on Public Lands, it is not my purpose this morning to take any more time than to just welcome you and your committee to this part of the Nation for a hearing on one of the most vital and important and yet controversial pieces of legislation on which the Subcommittee on Public Lands, as well as the full Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the House of Representatives will have the responsibility of making a decision in the coming session of the Congress.

I wish to let the people who are here attending this session of this committee this morning realize that this is a business session of a very important subcommittee operation. We are not operating this hearing here today for any other purpose than to get testimony just as quickly and as swiftly as possible.

The order that we will have will permit us to do that. The questions, necessarily, by the committee today will be short. We have a lot of work to take care of before this committee has to adjourn this afternoon. We are late starting because of weather conditions causing the late arrival of the plane in Grand Junction.

This can be a very important part of this operation, as far as the hearing on this bill is concerned, because we are right in the heart of one of the most scenic, most naturalistic, most phenomenal parts of the Nation, as well as in the area where we have many uses on public land which center in the Rocky Mountain West.

On my left I have our colleague from Montana, the Honorable Arnold Olsen, a new Member of Congress and a new member of this committee.

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On the left of the distinguished chairman of this subcommittee, we have our good friend from Colorado, Mr. Chenoweth, one of the longtime Members of the U.S. Congress and one of the longtime members of this committee.

On Mr. Chenoweth's immediate left, we have the new member from Colorado, from the Second District, Mr. Chenoweth being from the Third District, the Honorable Peter Dominick from the northeastern part of the State.

These are hardworking members of a great committee which has the responsibility of studying conservation matters of public lands and related subjects in the House of Representatives. You will find that, as your chairwoman takes over this morning, she will begin calling for witnesses, and those witnesses will make their presentation in conformity with her wishes.

Thank you very much.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

At the outset, I believe it would assist the people here if I should make the announcement that there can be no pictures taken during the session, there can be no tape recordings and no TV pictures taken. If someone desires to have a picture of a specific witness, we will be very happy to recess briefly to allow those pictures to be taken, and they can be taken in their natural setting, and then we will go right back into session again. So, for the benefit of those who have their cameras here, let us know, and we will be happy to cooperate with you.

I think, too, that I might say there have been eight bills concerning wilderness introduced in the House of Representatives. However, today, because of S. 174 having passed the Senate, we will refer to the Senate bill as passed.

Those of you who may not already have filed your statements, and have not requested time to be heard may see our consultant, Mr. Pearl, or the clerk, Mrs. Duncan, and hand your statements to them together with your name.

Also, to expedite the hearings, we shall call for two witnesses at once, make sure the statements are filed, and ask the witness waiting to be on the front row, ready to testify.

We will call first Mr. H. E. Hilliard, Jr., Conservation Council of Colorado, Inc., Denver, Colo., and will Mr. Howard N. Yates of the Colorado State Chamber of Commerce also come forward?

I understand Mr. Hilliard is not here.

Mr. PIXLER. Madam Chairman, I am to give the chamber of commerce statement, in place of Mr. Yates.

Mrs. PFOST. You may proceed, Mr. Pixler.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, before we start, I want all witnesses to understand that they are talking to the committee, they are not talking to the people in the audience. So the best place for a witness to be is right at that chair, because we are the ones that want to hear your testimony.

## STATEMENT OF ROYAL C. PIXLER, COLORADO STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, DENVER, COLO.

Mr. PIXLER. Madam Chairman and committee members, my name is Royal C. Pixler, and I am here today to speak on behalf of the Colorado State Chamber of Commerce, of which I am a member. The

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Colorado State Chamber of Commerce is broadly representative of all business and industry in this State. We have been actively interested in the "wilderness preservation" proposals since their initiation. We appreciate your arranging this hearing where there are many of the public land-use problems and for examining our situation firsthand.

We would remind you that our military strength and economic growth are dependent upon the full utilization and development of the productivity of our entire land resources through private enterprise. We urge your retention of the long-established principle of multiple use of Federal lands by many citizens instead of single purpose by a relatively few people.

We are concerned with the large acreage of forest land in the West already reserved for special uses. Eighty-seven percent of the 37 million acres of national parks and national forest wilderness-type areas is in the West—an area larger than the whole State of New York.

We urge that no further dedication of lands for such uses be approved unless careful study has determined that the social and economic benefits derived therefrom clearly exceed those possible in an unreserved multiple-use status. We feel that the burden of proof should be on those who propose these land withdrawals.

In the case of acquisition of private lands for special uses, additional injustices are entailed through the taking of individual properties. The right of a person or group of people to own property is a constitutionally guaranteed right which distinguishes this free Nation from many less fortunate ones. In the 12 public land States of the West where the Federal Government owns nearly 2 out of every 3 acres, it is hard to see justification for Federal acquisition of more land. Private land stewardship is proving itself in the public's interest by the practice of true multiple-use management, with due consideration given to recreation.

The Federal role in outdoor recreation should be one of encouragement and coordination of local recreational programs, of devedopment of techniques through research, and of better realization of the potential for accessible recreation on existing public lands. Already the State parks of America are furnishing more opportunities for the family recreationist than all of the Federal agencies combined.

The orderly, intelligent use of the public lands bringing into multiple use the resources which they possess can perfectly well be done without withholding from the nature and wildlife lovers all the vast area they could possibly be expected to use in decades ahead.

Yellowstone Park has been open for decades for thorough enjoyment of the American public. In that time what an infinitesimal percentage of visitors have ventured into the depths of the park or had any desire to do so. This being so, the present wilderness areas already in existence would appear to be fully adequate to meet the demands of the few wilderness seekers for decades to come, and preclude the need for more isolated areas.

We in Colorado read almost daily of searches being organized to bring lost hunters or victims of airplane crashes back into civilization. To say that the Nation's wilderness areas, natural monuments, and supervised national forests are shrinking alarmingly is pure emotion.

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These lost hunters and airplane passenger survivors are mighty happy to know that not too far away is a mining or supervised lumber camp with personnel willing to drop everything and go out to help.

Existing statutory and administrative framework provides for the maintenance of limited wilderness areas and is now operative and unopposed. However, extension along the lines currently proposed are contrary to the longstanding and imminently successful policy which furthers multiple use of natural resources.

We commend this committee on its interest and urge its help in protecting the shrinking productive land base of the West.

Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Pixler.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, I would like to ask the gentleman a question.

Mrs. PFOST. The chairman of the full committee, the gentleman from Colorado, is recognized.

Mr. ASPINALL. Do you, Mr. Pixler, support the idea of a wilderness program?

Mr. PIXLER. Not as this bill is drawn, sir.

Mr. ASPINALL. You read the bill?

Mr. PIXLER. Just parts of it.

Mr. ASPINALL. That is all, Madam Chairman.

Mrs. PFOST. Are there further questions?

Our next witness is Mr. Harry R. Woodward, director, Department of Game and Fish, State of Colorado, Denver, Colo. And will Mr. Miles Romney, manager of the Utah Mining Association, Salt Lake City, also come forward?

You may proceed, Mr. Woodward.

## STATEMENT OF HARRY R. WOODWARD, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH, STATE OF COLORADO, DENVER, COLO.

Mr. WOODWARD. Madam Chairman, my name is Harry Woodward, director of the Colorado Game and Fish Department.

I am appearing here today on behalf of the Colorado Department of Game and Fish and its governing board, the Colorado Game and Fish Commission, in regard to S. 174, which seeks to establish a national wilderness preservation system.

The records will show that Colorado is one of the country's leading big game hunting States. Last year, over 200,000 licensed hunters participated in our big game seasons, harvesting nearly 110,000 deer and 10,000 elk. Almost 40,000 or one-fifth of all the hunters were from States other than Colorado.

This popular form of recreation is a substantial and vital industry in our State as these hunters, together with fishermen, spent over $100 million in Colorado last year, exclusive of the fees they paid for hunting and fishing licenses.

The jewel around which our big game hunting is centered is that elusive but magnificent animal, the elk. My comments will deal primarily with the elk, its past, present, and future, in relation to the people and recreation in Colorado, for the future of the Colorado elk is involved in S. 174.

Elk historically ranged throughout the mountainous areas of Colorado. Early records indicate they were a plains animal, but study of

the records has proven that elk have always been at home in the mountains. This previous misconception no doubt arose from the fact that early explorers would observe elk on the plains and lowlands in the winter and probably failed to recognize that the herds migrated to the remote high country in the spring and summer to raise their young.

Colorado elk populations reached a low point around the turn of the century, and in 1903 the season was closed and remained so until 1929. In 1919 there were less than 1,000 animals and in 1960 we estimated the population at 50,000.

The early herds of native elk sometimes persisted in very small numbers. However, records indicate that elk are still inhabiting the same areas where they were found prior to 1900.

It is significant that rebuilding of the Colorado elk herds came at a time when the U.S. Forest Service set aside certain national forest lands to be classified as "primitive" and "wild" areas.

Most of those areas coincided with the historic elk ranges and certainly the restrictions imposed by the Forest Service have had much to do with creating ideal elk range. Grazing as permitted by the Forest Service in these areas has usually been compatible with the maintenance of our elk herd at present levels.

The following is a list of the above areas showing also the related elk range:

| Area | Date estimated | Size in acres | Historic elk range |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Maroon-Snowmass Wild Area | 1933 | 66,000 | Gunnison River. |
| 2. Mount Zirkel-Dome Park Wild Area | 1949 | 53,000 | Elk River (Routt County). |
| 3. West Elk Wild Area | 1932 | 62,000 | Upper Rio Grande River. |
| 4. Flattops Primitive Area | 1932 | 118,000 | White River Plateau. |
| 5. San Juan Primitive Area | 1932 | 240,000 | San Juan River. |
| 6. Gore Range-Eagle Nest Primitive Area | 1941 | 61,000 | Middle Park. |
| 7. La Garita-Sheep Mountain Primitive Area | 1931 | 38,000 | Saguache Creek. |
| 8. Uncompahgre Primitive Area | 1932 | 53,000 | Dolores River. |
| 9. Upper Rio Grande Primitive Area | 1932 | 57,000 | Upper Rio Grande River. |
| 10. Wilson Mountains Primitive Area | 1932 | 27,000 | Dolores River. |

NOTE.—In addition, Rocky Mountain National Park has been the historic home of the Estes Park elk herd.

It is interesting to note that the Mount Evans elk herd, which has not had the advantage of this type of protection, is dwindling, quite obviously because civilization, together with its network of roads, summer homes, jeeps, and now the tote goats, has encroached upon this favorite elk range.

These particular areas listed above still support Colorado's largest elk herds, and records indicate that 97 percent of the elk harvested are reared in these high mountain areas. It is obvious that natural factors of isolation in these more or less roadless areas, combined with ample cover and food, give elk the environment which is essential during the period when they are rearing their young and preparing themselves for the winter ahead.

We are told that our national population may reach 380 million by the year 2000, and Coloradans are sharply aware that our growth rate was nearly double the national average during the last 10 years.

We are searching anxiously for the means with which to preserve our present level of big game hunting for future generations. How much area must be reserved as "roadless"? What steps should be

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taken to curtail the indiscriminate driving of jeeps, tote goats, and contraptions yet to be invented all over our Colorado mountains? How far up on the headwaters of our streams should we permit urbanization? These and many other questions will need to be answered and it appears that S. 174 may be a vehicle by which some very vital solutions may be found.

Except for the requirements of national security and the public welfare, we do not favor modifying the isolation status of the present primitive and wild areas administered by the Forest Service unless such modifications are to be of benefit to our elk herds. We are, at the same time, aware that these areas were established and are operated by executive orders of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Chief of the Forest Service and that they could be modified or abolished in the same manner.

This statement is restricted to consideration of the preservation of the Colorado elk herd.

In a letter dated February 24, 1961, to the Honorable Clinton Anderson, chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, the Governor of Colorado expressed support for the passage of S. 174 by the Congress, contingent upon certain suggested modifications in the proposed legislation. As enacted by the Senate, S. 174 incorporated some but not all of these suggested amendments.

The letter, containing the modifications, is attached to and made a part of this statement.

Because we want Colorado to continue to be an important big game hunting State, we believe—

That we need permanence in our big game hunting industry in the face of a rapidly increasing human population;

That permanent status for existing primitive and wild areas is highly desirable;

That Congress should have responsibility for these areas which are now subject to administrative decision;

That the activities of recreationists who use Colorado's natural physical assets should be regulated for the best interests of our big game herds and to preserve these assets for future generations;

That this proposed legislation has gone through several years of evolution and amendment and has been thoroughly scrutinized by the elements of government and industry;

Therefore, subject to the modifications proposed by the Governor of Colorado, we strongly maintain the position that it would be more beneficial to and in the long-range interests of the people of Colorado for S. 174 to be enacted into law than to continue the policy of establishment and possible abolishment of primitive and wild areas by administrative orders.

Mrs. PROST. Without objection, the letter referred to by Mr. Woodward will be made a part of the record at this point.

(The letter submitted by Mr. Woodward follows:)

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,
*Denver, Colo., February 24, 1961.*

Hon. CLINTON ANDERSON,
*U.S. Senator from New Mexico,*
*Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR ANDERSON: I have reviewed S. 174 which you have sponsored to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System, and we find this proposed

legislation less objectional to the interests of Colorado than was S. 1123, introduced in the 86th Congress. I should like to suggest that some provisions of the amendments (in the nature of a substitute) to S. 1123 be included in S. 174.

By enactment of S. 174, the Congress will establish the principal portion of the wilderness system: namely, the wilderness, wild, and canoe areas now in the national forests. The Congress, by specific legislation, should authorize the inclusion of those primitive areas, or portions thereof, that are found to be suitable for identification as a part of the wilderness system, rather than by Presidential designation and congressional approval. Section 3(h) provides for congressional authorization by law of any additions to any area or elimination of areas from the wilderness system which are not provided for in this act. I sincerely believe it far preferable to have all new wilderness areas and additions to or elimination from the wilderness system authorized by the Congress.

The provisions of S. 174 are good in requiring the Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary of the Interior to study and report on areas considered suitable for inclusion in the wilderness system. In addition, however, I sincerely believe that no wild or primitive areas should be designated within the boundaries of any sovereign State or States without the prior and express review and approval of the Governor or Governors of the State or States involved.

Similarly, recommendations contained in the report should be submitted for comment to the interested Federal agencies not within the jurisdiction or responsibility of either the Secretaries of Interior or Agriculture. Such agencies would include, but not be restricted to, the Federal Power Commission, Rural Electrification Administration, Federal Communications Commission, and the Interstate Commerce Commission. These Federal agencies would make a determination of any projected conflict of use or restriction upon their proposed projects or programs. Following such review by both the States and interested Federal agencies, then, the Congress would have a complete set of reports with full recommendations on which to base their appropriate action.

Provisions for public hearings, as provided in the bill, are inadequate. Before any wild or primitive areas, or portion thereof, are recommended for inclusion in the wilderness system, the findings of public hearings on such proposals should be incorporated in the report of the Secretary or the independent Federal agency having jurisdiction. Public hearings should also be held before any recommendations are made by any modification of the boundaries of an existing wilderness area. The records of these hearings also should be submitted to the Governor or Governors of the State or States involved for their guidance.

Where States, for the benefit of its counties, have been receiving revenues from existing wilderness, wild, and primitive areas in the national forests, the continuance of these revenues should be guaranteed. The loss of such revenues could be of serious consequence to many mountainous counties that have limited sources of revenue.

To the special uses which the President may authorize, per section 6(c)(2), I recommend the following uses be added: the construction of powerlines, communication lines, and pipelines for the transmission of fuels.

The bill implies that hunting and fishing will be permitted in wilderness areas. For the proper management of wildlife and fish resources, I urge that specific authorization for hunting and fishing be provided in those areas where such recreational activities are now permitted.

Should your committee desire further expansion or clarification of the recommendations I have set forth, I trust you will not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

STEVE MCNICHOLS,
*Governor of Colorado.*

Mrs. PROST. Thank you very much, Mr. Woodward.

Are there questions of Mr. Woodward?

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, if no one else has a question, I do.

Mr. Woodward, this is a good statement, but I wonder what your position is on whether or not the Congress of the United States should abdicate its authority to the President of the United Staes in proposing and passing on, first, the authority for establishing wilderness areas, or whether Congress should maintain its position and should

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take affirmative action rather than to negate the action of the President?

Mr. WOODWARD. We feel that Congress should take this responsibility.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Mrs. PFOST. Thanks again.

Mr. WOODWARD. Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Mr. Romney, you may take the stand.

Will Mr. George E. Weaver of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts, of Fort Collins, come forward?

You may proceed, Mr. Romney.

## STATEMENT OF MILES ROMNEY, MANAGER, UTAH MINING ASSOCIATION, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Mr. ROMNEY. Madam Chairman and members of the committee, I am Miles P. Romney, manager of the Utah Mining Association for the past 10 years and an active participant in mineral exploration and operations for some 15 years previous to my present position.

I have been asked by the chamber of commerce to express their disapproval of the wilderness in its present form to this committee.

The basic interest of the mining industry in S. 174 relates to traditional availability of the public lands in Western States for the finding and mining of minerals. In recent years, there has been a trend toward restricting and prohibiting the established uses of the public lands for legitimate mining activities. Wilderness legislation, up to and including S. 174 as now being considered, is but one facet of that trend. As wilderness legislation is the sole interest of this hearing, our comments will be confined to it.

S. 174 would adversely affect mining in several ways, including—

(1) Loss of the right to conduct prospecting and exploration operations on lands that would be included in the wilderness system which are now open to mining locations. These lands are hereinafter referred to as "wilderness system lands."

(2) Loss of the right to make claim locations on wilderness system lands.

Wilderness system lands have not been evaluated systematically for their mineral resources. A number of areas of important mineralization are included within these lands and most of them are, by their nature, favorable geologically for metalliferous mineral deposits.

Proponents of S. 174 claim that "every present private right in the areas affected is preserved under the bill." This is not true. The present laws permit location of mining claims on national forest lands, regardless of their higher classified status as wilderness, wild, primitive, or canoe. There are about 15 million acres of these higher classified lands in the national forests, located principally in the Western States, and the existing private right to locate mining claims on this vast area would be denied by passage of the bill.

It is true that prospecting methods on these lands are now materially restricted; however, the basic right of location, provided in the original National Forest Act, is continued. The restrictions stem from regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture and they are subject to control of the Congress. The mining industry would much prefer such authority to be vested in the Congress than in the President.

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Under S. 174 there would be no real right to conduct prospecting and exploration operations on wilderness system lands. Proponents refer to the provision stating that nothing in the act shall be construed to prevent, within national forest and public domain areas included in the wilderness system, prospecting, for the purpose of gathering information about minerals, or to prevent the completely subsurface use of such areas. This provision is qualified by the following limiting statement:

> * * * if such activity or subsurface use is carried on in a manner which is not incompatible with the preservation of the wilderness environment.

Prospecting an area to be maintained "untrammeled by man, where man is a visitor who does not remain" could be done only with simple handtools—a prospecting method outmoded when the burro and the gold pan gave way to modern exploration equipment and techniques. Under S. 174, motorized access is out; helicopters, motorized geophysical equipment, or drills could not be used.

Granting the extreme possibility that a valuable and workable deposit is found by sample pick and sample sack prospecting, the discoverer could not protect his interest through location of mining claims. Proponents cite the provision of S. 174 under which the President may, within a specified area, authorize prospecting and mining. No one with mining experience believes that this provision will permit any appreciable mining activity in wilderness system lands.

As previously mentioned, there is no real right to explore, and no way to make a case which would support a request for Presidential authority. In the rare case of the discovery of a valuable and workable deposit, it is highly improbable that the President would overrule the wilderness lobbies and authorize the cutting of roads, construction of buildings, and sinking of shafts necessary to conduct a mining operation.

Present laws and regulations are far more conducive to determining the mineral potential and the recovery of mineral wealth from wilderness system lands than would S. 174 because: first, they permit prospecting and exploration subject to regulations, which the Congress can control; and, second, the reward which should come with discovery of a valuable mineral deposit can be protected by mining locations.

The Utah Mining Association recommends and urges that final consideration of wilderness legislation by the House Interior Committee be deferred until the report of the Outdoor Recreational Review Commission is available and can be fully studied. It seems illogical that the Congress should take action on such an important matter as wilderness legislation without first knowing the results of a closely related study in which their concern was so deep that they passed an act, Public Law 85-470, establishing the Commission, and approved an appropriation of $2 million to enable the Commission to assemble basic information on future outdoor recreational needs.

In this recommendation, we respectfully cite section 7 of that act which clearly outlines the objectives of the Congress in the instructions given to the Commission. That section reads:

> The Commission shall recognize that lands, waters, forests, rangelands, wet lands, wildlife, and such other natural resources that serve economic purposes

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also serve to varying degrees and for varying uses outdoor recreation purposes, and that sound planning of resource utilization for the full future welfare of the Nation must include coordination and integration of all such multiple uses.

We understand the Commission's report will be available early in 1962. In making this recommendation, we are fully aware that every parcel of land the act proposes for inclusion in the wilderness system is now under the control of administration agencies, and, to our best knowledge, those lands are being, and will continue to be, adequately protected with respect to their future use and enjoyment as wilderness. There will be no loss in their intrinsic wilderness value during such time as the Congress should take to fully consider the information it has requested from the Commission.

We, therefore, recommend and strongly urge that the committee, in any consideration of S. 174, amend the bill to provide—

1. That existing mining rights in public domain lands, which are proposed for inclusion in the wilderness system, be continued.
2. That a majority vote of both Houses of the Congress be required for the inclusion of lands in the wilderness system. Such affirmative action by the Congress is now required for designating lands as national parks or national monuments and we see no reason why, in the public interest, the Congress should not retain such responsibility and authority for any lands to be set aside for restricted use purposes.

Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Romney.

The gentleman from Colorado, Judge Chenoweth.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Do I understand, Mr. Romney, that if we adopted your two suggestions, this would remove the objections of the mining people generally to this type of legislation?

Mr. ROMNEY. Rather largely, sir. There are some other minor problems, but those are the two principal objections of the mining industry.

Mr. CHENOWETH. If we permitted prospecting, and provided for an affirmative vote of Congress before wilderness areas were established, that would largely remove your objections?

Mr. ROMNEY. That is right.

There is one thing I might comment on for just a minute. The proponents of the wilderness bill, as passed, are claiming the executive powers are restricted and the congressional powers enhanced in the present bill.

We have read the bill very carefully, and we cannot find support for that contention.

If it is in order, Madam Chairman, I would like to ask the opportunity of submitting a very brief supplemental statement on that particular point.

Mrs. PFOST. Without objection, it is so ordered, and the statement will be made a part of the record at this point.

(Supplemental statement of Mr. Romney is as follows:)

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT BY MILES P. ROMNEY, MANAGER, UTAH MINING ASSOCIATION, ON S. 174, WILDERNESS BILL

Proponents of this legislation have stated that:

"The bill takes away from the President and the Secretary of Agriculture authority they have had since the early 1900's to designate wilderness areas by

Executive order. After the provisions of this bill are carried out, new wilderness areas can be created only by act of Congress." (Report to Utah from the office of U.S. Senator Frank E. Moss, Washington, D.C., September 1961.)

We appreciate the fact that the bill as passed by the Senate would incorporate in the wilderness system only those wilderness, wild, primitive, or canoe areas of the national forests so classified on the effective date of the act. Also, we recognize that section 3(h) of the bill provides:

"The addition of any area to * * * the wilderness system which is not specifically provided for under the provisions of this Act shall be made only after specific affirmative authorization by law for such addition * * *."

However, in our opinion, this provision would not terminate the Secretary of Agriculture's authority to designate new wilderness, wild, primitive, or canoe areas, nor would any other provision in the bill terminate this authority.

Regulation U-1 by the Secretary of Agriculture reads in part as follows:

"Upon recommendation of the Chief, Forest Service, national forest land * * * may be designated by the Secretary (of Agriculture) as 'wilderness' areas * * *."

Regulation L-20 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to designate primitive areas. Other regulations permit him to designate wild and canoe areas. We understand that such areas could not be included in the wilderness system without specific affirmative authorization by law, and that the lands could be used only in accordance with applicable regulations, such as those which now prevail with respect to use of lands within areas designated wilderness, wild, primitive, or canoe.

The point is that the bill would substantially restrict to a single-purpose use national forest lands classified, on the effective date of the act, as wilderness, wild, primitive, or canoe and the door would still remain open, through further designations of such areas by the Secretary of Agriculture, for continued reduction in public domain lands available for economic use by western citizens, communities, and States.

If the proponents of this legislation disagree with the conclusions herein expressed, they should have no objections to the inclusion in the bill of a provision which would expressly specify that neither the President, nor the Secretary of Agriculture, nor the head of any other department or agency shall have any authority to withdraw, classify, or set aside any area as a wilderness, wild, primitive, or canoe area, or to otherwise restrict the use of any area for the purpose of preserving its wilderness character, other than as such authority may be expressly provided for in this bill.

Mr. OLSEN. Madam Chairman, I have one question.

Mrs. PFOST. The gentleman from Montana is recognized.

Mr. OLSEN. Do you contend, Mr. Romney, that the miners should obtain an absolute property right by discovery of mineral values?

Mr. ROMNEY. Under the present mining law, the location of a claim, and a claim which is validated by a discovery does give the miner a property right. We advocate continuing that right as it exists under the present mining laws of 1872.

Mr. OLSEN. Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. The gentleman from Colorado, Mr. Dominick.

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. Romney, if we should put in a preservation of the right of the mining interest in this, should we also, do you feel, have to put in a preservation of the right of the timbering interests?

Mr. ROMNEY. I am not too familiar with the regulations which control the timbering in these areas. I think it would be a little difficult for me to answer intelligently on that specific point. I would like to see all the rights wherein the economics of the Western States are vitally concerned protected as fully as is consistently possible to do so.

Mr. DOMINICK. What about the grazing rights we now have?

Mr. ROMNEY. I think I will have to answer in the same way. I am not fully familiar with the regulations that govern it. I would like to call your attention that the continuing prospecting rights that we

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are asking for, as they presently exist in the wilderness and primitive areas are materially restricted by regulations, and we are not protesting those regulations at the present time.

Mr. DOMINICK. I understand that. Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Mr. Romney, do you have any operating mines in the area in Utah that would be included in the wilderness legislation?

Mr. ROMNEY. No.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman?

Mrs. PFOST. The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. ASPINALL. Do you know of any mining operations of recent years, economically feasible mining operations of recent years, that have been located within the presently established primitive or wilderness areas?

Mr. ROMNEY. I would not attempt to answer that outside of my own State, Congressman. I will say very frankly that in the Uintah Primitive Area of Utah, it is probably a very low potential area. We have put ourselves on record to this fact, so far as that primitive area in Utah. But to abandon the principle, we do not propose to abandon the principle because of our particular situation. We are interested in the principle of protecting the potentiality involved.

Mrs. PFOST. One other thing, Mr. Romney, you made reference to the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission report, which is due to be reported to Congress on January 31, 1962. Bear in mind that the Congress goes into session January 10, and, this committee will have access to the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review report before final action will be taken on this legislation.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, may I speak just a moment?

Mrs. PFOST. The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. ASPINALL. The gentlewoman who is chairman of this subcommittee is one of the outstanding members of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, and I am sure it will not take us very long, after that report comes out, to know what is in the report relative to this particular matter.

Also, I think I can safely advise you and anybody else who wishes to talk about that, Mr. Romney, that this bill is not likely to be acted upon until later on in the session.

Mrs. PFOST. I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

Our next witness is Mr. George E. Weaver, Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mrs. PFOST. Back on the record.

Mr. Weaver, you may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF GEORGE E. WEAVER, COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, FORT COLLINS, COLO.

Mr. WEAVER. Madam Chairman and members of the committee, I am George E. Weaver, of Fort Collins, Colo., president of the Fort Collins Soil Conservation District and chairman of the Public Lands Committee of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

On behalf of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts, I wish to testify on the pending wilderness legislation, S. 174,

87th Congress, 1st session, and to file the following statement with this committee.

The policy position of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts is reflected in the following resolution passed at its last annual convention held in Memphis, Tenn., in February 1961:

The NASCD, in view of the rapidly expanding population of the Nation, recognizes the need for allocating areas of public lands to parks, defense, recreational, wilderness, and other noncommercial purposes. At the same time, we take the position that each and every allocation of public land to such specialized single-purpose use be made only after thorough study and justification; that any allocation of public lands transferred from multiple to restricted use be made only after a complete inventory of all resources of the area involved—which sets forth their essential uses (and distinct resource value); that these uses be cataloged in accordance with the present and potential needs; and further, that we oppose vigorously all indiscriminate, unselective, and excessive allocations beyond the demonstrated, justified needs for the purposes indicated. Moreover, we strongly urge adequate provision for access roads, fire protection, watershed protection, and water production on all lands retired f multiple to restricted use.

The Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts strongly supports the above-quoted views. In our judgment, S. 174, 87th Congress, would allocate excessive areas of public lands into a wilderness system far beyond the demonstrated need and on a nonselective basis. With regard to the provisions of S. 174, section 3(f), we firmly believe that the inclusion of primitive areas should be made only by affirmative action of the Congress, and that such action should be taken only after a complete inventory of the resources of the area has been made a matter of record.

We who actively participate in the program of soil and water conservation districts are greatly concerned that the future economic growth of the Rocky Mountain west will be seriously retarded unless positive action is taken to develop our water resources. It is my opinion that high altitude storage of quality water is part of the solution.

The provisions of S. 174, section 6(c)2, while apparently providing a means of doing this, are in my judgment too cumbersome, time consuming, and uncertain a method to satisfy the need for the many small structures, in many locations, if we are to provide the water supplies necessary for the future growth of the West.

While it is my wish that no congressional action be taken to establish a national wilderness system until there has been a complete appraisal of the mineral, timber, water, and mass recreational resources of each proposed area and that such inventory of resources be made available to the government of the State within whose borders it is proposed to establish "wilderness." If the Congress proposes to act favorably on such legislation, I believe certain deficiencies in S. 174 would be corrected by the following changes:

1. Section 3(f) be amended to provide that additions to the wilderness system including the permanent classification of present primitive areas be made only as a result of positive affirmative action by the Congress.

2. Section 3(b)(1) be amended to read as follows:

Following enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall, within fifteen years, (*a*) make a complete inventory of all resources within each primitive area in the national forests, (*b*) list the essential character and uses of

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these resources, (c) evaluate the importance of such uses in serving present and potential interests of the United States and the people thereof, and (d) proceed with such additional review, in accordance with paragraph C, section 251.20 of the Code of Federal Regulations, title 36, effective January 1, 1959, as will determine the suitability or lack of suitability of each primitive area to be administered as a multiple-use area or to be preserved as wilderness. He shall publish his findings and report them to the President.

3. Section 6(c)(1) be changed to read:

In addition, such measures shall be taken as are necessary in the control of fire, insects, and diseases, subject to such conditions as specified by the Secretary of Agriculture. Further, upon the determination by the Secretary that manipulation of the watershed cover in a specific wilderness area would contribute substantially to water production and better serve the interests of the United States and the people thereof, he shall direct such manipulation and provide for the establishment of such reservoirs, water conservation, and water-producing measures as he deems beneficial.

I shall appreciate the consideration of these suggestions by the committee.

It is my own opinion that, if any legislation is in order at this time, the Congress should act for the administrative agencies of our public land areas to proceed with the inventory of all the resources.

Referring back again to S. 174, the language there directs the Secretaries of the two departments involved to report on the suitableness of an area as wilderness. In my judgment, it is much more important they pass on the suitability of these areas for all the uses to which such land might be adapted.

Then it would be time to start the creation of a wilderness system. Certainly many of the areas in the wilderness system today would meet those standards and would remain in the system. But there may be other areas where there are other resources of greater value.

We in Colorado feel that water is going to be a critical commodity in a very short time. We feel that high-altitude storage, where we can preserve the quality of our water is an imperative thing. And some of the wild areas in our State do afford themselves to high-altitude storage. When you go into that sort of a program it is necessary that you have roads and that you can move in heavy equipment.

So we feel that this legislation needs, first, to have an inventory of the resources involved and not just whether or not it is suitable for a wilderness.

Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Weaver.

Are there questions?

Mr. DOMINICK. I want to compliment Mr. Weaver on his statement, and ask him his position on this point: Is the bill as now written, such that you feel the water rights of existing soil and conservation districts would be jeopardized?

Mr. WEAVER. Districts, as such, have no water rights.

Mr. DOMINICK. The water that comes into them.

Mr. WEAVER. Individuals do. But in the development of water resources, I am sure that under this legislation the Bureau of Reclamation for some big multimillion-dollar project could work through the President and get an OK to go ahead.

As you know, in the Second District of Colorado, much of our irrigated agriculture was developed by private enterprise. People with a few thousand dollars went into the mountains and made diversions and reservoirs and built it up into a considerable system.

There is still an opportunity to do this in other areas. We have pretty well done it in our district. There are other areas that certainly have that opportunity.

But too much of that is going in here, where you do not even have the opportunity of moving in with modern equipment to do the exploration work and see what is feasible and what is not feasible.

Mr. ASPINALL. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DOMINICK. Certainly.

Mr. ASPINALL. Do you know of any instance, Mr. Weaver, where the present situation has been injurious to your operation?

Mr. WEAVER. Yes. In one area on the Routt—I do not believe I know the name. I believe it is Dome Peak or Mount Zirkel Wild Area, where, under State law, several years ago, a group of ranchers went in and filed on a reservoir site and intended to develop the water they needed for the late season. Their particular ranches were on these streams with the heavy spring runoff, but practically dry late in the season. They wanted to go in and develop this reservoir.

In the meantime, it went into one of these so-called wilderness areas. After they had cleared all the hurdles with the State engineer and others, to file on the water and get a permit to build the reservoir, according to certain specifications, they were denied the right to move in with equipment.

There was another case over in the San Juan area, where, many, many years ago, a diversion had been made from one of the tributaries of the San Juan over into the San Luis Valley. A few years ago they wanted to go in and repair their ditch system, and the forest official refused them the right to move mechanized equipment in. They said they could do it with a horse and scraper.

Mr. ASPINALL. Of course, what you are saying is that under the present procedures, which is not statutory at all, you have this same difficulty as you might have under the statutory procedure. If the committee should see fit to put in some protective provision and yet give this a statutory status that the sponsors of this legislation would like to have, you might be in a better position than you are at the present time.

Mr. WEAVER. I think so. I think the present system needs review.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you very much, Mr. Weaver.

Is Mr. W. J. Hoffmann here?

And will Mr. Thomas L. Cavanaugh please come forward to conserve time?

You may proceed, Mr. Hoffmann.

## STATEMENT OF W. J. HOFFMANN, CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE, COLORADO STATE WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION, MONTROSE, COLO.

Mr. HOFFMANN. My name is William Hoffmann. I represent the Colorado State Wool Growers Association, Denver, Colo. I am now chairman of the public lands committee of that association. I wish to speak in their behalf.

This statement is presented in behalf of the Colorado State Wool Growers Association, which is the representative sheep industry organization for the State of Colorado, comprised of approximately

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1,000 sheepgrowers owning the major portion of sheep produced in the State of Colorado.

The statement is in opposition to the proposed wilderness legislation in general, because we feel that there is at the present time sufficient authority vested in the appropriate departments of our Federal Government to set aside wild, primitive, and wilderness areas for the permanent good of the whole people and for other purposes.

We are for the principle of multiple use, which has been the prime mover in the development of the West. The locking up of vast areas for essentially a single-use purpose will hamper and no doubt curtail this development for which we have not had a greater need in any other time in the history of our country.

Turning now to the specific legislation passed by the U.S. Senate, Senate bill 174, 87th Congress, we are opposed to this legislation because of its failure to provide the proper checks and balances in the setting aside of millions of acres of the public's property.

First, it fails to provide for positive congressional scrutiny of acts affecting millions of acres of public property. Instead it approaches Congress in a negative manner. Senator Gordon Allott, Colorado, presented an amendment which was defeated, but which is crucially important to make this wilderness legislation acceptable. It should be required that no area be created as an established area of wilderness without a specific act of Congress.

Secondly, the bill contains a section wherein a Presidential Land Use Commission is established for those States with over 90 percent of federally owned land. This section presents excellent logic in that we should study these areas as to their best use for the good of the people, but the bill should provide that every State with over 25 percent of federally owned land should have a Land Use Commission to study the federally owned land and recommend to the appropriate Secretary as to how the land can be utilized, developed, protected, and preserved.

Also we feel there is sufficient wilderness area now today supervised by the Forest Service without adding more.

I would like to add that the reason we feel that, I have in my hand a publication by the Forest Service entitled "Wilderness," published in June 1961, of this year. It states there are now 14.5 million acres of wilderness-type areas in the United States, in 14 States, in 83 separate tracts.

We understand that this committee is here today because we are close to wilderness-type areas, and wilderness-type country. Thirty miles to the south of us here we have the Uncompahgre Primitive Area, which is 1 of the 83 tracts. It is 30 miles to the south of us, and it is surrounding the town of Ouray, and there is a U.S. Highway No. 550 passing through this primitive area, which consists of 53,000 acres.

This is U.S. Highway 550, known as the Million-Dollar Highway. It is well traveled by many thousands of people every year.

Taking official Forest Service records from the supervisor's office in Delta, we find last year in 53,000 acres of primitive area they had 600 estimated visitors.

On the Uncompahgre National Forest, of which this primitive area is a part, there were 138,000 visitors and 600 took the time to visit the primitive area; less than one-half of 1 percent.

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It is our contention the basic issue today is not that we should not have this wilderness area, but what limit should be set on it. Our feeling is, if that kind of use is now made of the present primitive areas, let's hold the 14.5 million acres, managed by the Forest Service since 1932, in this case, according to the records, as free as ever for all of our progeny.

Therefore, our point is: Let's hold the wilderness to this amount of area and not go and possibly take in the 65 million acres we have heard quoted that could fall under this bill.

Lastly, the legislation should provide and require that the affected agencies of the Federal Government, administered by men who are highly trained in the proper land use, should present their independent recommendations on proposals to establish areas of wilderness.

If it is necessary to have any wilderness legislation at all, it is of the utmost importance that the above points be included in the legislation. This will insure that the will of the people through their elected Representatives will not be forsaken, and that their property, the public lands, will be so administered so that the permanent good of the whole people will be served.

Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Hoffmann.

Are there questions?

Mr. ASPINALL. I have a question, Madam Chairman.

As I understand your statement, Mr. Hoffmann, you would be willing to continue the present status of the primitive and wild areas by statutory authority; but, if there were to be any new ones, then they should be surveyed in the beginning and an affirmative action taken by Congress. Is that correct?

Mr. HOFFMANN. Yes, sir; very definitely.

Mr. ASPINALL. Of course, the witness just before you had some objections to the present procedures relative to the management of existing wild areas. I would like to read into the record at this point that in Colorado we have four primitive areas, and they have been reclassified over the years and designated as "wild" with a greater restriction on usage.

When these proposed changes were announced by the Forest Service, there were no substantial objections at all. So little, in fact, that if any objection was heard, the Department did not hold hearings on these proposals.

These areas and the dates of reclassification were: 1949, for the Mount Zirkel-Dome Park Area; 1953 for the Rawah Wild Area; 1956 for the Maroon-Snowmass Primitive Area, which was redesignated as the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wild Area; in 1957, the West Elk Wild Area.

In other words, you would say, Mr. Hoffmann, that perhaps there is a need for some kind of statutory provision so that we know exactly what we are doing, rather than to proceed as we have been doing in the past?

Mr. HOFFMANN. Yes, sir; I would say so. And statutory provisions that grazing, as it now stands in the areas, continue. Yes, sir.

Mr. ASPINALL That is all.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Hoffmann.

Mr. HOFFMANN. Thank you.

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Mrs. PROST. Our next witness is Mr. Thomas L. Cavanaugh.

And will Mr. Lloyd Eichler come forward, and then Mr. Ray E. Gilbert will be next.

## STATEMENT OF THOMAS L. CAVANAUGH, PUBLISHER, WESTERN SLOPE ADVERTISER, GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.

Mr. CAVANAUGH. Madam Chairman, I am from the Western Slope Advertiser. We primarily represent the hunting and fishing in Colorado, and in our own area, and we are for a wilderness bill, if this bill provides for hunting and fishing in national forests, national monuments, and national parks. If it does not contain this, then we are against it. But primarily our hunting and fishing is our livelihood.

Mr. ASPINALL. Do you have a statement?

Mr. CAVANAUGH. I do not have a copy of it; no, sir. As far as I am concerned, if the hunting and fishing is included in the bill, then we are for it.

Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Mr. Cavanaugh.

Are there questions?

Mr. Lloyd Eichler. You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF LLOYD EICHLER, EAGLE, COLO., MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COLORADO FARM BUREAU

Mr. EICHLER. Madam Chairman and members of the committee, the Colorado Farm Bureau welcomes the opportunity to come before this committee with our views relating to wilderness areas and proposed legislation relating thereto; specifically S. 174, as passed by the Senate during the recent session of Congress.

My name is Lloyd Eichler, of Eagle, Colo., member of the board of directors of Colorado Farm Bureau, which represents 14,229 farm and ranch families in Colorado.

Colorado Farm Bureau does not oppose the creation of wilderness areas as such, but we are concerned as to the content of S. 174 or any other wilderness legislation which allows the creation of the areas.

We in the West are concerned with the total land area which is already public domain, the amount of this land which might be designated as "wilderness areas," and, therefore, the kind and extent of the development which may be allowed on land designated as "wilderness," who shall have the authority to make such designations and who shall determine what, when, and by whom such developments and utilization are to be accomplished.

As to the designation of land as "wilderness," we believe that Congress should retain its authority over public lands. Therefore, any area established as a wilderness area should be done so by a specific act of Congress. Proposals to designate areas as wilderness should receive the closest scrutiny of Congress. Such an approach has proved satisfactory in determining national park areas, and there is no reason why an area by area approach cannot work equally as well in determination of wilderness areas.

Utilization of public domain has been established by law and by regulation through various agencies over an extended period of time.

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Before wilderness designation is extended to any public domain, a complete analysis of the present uses of the land and consultation with all affected agencies should be accomplished. We believe that such requirements should be written into the law.

To assure that proper consideration is given prior to a decision on setting aside an area as wilderness, we believe that the law should require the establishment of a commission to look into the best use of any public property that is being considered for designation as wilderness area.

A vital question also involved in this legislation is that of water resources development and maintenance. Farm Bureau has long advocated a policy of upstream structures for both flood prevention and water resources development. While the proposed legislation in its present form does not rule out the possibilities of construction and maintenance of reservoirs, it disregards the development of water resources for irrigation and speaks in broad terms of public interests. We have a question as to what will happen to maintenance programs for those reservoirs which already exist in wilderness areas or on lands which could be declared wilderness, as well as the question as to the future development of reservoirs which are considered small and insignificant in comparison to huge reclamation projects. Some consideration must be given to means of access for maintenance equipment.

We consider the question of present and future water resources development as one of the most vital phases of proposed wilderness legislation. We recommend that present and future development be safeguarded with specific language written into the law.

We thank you for this opportunity to state our viewpoints and give our recommendations.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Eichler.

The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Mr. Eichler, how do you feel about the present so-called wilderness areas and the safeguards which have been adopted for their use? Do you feel they are adequate? Or should they be improved upon, or changed, or amended?

Mr. EICHLER. I feel at the present they are adequate, but should not be extended any.

Mr. CHENOWETH. There has been some criticism of the fact that the present areas are not permitting the proper use for entry to do certain repair work, cleaning of ditches, and that type of work. Do you have that view?

Mr. EICHLER. I am not familiar with too many of these wilderness areas. The one I am familiar with, I do not know if there is any maintenance needs to be done on it.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You are not opposed to wilderness legislation, provided the necessary safeguards are adopted?

Mr. EICHLER. That is right.

Mr. CHENOWETH. And you feel they should go further than those contained in the present statutes relating to this type of area?

Mr. EICHLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

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Mrs. PFOST. Back on the record.

Mr. Ray E. Gilbert is the next witness; and Dr. Roy F. Carpenter, of Grand Junction, Colo., will please come forward.

You may proceed, Mr. Gilbert.

## STATEMENT OF RAY E. GILBERT, DISTRICT GEOLOGIST, ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT, BEAR CREEK MINING CO., DENVER, COLO.

Mr. GILBERT. Madam Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Ray E. Gilbert, of Denver, Colo. I am speaking on behalf of my firm, the Bear Creek Mining Co. I am an economic geologist, in charge of my company's considerable mineral exploration activities in the States of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico.

As such, I am concerned that some 26 large blocks of public land, in those States, totaling over 4 million acres, would be withdrawn by S. 174 from exploration and development under our mining laws. I would like to explain briefly a few of the technical considerations that underlie this concern.

In contrast to the forester, or the average vacationer, when an economic geologist looks at land he is concerned with the resources of the subsurface. The geologist feels that where a mineral deposit exists, it is likely that the subsurface values are by far the highest ones present in the land, and that they certainly cannot be ignored. A major mineral deposit is a unique and irreplaceable thing; it may only occupy a few hundred acres of land and yet have far-reaching importance in the growth and security of the West and of the Nation as, for example, does the copper of Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, and Montana, the lead-silver of Idaho, or the molybdenum of Colorado.

Being a professional, the geologist recognizes that total land resources consist of not only known and potential resources, but also of resources that may be developed in the future. The evaluation of total mineral resources, of any area, therefore involves three steps:

First, the surface must be studied, by means of the geologic, geophysical, and geochemical instruments and techniques available today. This would permit measurement and evaluation of those rocks and minerals which are currently considered to be valuable and which are evidenced at the surface.

Second, it is necessary to evaluate not only the surface outcrop of the deposit, but also portions which may be covered by soil, or by valley-fill gravels, or by lava flows. Although evidence from the overlying or surrounding surface may be helpful in subsurface evaluation, such potential as may be present cannot be either proved or disproved until the underlying rocks have been drilled and sampled.

The third phase of total evaluation, that involving resources for the future, is the most difficult. From the standpoint of the geologist there are a number of important factors which are so uncertain that they cannot be absolutely resolved, almost regardless of any degree of foresight. Before we risk cutting ourselves off from the possible future resources in substantial acreages of prospective ground, I would like to emphasize the degree of risk involved.

In order to do so I would like to refer to some maps of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico, and I believe I can illustrate my points adequately by examples from this region. On these maps—

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figures 1, 2, 3, and 4—I have shown the distribution of base and precious metal mining districts in Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming, and Utah, as well as the general location of some of the other valuable products mined in these States, and the location of volcanic fields and present wilderness-type areas.

What items must we consider in trying to decide what resources may be needed in the future?

1. Consideration of the future value of any resources is necessarily a function of the supply. The United States now depends upon imports of about 33 strategic and critical materials for which domestic reserves are estimated by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to be adequate only for about 20 years or less. The finding of resources such as the tungsten of the Boulder, Colo., area, the columbium and rare earths of the Powderhorn, Colo., area, or the manganese of New Mexico is of great importance to our domestic reserve situation.

2. Changing demands can happen for a number of causes—for example, new uses created by scientific discovery. Such uses can make very valuable materials out of what were formerly overlooked or considered laboratory curiosities. I need only mention the importance of uranium development to all of the four States shown on the maps.

3. Changing technologies result in increased demands. In our day, the intensifying of agriculture and the use of plant foods has brought to our area recently the Nation's newest and biggest potash development in Utah, additional potash production in southeastern New Mexico, and development of Wyoming and Utah phosphate rock. Mounting industrial use of soda ash has brought several new basic industries to southwestern Wyoming.

4. Population shift and growth demands new local production of common minerals where no production existed before. The vast gypsum deposits of Albuquerque, N. Mex., area have recently been developed to provide wallboard to a growing western market.

5. Another problem in attempting to evaluate every mineral resource that may be present in an area is the fact that new technology frequently changes materials that were formerly ignored into productive resources. The considerable efforts of the Bureau of Mines and the petroleum companies to develop economic processes for extraction of petroleum from oil shales are well known. A technological breakthrough in this case could overnight change vast acreages of previously useless shale rock into a very valuable fuel. In a similar vein new electric drying and high-tension separation processes promise to permit dry dredging of gold-bearing placers in numerous areas where water is not available.

6. The geologist recognizes that the future will put new tools and techniques at his disposal which will permit far more thorough appraisals than are possible today. The development of the beryllometer in the last few years has already resulted in some geologic surprises. Deposits of what were previously looked on as unusual beryllium minerals were found in a common type of volcanic rock not before considered as a likely host for beryllium mineralization. Current exploration for beryllium is underway at Topaz Mountain, Utah.

In summary, a very long list of examples of this sort could be made. I hope, however, that the few given are enough to demonstrate the importance of keeping open the doors to all our resources.

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As can be seen from the maps, most units proposed for withdrawal are indeed in or adjoining already known mineralized areas. The Bridger area, for example, is underlain in part by pre-Cambrian metamorphic rocks similar to those containing the newly developed iron ores near Atlantic City, Wyo. You will note from the map that many of the areas in question are overlain by layers of recent volcanic rocks, which may very well mask valuable ore deposits such as are found nearby where the volcanics have been removed by erosion. Examples of this are the important base-metal districts near Silver City, N. Mex.—an area whose production and reserves of metals exceed a gross value of $1 billion—and the San Juan Mountains area in Colorado. There is excellent reason to believe that the near future will give us geophysical and geochemical tools which can "see through" the barren volcanic cover and discover the valuable deposits hidden beneath.

The provisions of S. 174 for mining are not realistic since they both prevent the use of modern exploration tools and offer no incentive to those willing to engage in expensive and risky exploration. We are certain that no one wants to see public resources wasted. If any of the lands now open under the mining laws are put in a new "wilderness" category, we believe the best course to avoid such waste lies in their remaining subject to those longstanding and workable mining laws.

I wish to thank the committee for this opportunity to present my views.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, I would ask unanimous consent that the maps attached to Mr. Gilbert's statement be printed in the record at this point.

Mrs. PROST. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The maps referred to follow:)

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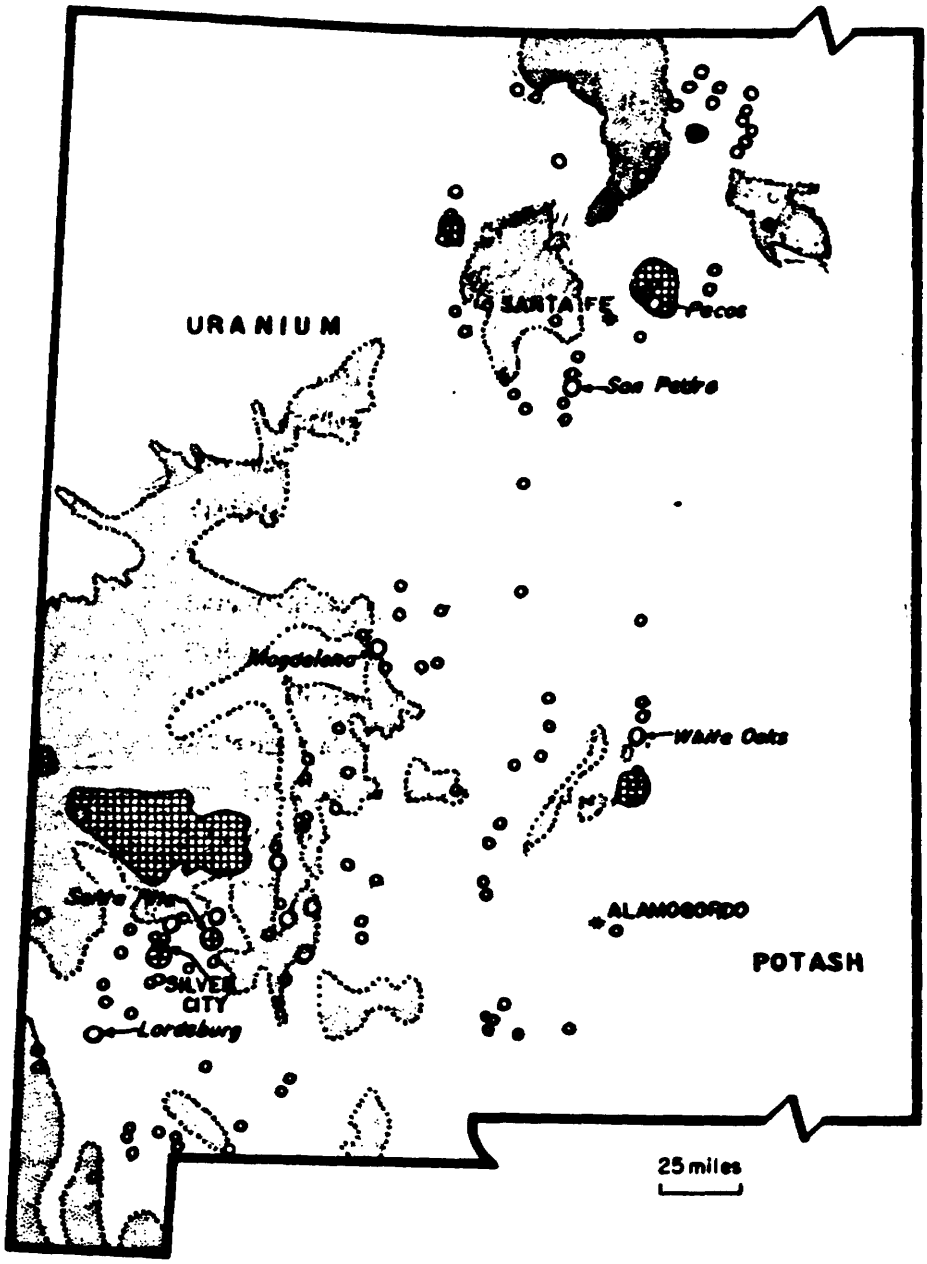


WILDERNESS-TYPE AREAS, VOLCANIC FIELDS AND BASE AND PRECIOUS METAL MINING DISTRICTS IN NEW MEXICO

- Volcanic fields
- Wilderness-type areas
- ○ Mining District Production and Reserves less than ten million dollars
- ○ Mining District Production and Reserves greater than ten million dollars
- ⊕ Mining District Production and Reserves over 1 billion dollars

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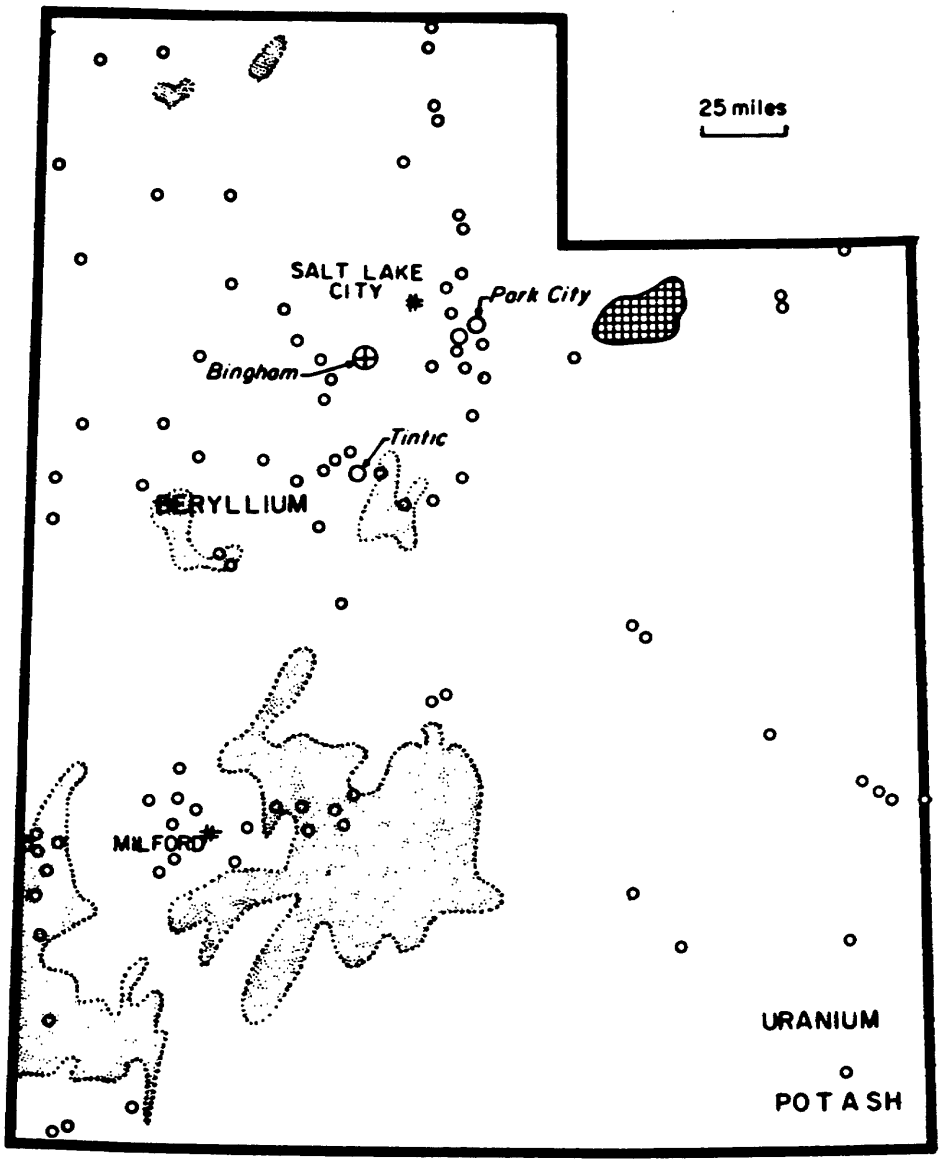
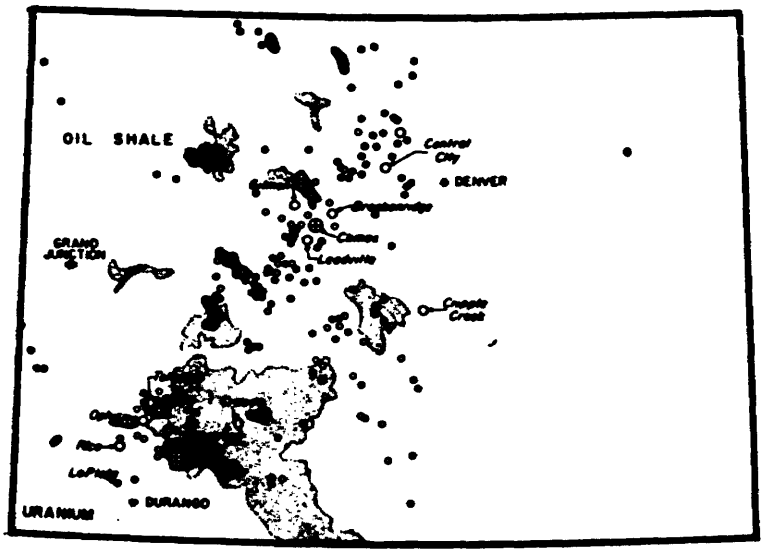



WILDERNESS-TYPE AREAS, VOLCANIC FIELDS AND BASE AND PRECIOUS METAL MINING DISTRICTS IN UTAH

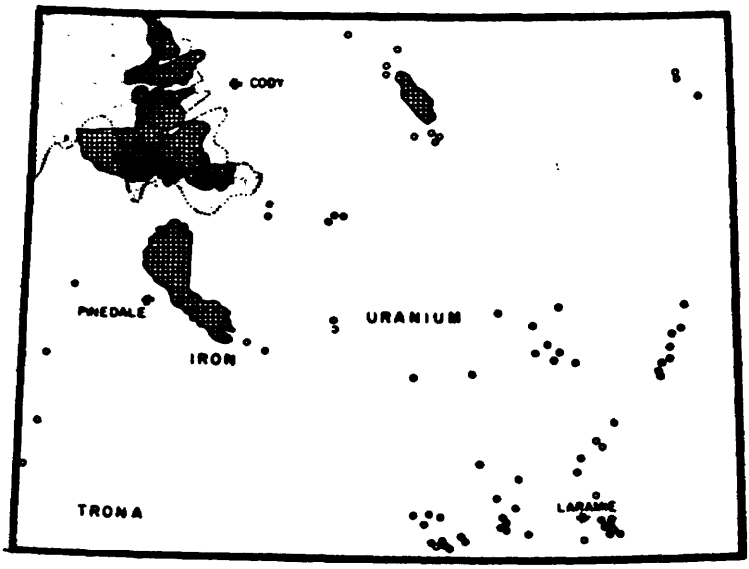
- Volcanic fields
- Wilderness-type areas
- Mining District Production and Reserves less than ten million dollars
- Mining District Production and Reserves greater than ten million dollars
- Mining District Production and Reserves over 1 billion dollars




WILDERNESS-TYPE AREAS, VOLCANIC FIELDS AND BASE AND PRECIOUS METAL MINING DISTRICTS IN COLORADO

Volcanic fields
Wilderness-type areas
Mining District Production and Reserves less than ten million dollars
Mining District Production and Reserves greater than ten million dollars
Mining District Production and Reserves over 1 billion dollars

25 miles




WILDERNESS-TYPE AREAS, VOLCANIC FIELDS AND BASE AND PRECIOUS METAL MINING DISTRICTS IN WYOMING

Volcanic fields
Wilderness-type areas
Mining District Production and Reserves less than ten million dollars

25 miles

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Mrs. PROST. Thank you very much, Mr. Gilbert.

Are there questions of Mr. Gilbert?

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, I have a question for our record. As I understand it, Mr. Gilbert, the part that you take exception to is contained in page 13, section 6(a), of the Senate bill, wherein it reads that—

> Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted as interfering with the purposes stated in the establishment of, or pertaining to, any park, monument, or other unit of the national park system, or any national forest, wildlife refuge, game range, or other area involved, except that any agency administering any area within the wilderness system shall be responsible for preserving the wilderness character of the area and shall so administer such area for such other purposes as also to preserve its wilderness character.

And then go over to the same section on page 14, subsection (c)(2), wherein it states that—

> Within national forest and public domain areas included in the wilderness system, (A) the President may, within a specific area and in accordance with such regulations as he may deem desirable, authorize prospecting (including—but not limited to—exploration for oil and gas), mining (including—but not limited to—the production of oil and gas), and the establishment and maintenance of reservoirs, water-conservation works—

and so forth.

Your objection is that under this wording you are not so sure that the uses which are presently found to be in some of these areas will be continued; is that correct?

Mr. GILBERT. That is correct; yes, sir.

Mr. ASPINALL. And you desire that they be continued?

Mr. GILBERT. Yes; very much so.

Mrs. PROST. Thanks again, Mr. Gilbert.

Mr. GILBERT. Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Will the following witnesses, Mr. Glenn G. Saunders, chief counsel of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners, Denver, Colo., and Mr. Claude S. Thompson, chairman of the Pikes Peak Group, the Colorado Mountain Club, please come forward.

You may proceed, Dr. Carpenter.

## STATEMENT OF ROY F. CARPENTER, M.D., GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.

Dr. CARPENTER. This is the substance of remarks I would like to make at this time.

I am a medical doctor on the full-time medical staff of the Veterans' Administration hospital in Grand Junction, Colo. I am very much opposed to the wilderness bill as passed by the Senate. I am not opposed to the creation of reasonable wilderness areas, but do not feel that more than two areas in any State should be designated as such. It is my firm conviction that the welfare of the country is far better served when our public lands are put to multiple use for timber, mining, water, grazing, et cetera.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, just at that point, so we understand what the witness is talking about, you do not ask for that same kind of a use in what is known as the national park areas, do you, Mr. Carpenter?

Dr. CARPENTER. No.

Mr. ASPINALL. All right.

Dr. CARPENTER. There is an area in San Miguel and Dolores Counties near here which has been designated as a wilderness area. I am acquainted with quite a large section of it. It is rocky, barren, but very rich in mineral wealth. Since I have an interest in a patented mining property in this area, I have been there frequently in the past 3 years. There are a large number of other patented mining properties situated in this rich mineral area also.

We went to one of the forest rangers and stated our desire to operate these mines and the forest ranger said: "No, you cannot."

We said: "We own these properties, they are patented mining properties." The third forest ranger told us we could go in and work.

During the many trips that I have made in these 3 years, I have not seen a single person who was there because it was a wilderness area. As a result of my observations here and elsewhere, I would like to make two points:

First, we do not need a great number of wilderness areas because, while a lot of people may talk about doing this sort of thing, very few actually do it.

And, secondly, a lot better judgment could be shown in picking wilderness areas so that they, for one thing, are not placed in the richest mineral belts. It has been quite well known recently that this country's iron resources are limited, and another wilderness area has been designated which includes a deposit of millions of tons of high-grade iron.

Recently the Government gave recognition to the fact that our iron resources are becoming less and less, and I believe now they will pay half of the cost for exploring for them. Here is an area that could very well have been excluded from this.

Every time I pick up a paper, or every week or so, it seems I see another new area suggested as a wilderness area. I believe we have ample, or more so now, and no others should be added, and certain functions that have been carried on in these areas should be continued.

I grew up east of the Mississippi River, I have lived in western Colorado 10 years. I am in the mountains a lot; I love the mountains. I believe that I have been in practically all of the remote and supposedly relatively inaccessible areas in western Colorado. Far more so than most anyone who is agitating for this wilderness legislation.

Although I grew up in the East, I have come to appreciate the West, and I believe the greatest potential for our resources and for our growth lies in these Western States, in the fact that a great percentage of the Western States is now held by the Federal Government. That is a deterrent.

If we allow a great number more of these wilderness areas, and restrict their use to this very limited proposition, it will further restrict the growth of not only the West but the whole country.

If the people of Colorado who live in these vicinities were allowed to vote on the issue, the wilderness bill would be decisively defeated. The limited number of people then who would prefer to use these areas, instead of other places in our national forests, would have to come from quite a ways away; consequently, we do not have to have a wilderness area in everybody's backyard; and I feel that not more than two should be established in any State—including Colorado.

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I say again, I am not against wilderness legislation, but I think it should be reasonable, well thought out, and such that the economic health of this country is benefited by it, rather than it being a deterring factor.

Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Dr. Carpenter.

Are there questions of Dr. Carpenter?

Thank you very much, Dr. Carpenter.

Dr. CARPENTER. Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Mr. Glenn G. Saunders. Will Mr. Claude Thompson please come forward?

Mr. SNYDER. Madam Chairman, I am a substitute for Mr. Saunders.

Mrs. PFOST. Will you give your name for the record, please.

Mr. SNYDER. Willard S. Snyder. I am on the legal staff of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners.

Mrs. PFOST. You may proceed, Mr. Snyder.

## STATEMENT OF WILLARD S. SNYDER, MEMBER OF LEGAL STAFF, BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS, CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER, COLO.

Mr. SNYDER. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

The statement which I will present to the members of the committee is signed by the president of the board of water commissioners.

This statement regarding the Wilderness Act, S. 174, as passed by the Senate of the United States is made on behalf of the Board of Water Commissioners of the City and County of Denver, Colo. The board is a nonpolitical entity, having complete charge and control of a municipally owned waterworks system and plant which furnishes a water supply for all purposes to most of the Denver metropolitan area, which includes Denver and suburban areas, with a total connected customer load of 620,000 people and the related industry to support them. This is one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the United States.

Denver is also an important defense center. The Martin Co., manufacturer of the Titan missile, the Rocky Flats Atomic Energy Plant, and many important Federal agencies and military installations, such as the Denver Federal Center, Lowry Air Force Base, Fitzsimons Army Hospital, and the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, are all located in the Denver metropolitan area and are dependent upon the Denver Water Department for a water supply.

Measured against this background, we must remember that Denver is located in the semiarid West. Water commands a value unknown in moister climates. Denver's water gathering system extends over hundreds of square miles and from the Mississippi Basin across the Continental Divide into the Pacific Ocean's watershed. Practically all of its water supply, as it presently exists and as it must be augmented, arises upon the national forest of the United States of America.

The expression "wilderness bill" as used herein refers to the bill as passed by the U.S. Senate, S. 174. The bill as passed by the Senate is in a form which is much improved over its original form. Nevertheless, further consideration should be given to the bill. These considerations take two forms:

First of all, there is the question as to whether we should have a wilderness bill at this time.

Secondly, there is the question that, if we are to have a wilderness bill, what further amendments should be made to the bill as it presently exists?

I. The areas sought to be blanketed by the wilderness bill are properly managed upon an administrative basis under present law—there is no need for a wilderness bill.

As far as the State of Colorado is concerned, our fundamental concern is with wild areas and primitive areas already established upon the national forest, upon an administrative basis. There has been no showing that the Forest Service, in administering the areas, is failing to do a proper and competent job.

It is our experience that the Forest Service is to be commended for its judicious approach to the problem of administering the national forest, including wild and primitive areas, so as properly to provide for the various uses having due regard for conservation and the needs of the people.

Over a course of decades we have uniformly had the best of experience with the Forest Service. It is doing an excellent job. It has set aside wild and primitive areas. It can under present law preserve these areas and yet on an administrative basis provide for flexibility where that flexibility is necessary. Consequently, we can see no need for legislation now proposed and known as the Wilderness Act.

The Wilderness Act would freeze these areas and preserve them for a single purpose, notwithstanding some modification might be necessary or even essential. This we do not believe to be in the interest of the people and we believe it to be true whether we are talking about the people of the State of Colorado or the people of the United States.

II. The wilderness bill should not be enacted into law until the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission has reported to Congress.

Congress has established the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. The Commission is to study and report upon the Nation's outdoor recreational resources. The Commission is giving special emphasis upon wilderness, standards for their establishment and the balancing of the wilderness concept with other recreational activities. The Commission is due to make a report in 1962 upon these matters.

Congress should have the benefit of this comprehensive report prior to the time Congress enacts into law a wilderness bill. Otherwise, why has Congress appropriated the money for this report? Surely we should not enact into law a wilderness bill and thereafter receive the report of the Commission.

III. Areas to be included in any wilderness system should be presently ascertainable.

If we are, nevertheless, to have a wilderness bill, the areas to be included in any wilderness system should be presently ascertainable. S. 174 provides that the wilderness system shall include all areas within the national forest classified on the effective date of the act by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Chief of the Forest Service as wilderness, wild, primitive or canoe, subject to certain provisions.

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At this time no one can say when the effective date of the act will be. During the interval that the bill is being further considered, those who are charged with administration of the national forest, the national parks and the public domain may be subjected to heavy pressure to make new classifications of land, so as to include substantially larger areas in the proposed wilderness system.

We do not believe that those charged with the administration of these lands should be subjected to these pressures. Furthermore, the people, for whose benefit the U.S. Government exists, have a right to know what lands are included or are to be included in the wilderness system as of a fixed date—for example, November 1, 1961.

Upon this basis all who care to know may determine for themselves exactly what lands are to be included if the wilderness bill becomes law and no one will be put in the position of finding out to his surprise that land has been included in the wilderness system which originally was not contemplated.

It is our position that the people are entitled to know exactly what land is proposed as a part of the wilderness system.

IV. Areas the status of which is in doubt should not presently be included in the wilderness system.

At this point we set forth section 3(b)(1) of S. 174 in part:

> (b)(1). The wilderness system shall include all areas within the national forests classified on the effective date of this Act by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Chief of the Forest Service as wilderness, wild, primitive, or canoe: *Provided*, That the areas classified as primitive shall be subject to review as hereinafter provided.

Following this language there is provision for the recommendation by the Secretary of Agriculture for continued inclusion or exclusion of the primitive areas in the wilderness system. There is then provision for the recommendation of the President of the United States.

If both recommendations are favorable, then the primitive area is continued in the wilderness system, unless at least one House of Congress votes against continuance.

This approach contemplates action first and determination of its wisdom or unwisdom afterward. We find that the bill puts land in the wilderness system and then a determination is later made as to whether it should have been put in the wilderness system.

This is just the reverse of the normal way of doing things. In most fields of human endeavor a proposed course of action is first carefully considered and then carried out in action. In a situation of this kind it is unwise to take a course of action and then try to figure out afterward whether that course of action was correct.

Therefore, it is our belief that the primitive areas should not be included in the wilderness system in the first instance, with a later determination of whether that was correct or incorrect. Instead, we believe that the primitive areas should not be included in the wilderness system at this time. The matter can then be properly considered and if thought desirable any particular area can later be brought into the wilderness system.

V. Future additions to the wilderness system should be made only upon the affirmative approval thereof by both Houses of Congress.

Sections 3(f) of the wilderness bill provides that recommendation of the President regarding the continued inclusion or addition of areas to the wilderness system shall take effect upon the day following the

adjournment of the first complete session of Congress following the date that the Houses of Congress receive the recommendation; but only if prior to such adjournment neither the Senate nor the House of Representatives shall have approved a resolution declaring itself opposed to such recommendations.

Thus, once the wilderness bill is passed, Congress plays a negative role only. One may ask, Is this a studied attempt on the part of the advocates of the wilderness system to bypass the historic role of Congress?

The Constitution of the United States provides that all legislative power shall be vested in the Congress of the United States. In exercising this power, Congress passes laws providing for the management, classification, and disposal of the lands owned by the United States pursuant to standards and criteria established in the legislation. Congress lays down the guidelines or standards of conduct.

As proposed in S. 174, the continued inclusion or addition in the wilderness system of certain areas covered by the act is a matter upon which the executive branch of the Government is given carte blanche authority with only one slender string attached—either House of Congress can nullify the action within a severely limited period of time by passing a resolution declaring itself opposed to the action.

It is Congress, perhaps, more than any other branch of our Federal Government that is directly responsible to the people. We believe it is far preferable for Congress to be playing an affirmative role rather than a mere negative role. If in the future there are recommendations concerning continued inclusion of lands within or of addition of lands to the wilderness system, these recommendations should be submitted to Congress and should then become effective only if both Houses of Congress shall approve thereof.

VI. Uses of a wilderness area for the construction of reservoirs and other purposes should be permitted upon a finding by the secretary of the appropriate department of the Government that such use will better serve the public interest than will its denial.

Section 6(c)(2) of the bill provides that the President may authorize uses of a wilderness area for reservoirs, water conservation works, transmission lines, and other facilities needed in the public interest upon his determination that such use shall better serve the interests of the United States and the people thereof than will its denial.

We suppose that an attempt might be made to run the whole U.S. Government by providing that nothing can be done without Presidential act. A President already overburdened with responsibilities is put in an impossible position. It would appear that the wildlife interests promoting this legislation want to make sure that these wilderness areas remain untrammeled by man, no matter how great the need of man may be for their use.

In effect, the wilderness bill puts the essential needs of man in a subordinate position and puts desirable, but nonessential objectives in first place. The bill would give wildlife interests dominant control of these areas such that their single use position would be practically unassailable.

There may be those who state that the wilderness system will not detract from water development. It is true that these areas will still continue to develop water. But if permission cannot be obtained to

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construct facilities in a wilderness area for collecting the water produced thereon, this water will not be available to the people who need water.

The bill should be amended so as to provide that the Secretary of the appropriate Department of the Federal Government, rather than the President of the United States, should authorize a use of a wilderness area for reservoirs, water conservation works, transmission lines and other facilities upon the Secretary's determination that such use will better serve the interests of the United States and the people thereof than its denial.

In conclusion: Preservation of wilderness areas to a reasonable extent is desirable, but it can hardly be said to be absolutely essential. We have heard the wilderness system described as a gigantic museum. Again, museums are excellent objectives, but must be kept within proper bounds. For those of us living in the West, let us remember that the precious commodity, water, is absolutely essential if mankind is to live and thrive in the West.

Without water, the West is a desert where man will not long survive. Man must be permitted to make a living. The entire economy of the West is dependent upon wresting a living from the land with proper application of our water resources.

Let us be careful in how far we go in locking huge areas of Colorado into museums which cannot be touched by the people of our State for their essential needs.

Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Mr. Snyder.

Are there questions?

Mr. ASPINALL. I have a question, Mr. Snyder.

Mr. Snyder, you glossed over these other uses very quickly that you suggested the people of Denver wanted. You referred to the municipal use and the use by the Federal installations. What other uses do you have in mind that the city and county of Denver has for its water?

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Aspinall, I was speaking fundamentally of the use of water for people. I think it applies not only to Denver, it applies to the whole State of Colorado. I was not pretending to speak for the mining industry, the timber industry, the grazing industry, or anything else.

Mr. ASPINALL. You were speaking only for the municipal or domestic uses of water that the people in general, in the environments around Denver need; is that right?

Mr. SNYDER. That is the group that I represent; correct.

Mr. ASPINALL. You were not speaking for the industrial uses especially, or the power uses or the agricultural uses?

Mr. SNYDER. No; but I believe some of my statements would apply equally well to them as they apply to us. The whole economy of the State is based upon proper use of water.

Mr. ASPINALL. I do not want to trap you, but I do not understand just why the people of Denver would be desirous of having any agricultural uses, other than to have their lawns watered.

Mr. SNYDER. I was speaking in general terms only, Mr. Aspinall.

Mr. ASPINALL. You did speak about the question of procedure and you do realize we already have wilderness areas, or primitive and wild areas?

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Mr. SNYDER. I do.

Mr. ASPINALL. Are you not able to understand, then, why it might be the feeling of those who drafted this Senate bill that those areas would automatically come in, and then a future study might indicate that some of them went out, rather than the program of treating these as original operations?

Mr. SNYDER. The thing that bothers me, Mr. Aspinall, in reading the bill, is this: As to certain areas, the bill, as you say, definitely once and for all includes them. As to other areas, for example, fundamentally the primitive areas, the areas are included in the first instance subject to review; and it seems to me that this is a strange way of doing things.

Mr. ASPINALL. And I think I am in agreement with you. Only remember this: That one Congress acts for that period, and another can come in and do anything it wishes to, no matter what happened yesterday or what is likely to happen tomorrow.

Mr. SNYDER. I appreciate that, and that goes right into my other points, which is to the effect that I appreciate the legislative branch of the Government keeping an affirmative hand in this picture, because that is the one place where the people get a real chance to speak, as they are today.

Mr. ASPINALL. You leave the witness stand with my good will, just because of that statement.

Mr. SNYDER. The same goes from me to you.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Snyder.

Is Mr. Claude S. Thompson here?

(No response.)

Mrs. PFOST. Mr. Sam Hyatt, of the Wyoming National Resource Board, Cheyenne, Wyo., is next.

(No response.)

Mrs. PFOST. Will Mr. R. W. Beamer, executive secretary of the Wyoming Mining Association, Riverton, Wyo., please come forward?

Then will Mr. Doc H. Burnett, president of the New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association, also come forward?

You may proceed, Mr. Hyatt.

## STATEMENT OF SAM C. HYATT, WORLAND, WYO., MEMBER OF WYOMING NATURAL RESOURCE BOARD, CHEYENNE, WYO.

Mr. HYATT. Madam Chairman and committee members, may I extend my appreciation and that of our board for the privilege of appearing before your subcommittee today.

I am Sam C. Hyatt from Worland, Wyo., a member of the Wyoming Natural Resource Board.

The natural resource board, created by an act of the State legislature in 1951, is a department of the executive branch of government and is composed of nine members, representing each of the seven judicial districts, plus two members at large. Ex-officio members of our board are the Governor, State engineer, State highway commissioner, commissioner of agriculture, the game and fish commissioner and the president of the University of Wyoming. The board is charged with the fullest development of our State's natural resources and maintains an office at 215 Supreme Court Building, Cheyenne, Wyo.

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When our Board was established, the first, and, for a time, sole responsibility was water resource development. Wyoming is a unique State in regard to water resources. Significant tributaries of three great river systems, the Columbia, the Colorado, and the Missouri, rise in Wyoming and flow all four directions across its borders.

The full development of the water which arises in Wyoming's mountains is not only a necessity to the future welfare and growth of our State, but has a direct bearing on the well-being of the river basin States. As a Board we have endorsed the principle of multiple-use and are therefore concerned over any legislation which would place the multiple-use concept in danger and which might therefore postpone or deny us the opportunity for full development of our water.

The need for wilderness, which is a neutral resource, is relative—relative to people's need for other benefits from the land. No one would argue that man's need for wilderness is greater than his need for food, water, shelter, clothing, and heat.

Wilderness reservations which might impound lands capable of producing these basic necessities of life are bound to get in the way of a prolific people dependent on limited land for high standards of living.

The settlers of the Thirteen Colonies could have preserved a continental wilderness but they were not interested in that. They wanted to make something out of this country, and they did. The prosperity of the United States has been spurred since our early history by the encouragement of resource development for the creation of wealth for all citizens. It is not in the national interest that the public domain should be used for one use to the exclusion of others.

To the stockman, multiple use in the areas in question means grass upon which to graze cattle and sheep. To the man on the street, it means a place to picnic, fish, hunt, hike, or ski. To the merchant, it means added sales in sporting goods. To the filling station operator, it means extra sales of gasoline to the local man and an ever-increasing number of tourists. To the hotel and motel operator these tourists are a livelihood. To the mining and timber men, multiple use means a potential reservoir of raw materials. To those concerned with the present and future water needs of communities, industry and agriculture, it means water development programs to meet an ever-increasing demand.

President Kennedy, in his special message on natural resources last February, said that he was—

> instructing the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with * * * appropriate Federal, State, and local officials and private leaders to formulate a comprehensive Federal recreational lands program; conduct a survey to determine where additional national parks, forests, and seashore areas should be proposed, and take steps to insure that land acquired for the construction of federally financed reservoirs is sufficient to permit future development for recreational purposes.

In view of this request, how will the National Wilderness Preservation System answer this need of an exploding population for recreation and the need for greater opportunities in family recreation?

Another point to be made is that the national parks and national wildlife refuges and game ranges have no logical place in this legislation.

The national parks are created and administered under their own Protective Act of 1916. Their inclusion in any wilderness legislation

is unnecessary in terms of wilderness preservation. After 45 years, 90 percent of the 22-million-acre national park system is still said to qualify under a reasonable definition of wilderness. The Service does not plan to build roads into this vast roadless domain. Some of the parks have not even reached their potential, either in number of visitors or dispersal of visitor load without impairing the scenery.

The national wildlife refuges and game ranges were established for the protection and production of wildlife, not for wilderness preservation.

This, then, leaves the national forest wilderness system as the only logical target for wilderness legislation. And here again we need no legislation because under the Multiple Use Act of 1960 wilderness has now become a congressionally recognized, directed, and legalized use of national forests.

**The establishment and maintenance of areas of wilderness are consistent with the purposes and provisions of this act.**

The administration of Federal lands should be sufficiently flexible to allow for changing conditions, and we should not freeze the administration, and remove local jurisdiction.

Desirable changes would be difficult, perhaps impossible, if lands administered by three Federal agencies for different purposes, as is now the case, are lumped together in a new huge wilderness system. This system would, moreover, be fair game for a future Congress to logically place under one agency specialized in wilderness.

Wilderness areas, then, are not going to disappear, since the agencies now administering them are going to continue to preserve them.

Our opposition to this bill does not mean opposition to the maintenance of existing wilderness areas under the present administrative agencies. Passage of this bill could, however, mean that we jeopardize the interests of all by enacting legislation without due consideration. It is folly to remove actual multiple use from large areas before an adequate study can be made. Better to wait for the report of the National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission.

Nature and natural resources are dynamic, not static. Even in areas now classified and used in the wilderness sense, catastrophies such as devastating storms, fires from natural or human causes, insect epidemics, and serious overpopulation of animal life are inevitable.

Preparation for, prevention of, and control of such events is vital. For example, the Bridger National Forest Wilderness Area, one of the areas involved in this matter, had, in 1960, one of the most severe fire seasons ever experienced. In their report, they state that roads, trails, radio communications, fences, and buildings are vital * * * in protecting forest resources.

In this bill, under "Special Provisions," it establishes two separate prcedures to provide for protection and future possible multiple use.

First it states that within areas included in the wilderness system such measures may be taken as may be necessary in the control of fire, insects, and diseases subject to such conditions as the appropriate Secretary deems desirable.

Then it states that the President can, within specified areas, authorize mining, reservoir, road construction, and other activities if the specified area will serve the interests of the people of the United States.

These special provisions are, interestingly enough, in direct conflict with the rest of the bill.

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This legislation affects the West more than any other section of the country because the lion's share of the lands involved are situated in the Western States. The federally owned lands in Wyoming amount to 30,219,000 acres, or 48.4 percent of the total land area of the State. This legislation would immediately place 4,770,652 acres, 15.8 percent of the federally owned lands in Wyoming, under wilderness control.

This legislation further gives the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to add areas to the wilderness system with only public notice and to segregate such areas from any or all appropriations under the public land laws until—

1. Rejection of such a proposal by the President;
2. Rejection by the Senate or House of Representatives; or
3. Five years after date of such notice, if the proposal to incorporate such areas as part of the wilderness system has not been submitted to both Houses of Congress prior to the expiration of said 5 years.

We are opposed to this kind of blanket authority in dealing with lands within our borders.

Wyoming's feeling in the matter of the wilderness bill has already been expressed in a memorial to the President and Congress, signed by Governor Gage on February 7, 1961, the text of which is as follows:

**This memorial proposes to memoralize the President and Congress of the United States to the effect that the people of Wyoming oppose the creation of extension of wilderness areas in Wyoming and that if such areas are necessary and desired in other States that wilderness areas be created in such other States to make the same available to more people of the country than can be the case with wilderness areas only in the West.**

We feel that no legislation should be passed that relieves Congress and its Members of their responsibility under the Constitution to initiate and pass legislation.

The board, representing the State of Wyoming, believes that adequate recognition is now given the wilderness concept through existing departmental regulations and through legislation already in existence which has established national forests, national parks, and monuments, and wildlife refuges and ranges.

The economy and growth of Wyoming is closely tied to the future development of its minerals, forest products, grazing, commercial recreation, and water resources. Considering these needs, we oppose any legislation that in any way locks up the State's resources so that they are not available when needed.

Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Mr. Hyatt.

Are there questions?

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, I am glad to see my friend Sam Hyatt here in my congressional district. I see him other places every once in a while, but seldom in western Colorado.

You did not make reference to the Bureau of Land Management land in your presentation, Mr. Hyatt, and I do not know whether you understand or not that there was a bill introduced by myself, as of September 7, H.R. 9084, which would give the same status relative to multiple use in Bureau of Land Management lands that we have in national forest lands at the present time.

As I understand your statement, it is to the effect that these uses are protected at the present time, the national parks and their asso-

ciated areas have only the single use except where we do have a few exceptions, which were provided at the time of the creation of the area.

Then in the forest lands, and now I think that we can safely say in the future the Bureau of Land Management lands will be protected anyhow. Is that the position you take?

Mr. HYATT. I am sorry, Congressman, I have not read your proposed legislation.

Mr. ASPINALL. It is just the same as the bill was last year.

Mr. HYATT. Dealing with the Bureau of Land Management lands only?

Mr. ASPINALL. That is right.

Mr. HYATT. Giving the multiple-use concept of those lands?

Mr. ASPINALL. Yes.

Mr. HYATT. That is what we highly want—multiple use. In this legislation we do not like the language that other areas can be added only through public notice.

Mr. ASPINALL. You see, what is bothering me and maybe the rest of the committee, is that the others who have preceded you have been willing to go along with the statutory creation of the wilderness areas for these lands that we have now in the wilderness and primitive status, providing the present uses were allowed. As I understand your testimony—and this is all I want to know—you are not for this bill, anyway; you are not even for the program?

Mr. HYATT. No, I cannot say we are not for the program. We are for a certain concept of wilderness, and we have stated wilderness is not the thing that has made this country.

Mr. ASPINALL. You do not need to go into that.

Mr. HYATT. You and I may have our different religious concepts, and that is the same thing about the wilderness concept.

Mr. ASPINALL. You are opposed to this legislation?

Mr. HYATT. As it is now written.

Mr. ASPINALL. As it is now written. What do you want changed in this legislation in order to make it acceptable to you?

Mr. HYATT. No. 1, so that the Congress of the United States, the legislative branch, in the first instance would draft the legislation.

Mr. ASPINALL. You do not mean they would draft this legislation?

Mr. HYATT. Any legislation should come from the Congress and be passed from the Congress, so that the administrative branches would administer the law passed by the Congress.

Mr. ASPINALL. In other words, you do not want any Executive orders issued which would do the thing that you think legislative enactment should take care of. Is that right?

Mr. HYATT. That is right.

Mr. ASPINALL. What other changes do you have in mind?

Mr. HYATT. For instance, what other change in the legislation would you want? [Laughter.]

When you mentioned in here about our water, nothing in this legislation would interfere with the State's water rights. You do not say you are not locking up the high altitudes for these small reservoirs. There are no rights.

Another place in this legislation it talks about our wildlife. It does not say in here the States still can take care of their wildlife in certain areas not in the wilderness system.

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Mr. ASPINALL. Let's put it this way, then: You want the uses that are presently provided maintained, regardless of what legislation might be enacted?

Mr. HYATT. I want my State, which is 50 percent federally controlled, protected for the people of that State as well as the people of this Nation in the usage that can be for the progress and not to lock them up so when we want to use them we have the problem of unlocking them.

Mr. ASPINALL. Of course, that is our difficulty. I am in the same position as far as my congressional district, but the people in New York City are just as much landlords of these areas as we are, and that is the reason we have this legislation.

Thank you very much.

Mr. HYATT. I think the people in New York City, though, if this bill was explained to them, that it was locking up something so that they could not come out and drive around in their car, and would have to walk, they would not be for it. [Applause.]

Mr. ASPINALL. Of course, I might say to you, Mr. Hyatt, as you leave the witness stand, that is the purpose for these hearings, that is the reason we are here.

Mr. HYATT. And I appreciate that.

Mr. ASPINALL. We are trying to write legislative history.

Madam Chairman, I have three telegrams, one from the Honorable Jack R. Gage, Governor of Wyoming; one from Mr. Marlin T. Kurtz, president of the Wyoming Development Association; one from Craig Thomas, executive secretary of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation, in which they state their wishes that we might hold hearings within the State of Wyoming.

I would ask that these telegrams be made a part of the record, following Mr. Hyatt's testimony; and I would suggest that if they knew how busy the committee is, and especially the chairman of this subcommittee, Mrs. Pfost, and how she takes her time away from her own district in order to hold these hearings, it would be easily understandable why it is we cannot hold hearings as of this time in all of the areas which might be interested in having hearings held.

Mrs. PFOST. Without objection, the wires will be placed in the record at this point. Is there objection?

Hearing none, it is so ordered.

(The telegrams referred to follow:)

CHEYENNE, WYO., *October 31, 1961.*

HON. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Representative in Congress,*
(Care of George Reitemeier, Montrose, Colo.):

Respectfully request that hearing be held in Wyoming on proposed wilderness legislation. Wyoming vitally interested in the proposal and an opportunity to be heard would be appreciated, and I am sure would be beneficial to your committee.

JACK R. GAGE,
*Governor of Wyoming.*

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CODY, WYO., *October 31, 1961.*

The COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*Montrose, Colo.:*

Would urge you to consider holding hearing in our State on the proposed wilderness legislation. It is of much importance to us. Therefore, I respectfully request you give our citizens a chance to be heard.

MARLIN T. KURTZ,
*President, Wyoming Development Association.*

LARAMIE, WYO., *October 31, 1961.*

RUSS BEAMER,
*House Committee on Interior Affairs,*
*Montrose, Colo.:*

Our statement prepared for introduction at this hearing suggested a similar hearing be held in Wyoming. Due to large Wyoming areas affected and interest indicated, we would like to reemphasize this need.

CRAIG THOMAS,
*Executive Secretary, Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation.*

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Mrs. PROST. Let the Chair say that the States of Washington and Nevada have requested hearings, and we have had to turn them down on the basis that there simply is not time for committee members to hold hearings in these several States.

Our next witness is Mr. Beamer.

Apparently Mr. Beamer is not here.

Next on the list is "Doc" H. Burnett, president of the New Mexico Wildlife & Conservation Association.

Mr. BARKER. Madam Chairman, I am not "Doc" H. Burnett. He was unable to come on account of the storm, and I have been asked to present his paper. I am Elliott S. Barker, of Sante Fe, N. Mex. If I may, I will read "Doc" Burnett's paper.

Mrs. PROST. You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION, INC., AS PRESENTED BY ELLIOTT S. BARKER, SANTA FE, N. MEX.

Mr. BARKER (reading): "I am 'Doc' H. Burnett, president of the New Mexico Wildlife & Conservation Association, Inc. This organization was founded in 1914 and has worked continuously since that time in the interests of the conservation and proper management of all the natural resources of the State. It represents 21 local affiliated chapters throughout the State and, in effect, the very great majority of the 160,000 New Mexico citizen licensees of the department of game and fish.

"Whatever differences there may be from time to time among the chapters and individual members, there is one thing upon which there is practically unanimous agreement. That is on the need for wilderness preservation and S. 174 as the proper and timely means of attaining that goal.

"Wilderness preservation legislation has been at the top of this organization's agenda for several years. On behalf of the New Mexico Wildlife & Conservation Association, I most heartily endorse S. 174, and respectfully request this committee to act favorably upon it. We urge that the House of Representatives be given an early chance to vote on it.

"We believe strongly that an adequate system of wilderness areas is absolutely essential to the welfare of the present and future generations. The stresses and tensions produced by today's mechanized civilization and intensive commercial development make it more necessary than ever before, for people in all walks of life, to have areas of remote solitude to which they can retreat for relaxation.

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"We know, despite statements to the contrary, that men, women, and young people from all stations of life and all part of the country do use and enjoy our wilderness areas. I know grandmothers who regularly take their grandchildren deep into the wilderness for outings and outdoor training. Boy and Girl Scouts use them to great advantage. There is no substitute, and it costs so little.

"All kinds of unfounded charges are made regularly by opponents of the bill. They overlook the fact that the entire wilderness system is made up of public lands—lands that belong to easterners as well as westerners. While national parks, wildlife refuges, and public domain lands are involved, the national forest system is the most important and the one over which there seems to be the greatest controversy.

"The national forests embrace a total of 180 million acres. The wilderness system, including wilderness, wild, and primitive areas, embraces only about 14 million acres or 8 percent. But, Mr. Chairman, it is the last 8 percent of primeval, roadless, wilderness type.

"Four hundred years ago all of America was one vast wilderness. Can we not afford to save even a few areas as museum specimens of primeval-type lands, free from asphalt, concrete, commercialization, and gasoline smell?

"Some of the opponents say they favor wilderness preservation but believe it should be done by administrative order, as now, rather than by act of Congress as a national policy. The reason seems abundantly apparent. With the flexibility of the administrative system, it would be far easier for commercial interests to chisel out concessions first in one place, then in another, and eventually destroy the entire system.

"Now the Secretary of Agriculture could, with his signature, wipe out any part of the system, or all of it. Secretaries are only human and one day might yield to those pressure groups. Our Government is based on government by law rather than by man or a dictator. Why should not wilderness preservation have the security of law as a national policy?

"Some opponents object to the bill because, they say, it would prevent manipulation of the watersheds to the detriment of water users. That is an exceedingly flimsy excuse. When God made the wilderness areas, He did a pretty good job. Let's leave His handiwork alone in those areas.

"They are now the national forests' highest water-producing areas. Besides the remaining 92 percent of national forests is available for watershed manipulation. We will have our hands full for a few centuries monkeying with them.

"Stockmen have no basis for their objections to the bill. It clearly provides for continuation of grazing where already established. It does not prohibit predatory animal control, as some stockmen have claimed.

"Dams can be built and mining can be done where the President shall determine that such uses will better serve the public interest than would their denial. It seems to us that is very fair. Or do the miners want to hog it and operate contrary to the best interests of the public?

"Insect control and other emergencies are adequately provided for.

"Some profess to be alarmed about fire suppression. Let us remember that we have had no roads into the wilderness areas at any

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time since the forests were created and they have not been wiped out by fire. In our State, and elsewhere, forest fires have been just as bad, often worse, in areas crisscrossed by roads as in the roadless wilderness areas.

"Be that as it may, the fact remains that aerial transportation facilities, particularly helicopter type, are making such rapid advancement that existing fire control roads will soon become obsolete. The Supervisor of the Gila Forest, where Gila Wilderness is, said the other day that they are getting smoke jumpers to fires more quickly and efficiently by plane than they could be truck. They are then flown out by helicopters. It requires no imagination to foresee that fire suppression with aerial-sprayed chemicals, plane- and helicopter-transported fighters will very soon become more efficient generally than by road transportation.

"Roads are often far from firelines. Wilderness areas are, for the most part, extremely rugged and roads would be excessive in cost. Congress has not provided funds for roads into them so far for fire control and is not likely to do so, whether or not such roadbuilding is permissible.

"Some claim that only the rich and young, strong people can use wilderness areas. To our knowledge that is just not so. Wilderness trips are cheap, and anyone who is in reasonably good health can and does use them.

"Statements that only a very few people use the wilderness areas are equally false. Most of our wilderness, wild and primitive areas are heavily used. Users are not numbered by the hundreds but by the thousands, many thousands at that. Their popularity is increasing, as is their use and enjoyment each year.

"Mr. Chairman, the New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association, on behalf of the many thousands of citizens it represents, respectfully requests your committee to act promptly and favorably on S. 174 and give the House of Representatives an opportunity to vote on it."

Thank you very much for the privilege of speaking for Doc Burnett.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you very much, Mr. Barker.

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. Barker, might I ask you a question?

Mr. BARKER. Certainly.

Mr. DOMINICK. You said at the beginning that the New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association represents all of the natural resources of the State. Do you represent the mining industry and the timber industry and the grazing industry?

Mr. BARKER. No; I did not say that. I do not believe that we represent them. I said:

> This organization was founded in 1914 and has worked continuously since that time in the interests of the conservation and proper management of all the natural resources of the State.

Mr. DOMINICK. Does that include mining interests and grazing interests and development?

Mr. BARKER. Yes, sir. We have tried, when areas were overgrazed by livestock, to get those things corrected in the interest of preserving those natural resources.

Mr. DOMINICK. Thank you.

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Mr. BARKER. We certainly have.

Mrs. PFOST. Our next witness is Mrs. Ella Jane Settles, executive secretary, the Colorado Mountain Club, Denver, Colo.

And will Mr. Robert D. Hanesworth, secretary of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association of Cheyenne, Wyo., please come forward?

Mrs. Settles apparently is not here.

Mr. JORGENSEN. Madam Chairman, Mr. Hanesworth asked me to present the association's statement.

Mrs. PFOST. You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF CARL T. L. JORGENSEN, CHAIRMAN, FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE, WYOMING STOCK GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. JORGENSEN. I am Carl T. L. Jorgensen, cattleman, from Pinedale, Wyo., president of the Upper Green River Cattle Association, past president of the Green River Valley Cattlemen's Association, past president of the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, on which I served as a member for 8 years, 1945 through 1953, a member of the executive committee, from Sublette County, of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association. I am chairman of the Fish and Wildlife Committee of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association. It is in behalf of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association that I appear before this committee in opposition to the wilderness bill.

I would like to quote to you from the USDA Miscellaneous Publication No. 794, titled "Program for the National Forests," dated April 1959. This is a report written by the Forest Service for information of the Congress and for appropriate reference. It contains long-term objectives, and a conservation program for managing our national forests.

I quote:

> Important values exist in these lands for forest and mineral products, grazing, fish, and wildlife, and for recreation. Moreover, it is imperative to the welfare of thousands of communities and millions of acres of irrigated land that such lands be managed to protect the water supply and water quality which comes from them. In their utilization of these lands, the people are entitled to expect that their timber, minerals, streams and water supply, wildlife and recreational values should be safeguarded, improved, and made available not only for this but for future generations. At the same time public lands should be made available for their best use under conditions that promote stability for communities and individuals and encourage full development of the resources involved.
>
> These national forests belong to all American citizens. Their resources and services are available for use by everyone.
>
> Legislative authorities for the recommended program are generally adequate. Supplemental legislation will be proposed as the need arises.
>
> Pursuant to the act of June 4, 1897, the 1911 act, and others, the national forests have been administered under the dual policies of sustained yield and multiple use of resources. Research has been conducted mainly under the act of May 22, 1928, as amended.
>
> The basic renewable natural resources of the national forest system upon which the Nation will rely to an increasing extent in the years to come are the timber, water, range, and the recreation and wildlife habitat resources. Their intensive development and management is truly a conservation program of great significance to the continued development, prosperity, and welfare of the Nation.

We agree with the statements of policy we have quoted, as published by the Forest Service. We believe that the wilderness concept as

outlined in S. 174 is designed to defeat these purposes. The present regulations—L-20 and U-1—are adequate to preserve the wilderness character of our national forests. Any further legislation or regulations must, therefore, be more restrictive as to the use of our national forests.

Not only timber, grazing, and mining would be restricted, but the use of these areas for recreational purposes, for the improvement of our water supply, for the control of erosion, and other sound management practices would be hampered. Certainly, this legislation will only add confusion to the administration of our public lands.

I would like to cite to you one example, the Yellowstone National Park, which, I believe, is the largest of any of our national parks, and the one with which I am best acquainted.

Vast areas of this park are now treated as wilderness areas. Because of lack of a management program for the game in the Yellowstone Park, overgrazing and erosion are serious problems. The wilderness bill would create a situation similar to that in the Yellowstone Park, where sound conservation and good management of the game herds is not possible. Sound conservation of our public lands requires constant vigilance, not only against overgrazing but against fire, insects, and diseases. This would be made extremely difficult under the proposed wilderness system.

Recreation and enjoyment of the esthetic values of these areas would be limited to those with time and money to afford a pack trip or to those with physical ability to walk into those areas. This is certainly only a small fraction of the total number of people who might wish to see these areas.

Recreation facilities for skiers, fishermen, hunters, hikers would not be available or possible under this wilderness system. The economic development of communities adjacent to these wilderness areas would be stifled.

In conclusion, we object to the spirit and the intent of any legislation such as S. 174. Instead of accomplishing any constructive purpose, this legislation will hamper the management of public lands, add one more restrictive burden on the agencies now responsible, and eliminate completely the policy of "the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run."

Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you very much, Mr. Jorgensen.

Are there any questions?

Is Mr. L. E. Larson of Loveland, Colo., here?

Is Mr. Caroll Gutz, president of the Casper Chamber of Commerce, Casper, Wyo., here?

Is Mr. James D. Houston of Lake City, Colo., here?

He is not here, but Mr. Houston's statement has been filed.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, I would suggest that all of the statements of those individuals who do not show at the hearings today be left until the last of the hearing and then that they be printed in the record.

Mrs. PROST. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. W. T. Berry, assistant to the president, American Motor Scooter Association, Chicago, Ill. You may proceed.

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## STATEMENT OF WILLIAM T. BERRY, JR., ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT, AMERICAN MOTOR SCOOTER ASSOCIATION, CHICAGO, ILL.

Mr. BERRY. Madam Chairman and distinguished members of the committee, my name is William T. Berry, Jr., representing the American Motor Scooter Association.

The American Motor Scooter Association, representing manufacturers and distributors of motor scooters, supports the wilderness concept and favors creation of a national wilderness preservation system; provided the areas to be included within the system, any changes in boundaries or additions to the wilderness system, are created by affirmative action of the Congress.

Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you very much.

Mr. CHENOWETH. May I ask a question, Madam Chairman?

Mrs. PROST. The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Mr. Berry, I presume you are for this wilderness legislation in order to promote the sale of motor scooters; is that right?

Mr. BERRY. No, sir. They are prohibited for use within wilderness areas, so it could, in effect, retard the sale of them.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Then why would your association take such a positive stand on the legislation?

Mr. BERRY. We feel, regardless of our own motive for profits, there is a need for certain areas of wilderness within this country. [Applause.]

The trail scooters, which are becoming an ever-increasing percentage of the total scooter market, were designed as an aid to the hunter and fishermen, and if we destroy the habitat of the elk, as the director of the Colorado Game and Fish Department mentioned, we are, in effect, destroying our market.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Would your association object to the use of motor scooters in the wilderness areas?

Mr. BERRY. As long as we are prohibited by law from using them in the wilderness areas, we will support that position and do everything we can.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Suppose Congress inserted a provision that you could use motor scooters in wilderness areas; what would your position be then?

Mr. BERRY. I would ride one in.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Thank you, sir.

Mrs. PROST. The time has come for luncheon recess, and the committee will stand in recess until 1:30.

(At 12:30 a recess was taken until 1:30 p.m. of the same day.)

### AFTERNOON SESSION

Mrs. PROST. The Subcommittee on Public Lands will now come to order for the further consideration of the wilderness legislation.

Our first witness this afternoon is Mr. John D. Hart, of Grand Junction, Colo. You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF JOHN D. HART, GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.

Mr. HART. May it please the committee, might I, appearing for the first time before this committee as a private citizen rather than as a State official charged with natural resource management, so appear and present in all good faith my argument and solicitation in favor of the Wilderness Act, S. 174, 87th Congress, 1st session.

No need for a thesis at this time but, rather, the responsibility and accountability to the public, while in their service, for nearly four decades of work primarily connected with the wildlife management phase of natural resource conservation, and management, prompts me to request favorable consideration for the Wilderness Act.

I am fully cognizant by past experiences of a parade of witnesses deploring such legislation and am familiar with their contentions. The same theme songs existed when we were children as to the creation of national forest reserves, as they were then called, and again in 1934 when the old Grazing Service was created under the guidance of legislation sponsored by our own late Congressman Edward Taylor of this very congressional district.

Let the skeptic study in minute detail every paragraph, word, phrase, and clause of this act as passed in the Senate of the United States on September 6, 1961, and realize that Congress being fully aware of the complexities of this modern world, proposes a "wilderness system" so elastic in creation and administration that the same, once established, will actually augment and not hinder any efforts in a national emergency. Time does not permit detailed argument.

From the first public meeting held at Lincoln Park in Grand Junction, Colo., in June of 1934, we see what is now the Bureau of Land Management administrating some 477 million acres of public lands. Such acreage is open to prospecting and mining under those general mining laws of 1872. Some 155 million acres of national forest lands are also subject to the same laws. In this part of the Nation for some nearly one hundred years, minerals have been prospected and explored for.

Look at the history of events; these mineral resources, public resources, if you please, seem in many, many cases to be practically given away to private firms and/or persons. And I recall that one witness answered the question as to property rights this forenoon.

Nevertheless, this Wilderness Act, still while throwing a mantle of protection over mineral resources, no "freezeout" exists through its current phraseology.

I do not contend that the Wilderness Act is the acme of human perfection, but I do contend that the act, as now printed, can bring manifold benefits without detriment to the many other interests using our public lands, viz, the mining industry, the timber industry, and the livestock industry being in the foreground of my mind at the moment. I cannot digress upon the geological, biological, ecological, wildlife resources, and overall recreational values of these public lands.

Nevertheless, it can be debated that here is a medium of further aid better for the times in which we live, administering lands already in custody of the Federal Government, without, strange as it may seem, creating an entirely new medium of spending more, and still more, public funds. It is not contended that no alteration whatsoever will

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take place in that thing called cost of operation. Rather, we contend that we deal here with things not solely measured in monetary classification or significance.

Let me pass to the wildlife resource management phase of all public lands, game refuges, and sanctuaries. Undoubtedly, children and grandchildren of persons who fought, with every resource at their command, the creation of a game refuge system in Colorado are in this audience.

It is not for me to deal in any postmortem examination of the record of these refuges. At the outset, they are inviolate and the years revealed the tragedy and consequences of such status of our public land area, State or Federal. Sheer survival of all vocations, businesses, or industries, as well as animal life using these lands demanded corrective action. Corrective action, at the outset, was as difficult as the original creation of the refuge systems.

Therefore, hold fast to that existing phraseology in the act that obliges the act to supplement and not interfere with the purposes for which the national forests were created, continues with standards used in the administration of national park areas, recognizing existing private rights, recognition of the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the individual States in regard to fish and wildlife resource management on public domain and forest lands.

Retain too those features pertaining to public hearings in all local areas where administration of the act directly affects the citizenry of an area, especially regarding changes in the scope of an area to be included in a wilderness system.

Your own individual and collective responsibility far transcends any one strata of society. As long as you retain this wilderness bill, in its present general form, basically sound and essential to all of us, to the end that its administration recognizes that an acre of ground will feed only such number of mouths, man or beast, as that surface area will produce, that an acre of water has just so much variety of use and once lost is gone forever, to that end no man, family unit, business firm, industry or economy will, in spite of contentions to the contrary, be exposed to bankruptcy. No school district will suffer lack of support, taxation levied, or taxes collected, and future generations, even beyond that 1980 deadline predicted for us, will become vividly aware of the fact that the miles and hours spent in acquainting yourselves with vox populi, the voice of the people, were indeed wise investments in good public service.

May success crown your laudable endeavors.

Thank you for the privilege of appearing before you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you very much, Mr. Hart.

Are there questions?

The gentleman from Colorado, Mr. Dominick is recognized.

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. Hart, do you foresee in the present bill any possibility that existing rights of water in areas which would be included within the act might be jeopardized?

Mr. HART. My own personal experience since the inception of the wilderness bill series, Representative Dominick, is such that I have no fear of that. I would be very receptive, have every confidence in the faith of the sponsors of the legislation, when we the people have need for domestic consumption that rises above what is commonly known as wilderness usage.

Mr. DOMINICK. Suppose someone has a ditch that goes through a primitive area of Federal forest and wants to go in to clean that ditch out with big equipment; he cannot go in there, can he, under this?

Mr. HART. I have seen and personally know the experiences referred to. I cannot read into this, by any stretch of imagination, the legislative intent. I think the elasticity of the phraseology used in protecting existing rights is intended to take care of that.

Mr. DOMINICK. Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you very much, Mr. Hart.

Mr. HART. Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Our next witness is Mr. E. H. Brunquist, Colorado Mountain Club and Denver Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colo. You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF E. H. BRUNQUIST, REPRESENTING THE COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB AND STAFF MEMBERS OF THE DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, DENVER, COLO.

Mr. BRUNQUIST. Madam Chairman and members of the committee, I am E. H. Brunquist, representing the Colorado Mountain Club, the Denver Botany Club, and certain of the staff members of the Denver Museum of Natural History.

As we see it, the key question regarding the wilderness system is this: Are a few members of the present generation to exploit these areas for personal gain and profit, or will we primarily use and preserve them for future generations?

We cannot do both.

The Wilderness Act, as passed by the Senate, had, in effect, been written and rewritten, amended and reamended many times. The evidence indicates that many of those who still oppose this legislation have not read the bill as it was finally passed. Actually it is necessary to read the document several times to understand its complex and involved wording.

Many of the criticisms leveled at wilderness legislation during the hearings of 1958 are no longer applicable because of changes, compromises, and adjustments made since then. Even after its passage in the Senate, the bill has been attacked for features which are no longer a part of the document.

One also meets with the kind of uninformed and undiscriminating prejudice which history tells us was much in evidence during the struggle to establish national parks in the United States. Let such people read the bill.

As we see it, the Wilderness Act seeks to set aside wilderness areas not primarily as playgrounds, as has been alleged, but as reservoirs of natural resources to be conserved, preserved, and held in trust for future generations, whatever their needs may turn out to be, and also utilized by us in a few valuable ways.

Some people oppose the legislation on the ground that relatively few people would be able to enjoy the recreational facilities of such wilderness regions. This is unfortunately true, but it must be remembered that the regions would not remain wilderness if large numbers of people visited them. It is unfortunate, too, that hundreds of thousands of our people cannot afford the expense of visting the national parks and monuments.

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A strong case can be made for the point of view that the most important values of wilderness are not recreational in nature. Consider a few typical examples; they have been culled from the testimony of members of the National Park Service, the Water Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey, and faculties of United States and Canadian universities—see report of the Sixth Biennial Wilderness Conference in San Francisco, 1959.

Science needs wilderness as a research laboratory for such problems as plant and animal disease-contagiousness in unaltered nature, the effect of radioactive pollution on plants and animals of these peculiarly protected regions, more adequate measurement of stream-flow from areas as free as possible from man-induced changes. Then, too, and this is important, it seems to us—only wilderness can provide the conditions necessary to the survival of certain plant and animal species.

It should be noted that most of the wilderness areas are in high or steep mountain regions, where logging, grazing, and mining must be restricted anyway, to protect watersheds.

In our opinion, there is ample provision in the act for the necessary grazing of domestic livestock, mining exploration, roadbuilding, and use of motorboats and aircraft.

As I say, are not most of the wilderness areas in high or steep mountain terrain, where logging, grazing, and mining must be restricted anyway, to protect watersheds.

Furthermore, as Senator Anderson has pointed out, only about 5 percent of our Federal estate would be preserved in wilderness, and for the most part it would be in high country of the national forests, the background country of the national parks, and in areas not now open to exploitation.

Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you.

The distinguished gentleman from Colorado and chairman of the full committee is recognized.

Mr. ASPINALL. Mr. Brunquist, I think your reference to the difficulty of understanding the Senate bill, is one reason why this committee is very desirous of studying it further. The best kind of a law is one that you do not have to study and study and study to find out what its meaning is.

What we are going to try to do in this committee, in my opinion, is to try to make it as simple and understandable as possible.

You brought into this discussion this afternoon a rather new and unique thought, and that has to do with preserving the natural resources for the use of future generations as they may see fit. I think, if you read that definition, the last part of the first paragraph on page 2, you will find that this definition within itself does not go that far, because this definition has to do with maintaining this as a wilderness in the future.

If I understand the definition of "wilderness" as used by the bill and also by the sponsors of this bill, the wilderness is some place that is untrammeled by man, and it is not intended for any further use.

What is your position?

Mr. BRUNQUIST. My position and my reaction would be to ask you whether——

Mr. ASPINALL. You see, I am not answering your question, I am asking you.

Mr. BRUNQUIST. All right. I assume the bill will not remove such areas beyond any recall, that the people and the administrations we can have will do what is necessary, and they can do what is necessary, if later we need this land for other purposes. Am I wrong?

Mr. ASPINALL. I am still not answering your question.

Mr. BRUNQUIST. Pardon me.

Mr. ASPINALL. All I want to know is whether that is the way you think, and I am taking no position on it at all.

Mr. BRUNQUIST. Yes.

Mr. ASPINALL. Should the President of the United States or should the Congress of the United States have the responsibility of determining when is the right time to use those resources, and under what circumstances?

Mr. BRUNQUIST. I can only answer personally, and I would say I would be perfectly willing to have Congress rather than the President.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Mrs. PFOST. Thanks again.

The committee will take a short recess.

(A short recess was taken.)

Mrs. PFOST. Our next witness is Mr. Stephen B. Goodman, of Colorado Springs, Colo.

You may proceed, Mr. Goodman.

## STATEMENT OF STEPHEN B. GOODMAN, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.

Mr. GOODMAN. My name is Stephen B. Goodman. I come from Colorado Springs.

This statement is to express my personal views and reasons in favor of passage of the wilderness bill in the next session of Congress. I do not represent any organization or commercial enterprise.

As a wilderness enthusiast with some amount of experience I would like to try to answer some of the objections raised by those not in favor of S. 174.

The bill has been referred to as "class legislation," meaning that a person has to be in top physical condition and willing to spend a lot of money to participate in this activity. This is not the case. I have met and observed while back-packing many people who are of average health and endurance. Almost all plan to continue "getting out" after retirement age. The cost is very modest. Excluding transportation getting to the roadhead, a person can go for less than $4 per day. I feel this is well within the financial capabilities of the average.

It has been said that the small number of people using wilderness-type areas does not justify a wilderness system of the magnitude now under consideration. There are several answers I can give to this.

There are many areas in our national park back country where heavy use is literally wearing out the terrain. To keep these places from getting into worse condition the Park Service has had to restrict horse travel, install sanitary facilities, litter baskets, et cetera. This naturally detracts from the wilderness environment and causes many to seek other more remote places on future trips.

Heretofore, many people who enjoy wilderness environment were able to find it in ordinary national forests. Although work has not yet begun, some of this land has been rightfully committed to logging or water storage reservoirs. As these projects begin to develop, those

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using it in the past will have to seek other places for their remote recreation.

These factors, along with the natural increase in use, due to expanding population, will mean eventual sharp rising usage in designated wilderness areas. An amount probably far in excess of what present-day use indicates.

A third point that objectors to the bill bring up is that they cannot see any threatened injury to wilderness characteristics of the proposed areas. On the contrary, Park Service and Forest Service officials are under frequent bombardment from individuals to open up lands that have been already designated as wilderness areas. There is no law preventing the agencies from opening the land. Departmental policy is the only rule now in effect to go on. Officials involved want and need this legislation to give direction in the administration of the wilderness land.

If I may, Madam Chairman, I would like to make one comment on the question Mr. Dominick raised with the two witnesses preceding.

He asked if there was any problem involved in maintaining existing water improvements in existing wilderness areas now. I know of two of these transmountain diversion systems here in Colorado, on the Continental Divide, that do need good access by machinery to get to them to maintain those existing structures.

Those whom I have talked to have felt it is not well enough spelled out in the existing bill as to whether or not an access road would be permitted in there if it were feasible.

I strongly recommend this be spelled out more clearly.

Mrs. PFOST. Does that complete your statement?

Mr. GOODMAN. Yes, ma'am.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Goodman.

Are there questions of Mr. Goodman?

If not, our next witness is Mr. Grant Oxley of Monte Vista, Colo. I believe he was to appear with Mr. Sid L. Klecker, also of Monte Vista.

You may proceed, Mr. Oxley.

## STATEMENT OF GRANT E. OXLEY, ACCOMPANIED BY SID L. KLECKER, MONTE VISTA, COLO.

Mr. OXLEY. Madam Chairman, I am Grant Oxley, a rancher from the San Luis Valley. Our address is Monte Vista. I address this to Mr. Wayne N. Aspinall, the chairman, and Mrs. Pfost, or Madam Chairman. This is our brief:

We as farmers and ranchers are vitally concerned about the proposed wilderness bill, S. 174.

Our interest is primarily the right to use mechanized equipment to maintain old established transmountain water diversions located in the wilderness areas.

Concerning our diversion, there is an old mining road south from Creede, Colo., to within one-half mile of this diversion on the Rio Grande side which we go up to service this project.

The ditches themselves lie on the western slope and are in the San Juan wilderness. The ditches are out on the open hillside and due to nature and other elements there is considerable deterioration requiring that maintenance from year to year is necessary.

There is an outcropping of rock and shale that we need to work to carry our water. We need a small air compressor, a medium-sized dozer to make a good job that will meet the State engineer's specifications and the Rio Grande compact.

On our part, we are interested in the development of supplementary water for both irrigation and domestic use. These uses require in our day and age both headgates and accurate measuring devices.

Mr. Chairman, we feel that up and down this Continental Divide there are numerous transmountain water diversions that need be justly considered in these times of progress.

I thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Oxley.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Madam Chairman?

Mrs. PFOST. The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You wrote me concerning your difficulty with the Forest Service in obtaining permission to clean these ditches. I referred your letter to the regional forester in Denver. I have not heard from him as yet.

I want to ask you this: What reason does the Durango Forest Service office give you for refusing permission to clean these ditches?

Mr. OXLEY. We have been advised by our present administrator the Forest Service does not have authority at this time to allow mechanized equipment to be used in wilderness areas.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Does he state whether or not this restriction is written in the law or whether it is a regulation adopted by the Forest Service?

Mr. OXLEY. It is a regulation, I would say, of Interior; is it not?

Mr. CHENOWETH. You are dealing in the national forests, are you not?

Mr. OXLEY. That is right, Judge, and they do not have the authority under this wilderness system to allow mechanized equipment to go into those wilderness areas.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Does he state whether or not that is the regulation? Or is it written into law?

Mr. OXLEY. It is their regulation. They do not have the authority.

Mr. CHENOWETH. They do have the authority, but they have adopted a regulation saying they will not do it. They can change that and adopt a regulation giving you permission to clean these ditches, can they not?

Mr. OXLEY. Yes.

Mr. CHENOWETH. We will find out why they do not do it.

Mr. OXLEY. Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Will my colleague yield to me?

Mr. CHENOWETH. Yes.

Mr. ASPINALL. Has this transmountain diversion been in use for the last many years?

Mr. OXLEY. Yes.

Mr. ASPINALL. It is still in use?

Mr. OXLEY. Since 1938, yes.

Mr. ASPINALL. Was it constructed by the use of hand and shovels, or was it constructed by the use of mechanized equipment, or horses and scraper?

Mr. OXLEY. It was before the day of mechanized equipment. It was handwork and powered by mules and horses.

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Mr. ASPINALL. Do you not think we need some kind of wilderness legislation to give you a little relief in this respect?

Mr. OXLEY. We certainly do. We think Congress should have the say-so.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Mr. Oxley.

Our next witness is Charlotte Barbour of Denver Botanic Gardens, Garden Club of Denver, Botany Club of Denver, Denver, Colo.

Will Mr. George Jackson come forward and have his statement ready?

You may proceed, Miss Barbour.

## STATEMENT OF CHARLOTTE A. BARBOUR, REPRESENTING DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS, GARDEN CLUB OF DENVER, BOTANY CLUB OF DENVER, DENVER, COLO.

Miss BARBOUR. Madam Chairman, Mr. Aspinall, and members of the committee, it seems to me, from the reading I have done, that the Wilderness Act, S. 174, later to be voted on in the House of Representatives, is one of the most pliable and considerate measures in conservation legislation ever to be submitted to Congress.

What with reviews, modifications, amendments, and exceptions, it would appear guaranteed not to penalize anyone. Therefore, one is led to believe that the opposition to this bill derives from the very old feud between private and public interests. The opponents are probably those people—and there are such people—who reject the whole idea of the conservation of natural resources.

"Why give up immediate profits for future values?" The last two centuries of U.S. history amply prove this point.

The National Wilderness Preservation System, as outlined in the act, would insure continuous protection over and above what the wilderness areas now have and be an added means of combating the never-ending sniping at these areas.

I hope the House of Representatives will vote as conscientiously as did the Senate on September 6, 1961.

Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you very much.

Miss BARBOUR. I have here, perhaps duplicating a little bit of what Dr. Brunquist said, something I would like to read from someone actively biologically engaged in the work in the national forests. Her name is Margaret Douglas, and her husband is John Douglas.

We ourselves have visited several of the 16 wilderness-type areas in Colorado and have done research in 2. During the past six summers we have lived and worked in Rocky Mountain National Park, and we have done extensive botanical research in one of the remoter parts of the park.

No other experience of our lives has been as completely satisfying. To us wilderness means renewal of body, mind, and spirit. Many of you have had similar experiences, no doubt, and surely we are all hopeful that our children, who will be subjected to even greater pressures of urbanization than we ourselves, may enjoy the sanity and beauty of areas still in their natural state.

From the scientific viewpoint, wilderness is also of the utmost importance. The conservation of the ever-dwindling species of plants and animals has long been acceptable as desirable and necessary. All of you are concerned with such conservation, for we know that once a species is gone, we have lost something we never can restore.

But undisturbed communities of living things, wilderness areas, are even more precise, even more precious, not only for their recreational and spiritual value, but for their scientific meaning.

We biologists find in them the key to many perplexing relationships exhibited in areas disturbed by man and managed for his material benefit. We find in them clues to the laws of nature. They are the best laboratories and museums.

Thank you for letting me read this.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you very much.

Are there questions?

You may proceed, Mr. Jackson.

## STATEMENT OF GEORGE F. JACKSON, PRESIDENT EMERITUS, IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.

Mr. JACKSON. Madam Chairman and members of the committee, I am George F. Jackson, past president of the Izaak Walton League of America. I do appreciate the opportunity to present the league's views on wilderness legislation as now embodied in S. 174.

As you know, the league, for many years, has sponsored some sound wilderness legislation in our country. We believe that there are certain areas that can and should be set aside to maintain in an unspoiled condition.

The wilderness bill has gone through several years of study, public hearings, revision, modification, and refinement. In S. 174, the wilderness bill now reported by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, represents the sober judgment of a majority of knowledgeable committee members, who come from Western States where most of the areas affected by the bill are located.

Under the able leadership of Chairman Clinton P. Anderson, the committee has sought to meet all valid objections and to provide means whereby emergency situations, should they ever arise in the future, can reasonably be met.

Much opposition to the various bills introduced over the past 5 years has occurred because of misunderstandings, uninformed opinion, and a groundless fear that the purpose of the bill was to stifle economic development of the public land States. Language of the bill as now reported is clear and to the point, direct, unequivocal.

Provisions in earlier versions of the bill which caused some major concerns have been eliminated. S. 174 does not apply to Indian reservation lands. It does not apply to the public domain. Fears that a wilderness council might unduly interfere with national forest administration have been quieted. The bill provides for no wilderness council or anything of the sort.

The bill takes no existing management authority away from the Forest Service, Park Service, or Fish and Wildlife Service. It interposes no new policy or administrative body. It provides clearly that in any change of boundary or area use, or any additions to the wilderness system, that Congress itself has the final decision.

Should the wilderness bill be enacted it will affect Colorado hardly at all, except to strengthen the Forest Service and the Park Service in carrying out the same programs which they now have responsibility for in the State.

The wilderness bill controversy in Colorado has involved the national parks system very little, if at all. Coloradans are proud of their national park areas, Rocky Mountain and Mesa Verde National Parks and Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Great Sand Dunes, Colorado and Dinosaur National Monuments. They are extensive recreation areas

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for the people of Colorado and they bring vast numbers of tourists to the State each year. These six park areas accounted for 3 million visitors last year and history shows the number increases year after year.

The wilderness bill would affect in no way the present operations of these areas. It would simply require the Secretary of the Interior within the next 10 years to study each park and monument and recommend what portions of each should be left undeveloped for wilderness recreation and which portions should be reserved for roads, buildings, visitor accommodations and facilities and administrative installations. Such recommendations are subject to review and approval by the President and subject to review and disapproval by either House of Congress.

It has been argued by some in the past that vast areas of public domain, mostly Taylor Grazing Act lands in Colorado, would be declared wilderness under the bill. Public domain lands are not subject to S. 174 in any way; they are excluded, except that any proposal for adding any public domain lands to the wilderness system would require a specific, affirmative act of Congress.

Provisions of S. 174 relating to Federal wildlife refuges affect Colorado not at all. Colorado has but one such refuge, in the San Luis Valley, and it does not come within wilderness definitions of the bill.

Controversy in Colorado over the wilderness bill has centered on the national forests and been distinguished by public declarations of those opposed to it that the legislation would "lock up" vast quantities of resources essential to the economic welfare of the State. The facts of the matter are quite different.

There are in the national forests in Colorado only four areas which would become full-fledged parts of the wilderness preservation system at the time the wilderness bill is enacted. These are the Maroon Bells-Snowmass on the White River National Forest, Mount Zirkel-Dome Peak on the Routt, Rawah on the Roosevelt, and West Elk on the Gunnison. These four are now designated as wild areas—less than 100,000 acres each—and total 207,079 acres, or about 1.3 percent of the total national forest acreage in Colorado, which is 15,872,729.

In addition, there are in Colorado seven national forest primitive areas which total 592,313 acres. These may go into the permanent wilderness system at a later time, if the Secretary of Agriculture, after review and study, so recommends and if the President concurs with that recommendation and in turn recommends it to Congress, and if the Congress thereupon accepts the recommendation and does not object by resolution of either the House or the Senate.

The Secretary is given 10 years in which to complete his review of each of these primitive areas to determine proper boundaries, and to submit recommendations to the President as whether or not each should remain in the wilderness system or be returned to general national forest use.

In this connection, his recommendation may not, under the bill, call for enlargement of an area beyond its present acreage. In making his recommendations, the Secretary takes into consideration such factors as existing logging and mining operations, roads, water development, recreation development, and other national forest values and uses.

The four wild areas mentioned above have already been subject to such study, review, and reclassification from primitive to wild during

the past 10 years, as have all the present national forest wilderness and wild areas.

There is practically unanimous agreement, even among those who oppose wilderness legislation of any kind, that the Forest Service has carried out this review and reclassification process in a sane, sound, and responsible way. There is every reason to believe it will continue to do the same in processing the remaining primitive areas.

Two of these seven primitive areas in Colorado are current illustrations of this fact. The Uncompaghre area is in process of having its primitive designation rescinded, because the area already has extensive roads, mining operations, and other adverse developments. It is proposed by the Forest Service to declare a portion of its rugged, lofty interior a scenic area, which is not a wilderness classification and would not come within the provisions of S. 174.

The Flattops Primitive Area, center of a vast stand of beetle-killed spruce, has been open to logging operations for a decade. This decision was reached by the Forest Service to salvage the timber values of the dead spruce and reduce the hazards of forest fire. While such logging of salvage spruce has been relatively minor to date, should a pulpmill be established in the locality as Colorado hopes, the whole area would be opened by roads to logging operations.

Thus, for all practical purposes, the ultimate decision on the Flattops may be decades away.

The four wild areas and the five primitive areas in Colorado—leaving out the Uncompaghre and Flattops—total 628,340 acres, or less than 4 percent of the total national forest acreage in Colorado.

Approximately half of this acreage is nontimbered alpine meadow and rocky crag. Of the remainder, only about half is in commercial timber. It is evident then that the wild areas which would come into the wilderness system, if S. 174 is enacted, and the primitive areas which might come in as wilderness later on, represent about 2.2 percent of the timber resource of the national forests in Colorado, and only 1.6 percent of the total Colorado timber stand.

That this is negligible is illustrated by the fact that the present harvest of timber in Colorado national forests—not including wild and primitive areas where there is no timber harvest under existing regulations—could be increased by 50 percent without exceeding the allowable sustained yield cut.

The claim that the wilderness bill would lock up timber resources essential to Colorado's economy is unfounded.

It has been claimed that the wilderness bill would eliminate domestic livestock grazing from these areas. There has never been any such intention on the part of the sponsors, and the language of S. 174 is clear on this point as is the Senate committee report. Livestock grazing will be affected in no way whatsoever as a result of enactment of the wilderness bill.

Mining presents a more difficult problem. Under present mining laws the Forest Service has no control over mining location, development or access to mining operations, and but little control over surface resources affected by mining operations.

The mining laws supersede the responsibilities of the Forest Service to manage the resources of the national forests, even under the Multiple-Use and Sustained Yield Act passed by Congress last year.

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The Forest Service has been helpless, consequently, to protect existing wilderness, wild, and primitive areas from the encroachment by mining claims, operations and access roads. The Uncompaghre Primitive Area, now in the process of having its primitive status rescinded for exactly these reasons, is a case in point.

The wilderness bill would not interfere with existing mining rights, but it would prohibit any new mining operations in Colorado wild and primitive areas, unless the President should rule that opening an area to mining would best serve the interests of the public. Prospecting and other activities performed to secure information about mineral resources would continue to be permitted if not incompatible with the wilderness environment.

These limitations would apply to less than 4 percent of the national forests in Colorado and less than 1 percent of Colorado land in total. S. 174 can hardly be said would "lock up" Colorado's mineral resources and stifle the industry.

It has been claimed that the wilderness bill would obstruct necessary water development in Colorado. This is hardly the case. For one thing, S. 174 provides that the President may open any wilderness area to water development when he determine that to be in the best interests of the public. Beyond this, in any Federal water development project coming before the Congress for authorization, the Congress itself would always have the full and ultimate authority to determine whether or not the project might be constructed within or otherwise affect a wilderness area.

The language of S. 174 exempts entirely from the provisions of the bill the Federal Power Commission and its licensing authorities over public and private waterpower development.

Frankly, we believe this is wrong and that Presidential order should be required before FPC can license a project in a designated wilderness area. FPC has shown in the Deschutes River case in Oregon and the Cowlitz River case in Washington that it is capable of disregarding the will of the people of a State, the adverse decision of the responsible State water agency, the adverse decision of a Governor of a State and the act of a State legislature itself. One Federal agency should not be in a position to override other Federal agencies and established public programs without reference to higher authority.

The wilderness bill would not make it more easy to develop water projects in Colorado. That is not its purpose. On the other hand it would not offer any real barrier as some have claimed.

It would make it necessary for water developing planners to consider wilderness effects, if any, in their planning activities, as it is now mandatory that they take fish and wildlife into consideration. The bill, by special provision, makes it clear that investigation of water resources within a wilderness area is not to be hindered, if not incompatible.

Section 6(8) of S. 174 makes it clear that subsurface use, which does not affect the wilderness character on the surface, may be carried out. This will remove that obstacle to Denver's plan to tunnel under the Gore Range-Eagle Nest Primitive Area in developing the city's water collection and storage system.

Perhaps the most ridiculous of baseless claims made by opponents of S. 174 is illustrated by the Chamber of Commerce of the United

States in its August 18 Washington Report. The chamber, which has an almost unbroken record of opposing everything designed to enhance public fishing, hunting, and recreation opportunities, declares without qualification that there will be "no services, no composites, no hunting, no fishing, no nothing" in wilderness areas. A more irresponsible claim is hard to imagine.

S. 174 states that commercial services essential for realizing the recreation purposes of the areas are permitted.

Campsites and essential facilities of the type now permitted by the Forest Service in wilderness areas will continue to be permitted.

Hunting and fishing—and the wild and primitive areas in Colorado provide some of the highest quality to be found anywhere—will continue to be available to all who seek it under the hunting and fishing laws of the State of Colorado.

A perennial claim has been made that the wilderness bill would open the way for establishment of vast new wilderness areas. Let's bury that figment of the imagination once and for all. S. 174 has no open ends. The areas that would be included in the wilderness system at enactment of the bill are known, their boundaries are precise and delineated on maps. Primitive areas, after full study and exact delineation of boundaries determined, will even then not come into the permanent wilderness system until Congress has had a chance to review them and disapprove them, if it so decides. No other areas can come in except by specific act of Congress.

Outdoor recreation is one of Colorado's top three industries. Our scenic and recreation resources are second to those of no other State. They not only serve to bring us millions of visitors every year, but they provide an environment that makes Colorado "tops" as a place to live, work, and raise a family.

In supporting S. 174, we are helping to assure that Colorado will not permit those resources to be lost by default. We are emphasizing that Colorado can afford to preserve 1 percent of its land area in national parks and 1 percent in national forest wilderness. Coloradans would be shortsighted and irresponsible toward their own future to do otherwise.

I heard this morning from several opponents of the wilderness bill that they were waiting until the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission makes its report.

As you may know, the league was quite active in bringing about the ORRRC and the legislation thereon, and we, too, think that possibly their report should have some bearing on wilderness. The opponents of the bill say they want to wait for that report. I am wondering what their stand will be if in this report this particular Commission recommends even stronger wilderness legislation than is now proposed. It will be difficult for them then to back up and say they do not believe in the ORRRC report.

Thank you, Madam Chairman.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Mr. Jackson.

Are these questions of Mr. Jackson?

Mr. CHENOWETH. Madam Chairman.

Mrs. PROST. The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I think you were a little too modest when you introduced yourself, since you are President Emeritus of the Izaak Walton League of America.

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Mr. JACKSON. That is correct.

Mr. CHENOWETH. And I know you are recognized as one of the leading authorities on wildlife values and conservation of natural resources in this country. I commend you on a very splendid statement.

Mr. JACKSON. Thank you.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I get the very definite impression that you feel wilderness legislation can be passed under which all of these different interests can live and prosper as they are at the present time. Is that right?

Mr. JACKSON. I believe that is correct.

Mr. CHENOWETH. In other words, it is not the intention of the Izaak Walton League of America to support or endorse legislation which will deprive the mining industry, the cattle industry, the water interests, of any of the rights and benefits which they now enjoy in these natural resources?

Mr. JACKSON. That is correct.

Mr. CHENOWETH. And you feel that these rights can be continued?

Mr. JACKSON. I believe this legislation can be passed so that it will protect the present users and yet protect the wilderness from too much exploitation.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Just one further question. Do you feel that the creation of wilderness areas can best be done by an act of Congress or by designation by the President? Which would you prefer?

Mr. JACKSON. Frankly, I would hesitate to answer that question. It would be my opinion under the present bill that Congress has considerable authority in this wilderness matter.

I do not believe it should come to the point where every change that is made should be brought back to the Congress and then go through all of the various committees with hearings. That might possibly take a year or 2 years or 3 years to even bring about these things that are needed.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Do you not think further protection would be provided if Congress can have the final voice in the creation of these areas?

Mr. JACKSON. It is very possible it would do so; yes.

Mr. CHENOWETH. And that might remove some of the objections to this legislation?

Mr. JACKSON. That seemed to be one of the principal objections this morning, that they did not feel the Congress had enough say-so on it, that maybe this put it in the hands of the President rather than the Congress.

I would like to call attention to the fact that I think was mentioned once this morning. The status quo now is that a lot of this could be changed by one person's signature at the present time, maybe the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. CHENOWETH. In other words, you would not object if the House should pass a somewhat different bill than was passed by the Senate. You do not hold that the Senate bill is the last word on this subject. Some other bill, perhaps making a little different approach, would be just as acceptable to the Izaak Walton League?

Mr. JACKSON. It is very possible it would. I might say that Congressman Aspinall brought out the fact that they think maybe the

bill needs some refining in language, so it is more understandable. That is very possible, that some refinements might be necessary so the bill, when it was picked up by the average person in business, or whoever it might be, could be read by them and they would know exactly what it meant.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Thank you very much.

Mr. DOMINICK. Madam Chairman?

Mrs. PFOST. The gentleman from Colorado, Mr. Dominick.

Mr. DOMINICK. I also thought you made a very good presentation, but I was interested in your comment that mining was one of the principal areas of concern in this, and that it did not really interfere with mining because, whenever the President determined it to be in the public interest, the areas could be opened for development. How do we find out whether any particular area should be opened up if they cannot get in to actually do on-the-ground exploration?

Mr. JACKSON. Might I bring out this point? I have talked to a number of geologists, mining engineers, and so forth, who have been actively exploring our Western States for various minerals. I question very, very much that there are any particular large areas within the State of Colorado or any of the Rocky Mountain States that have not already had pretty thorough preliminary exploration, and where the mineral content is already known.

In other words, if there are large deposits of gold or uranium, or whatever it might happen to be, I think the ground has been pretty thoroughly covered to ascertain those things are there; it does not really need the new exploration.

Mr. DOMINICK. Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you very much, Mr. Jackson.

Mr. JACKSON. Thank you again.

Mrs. PFOST. Our next witness is Mr. E. H. Hilliard, Jr., Conservation Council of Colorado, Inc., Denver, Colo.

You may proceed, Mr. Hilliard.

## STATEMENT OF E. H. HILLIARD, JR., CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF COLORADO, INC., DENVER, COLO.

Mr. HILLIARD. Madam Chairman and members of the committee, I certainly appreciate being here.

I have submitted a very brief statement. I would like to make one additional point and elaborate on the main point.

The additional point is that I think we all tend to measure wilderness by the number of people who use it. We say that so few people use it; therefore, it could not be important. This is the forces against wilderness talking.

Of course, this comes to mind to me:

First, the people that do use it in number are substantial and compare favorably with the other users of it. Their rights to the wilderness aspects should be preserved.

Second, the growth in use is apparently phenomenal. The people in the Park Service tell me that the off-road usage is growing considerably more rapidly than the vehicle use.

As was mentioned by Mr. Goodman, I think the so-called wilderness portion of the parks have to have rest facilities, trash cans, and this sort of thing. In effect, they are no longer wilderness.

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Third, if we measure only days' use as the criterion, I am sure that all of the antiwilderness people would have argued against Yellowstone, Glacier, Rocky Mountain Parks.

How many people used Yellowstone in 1872? It was said it was the toy of the rich, and that only a few could afford to go out on the railroad, which was not even built at that time, and take horse carriages and pack trips through it. Yet look at the mass of ordinary, average factory workers and farmers and everyone else who now use it.

Fourth, on the question of assets in the wilderness and the unknown quantity of mining, if I may refer to Mr. Dominick's comment a few minutes ago—how can you know there are not underground resources yet undiscovered? We do not know it. There is no way to know it positively, but it seems unlikely to me that these undiscovered resources would, by some coincidence, only be in the manmade wilderness boundaries; that, if these resources exist, there are going to be many tons of them, fields of them, downstream secondary sediments of them in areas that are not wilderness, that do permit all of the modern exploration for drilling, bulldozers, and so forth and so forth, and that it can be—if not proven, it can be shown to the President with reasonable certainty that there is a probability of some of this yet undiscovered but much needed mineral in the wilderness; in which case, the key is available for him to open it up.

I just cannot conceive that these minerals frequently referred to are, by coincidence, all going to be within the areas and not partly within and partly without.

To expand on the main point of the paper about the similarity of the parks and the wilderness, I am no artist, but let me draw two pictures here.

If you have two identical wilderness areas, substantially identical, and they both admittedly are a core which attracts people, people like to be near them, even though a minority of the people actually use them, if this one happened to have had a boundary drawn around it in the past and fringe development is permitted, this boundary being a national park, we think this is wonderful.

As I say, this is nice, but people can get to it, can get in the park, but they are not getting in the core area. Part of this development is within the park, part of it without the park.

A park on the maps is generally a different color, it has had national publicity. But, basically, you have a core area with fringe development that is a great tourist attraction.

This second area did not get put in a park, it is still in the ordinary national forest. Under the wilderness system nothing will prevent the same fringe development, and I believe it is hard to argue that the fringe developments around Glacier and Yellowstone, Jackson Hole and Rocky Mountain Parks, that the economies of those regions are not stronger because these core areas were maintained than if the ordinary grazing, mining, and timbering had been permitted.

So I think you have a situation quite similar to Yellowstone 50 or 75 years ago. Now is the time to set these areas aside at no cost, and S. 174 does this.

That concludes my remarks. Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Mr. Hilliard. Without objection, Mr. Hilliard's statement will be printed in full at this point.

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(The prepared statement of Mr. Hilliard follows:)

STATEMENT ON S. 174, WILDERNESS BILL, BY E. H. HILLIARD, JR., CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF COLORADO, INC., DENVER, COLO.

First, many thanks to the committee members who have fitted this hearing into their crowded schedules. Certainly you are in a preeminent position to feel the complexities of modern life, and therefore should need wilderness even more than we average business people do.

The conservation council, a coordinating body for the sportsmen's groups in Colorado, wholeheartedly endorses the wilderness bill as passed by the Senate. We will not take your limited time to repeat the many fine prowilderness arguments you've heard so frequently but we generally agree with them.

I'd like, however, to present one usually overlooked point, and it happens to be a direct refutation of the minority views that S. 174 would "put a brake on the development of the West" (Rept. 635).

I contend that all the bill's proposed wilderness-type areas are in essence the same as the wilderness portions of our national parks. If one mentally removes park boundaries, it will be seen that parks are usually pieces of scenic wilderness, with fringe development in the form of roads and tourist facilities both within and outside the park boundary. But basically the undisturbed area is the magnet that attracts visitors and produces the need for the development. The fact that parks have had a 50-year lead as to promotion, that they are listed on the back of road maps, that they are almost always in a different color and thus stand out on any map, does not alter the basic fact that the core of their attraction is their undisturbed wilderness-type scenic areas.

Because of this attraction the development of park regions has usually had a brake released rather than put on. Isn't it obvious that the surroundings of Rocky Mountain National Park, or of Yellowstone-Grand Teton, or of Glacier, are more developed than they would have become with no parks and the usual mining-timbering-grazing instead? Further, the development of these park regions is healthy, profitable, and growing, characteristic of tourism in the West, versus the troubles that have beset western mining for many years, grazing more recently, to some extent smaller timber operations.

My contention is that, given 50 years, or even 20 years, of publicity comparable to the parks, the wilderness will command fringe development producing for their States' economies far greater and more certain stimulus than would multiple use of the areas involved.

I recognize, of course, that the idea of promotion is contrary to the concept of true wilderness, which I personally seek out and use. But if the growth in tourism with respect to parks is applied to the population-prosperity-leisure time predictions for the future, then it's simply economic reality that regions containing wildernesses will promote them. The core will attract visitors, even though only a minority will venture very far into the wilderness, but without the core, which can be established cost free under S. 174, fewer visitors will come.

For the West's economy then, we respectfully urge your committee to help release the brake by sending the wilderness bill to the floor of the House in early 1962.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Madam Chairman?

Mrs. PROST. Mr. Chenoweth is recognized.

Mr. CHENOWETH. What would your attitude be, Mr. Hilliard, in the event we did declare a wilderness area and subsequently found some very rich and badly needed strategic metals in that area? Would you object to the production of those minerals in a commercial way?

Mr. HILLIARD. Of course not. I think if it is in the national interest, we have to.

I personally would like to see some sort of replacement of the wilderness value destroyed in some other area, so that, as the population grows, at least the total wilderness available to them does not decrease; it would hold its own.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You concur in the attitude taken by Mr. Jackson, the previous witness, that it was not his purpose or that of the organ-

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ization he represents to deprive other interests of the use of our natural resources, but to permit everyone to obtain the maximum use of them. Would you subscribe to that theory and philosophy?

Mr. HILLIARD. I do not think everyone obtaining the maximum use is practical for any given area. The multiple-use concept itself devotes certain areas, which obviously are mining or timbering, to that purpose. They are, in effect, single uses for a particular area. In fact, the multiple-use bill recognized wilderness as one of the uses.

It seems to me it is just as legitimate to have certain areas set aside as wilderness as the other areas that are predominantly other uses.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You see, you run into trouble when one group tries to push all the others aside and seeks to obtain exclusive jurisdiction and use of that area. That is one of the difficulties in this whole wilderness legislation. You have to live and let live. That is what we are trying to work out in this bill.

Mr. HILLIARD. But these same arguments, I believe, were used against the national parks, and yet they are fast becoming inadequate. I think we are really making a decision here comparable to what the park people did 50 years ago, roughly.

Mr. CHENOWETH. That is all. Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. The gentleman from Colorado, Mr. Dominick.

Mr. DOMINICK. Ed, I liked your presentation, but I must take exception to your remarks on the mining, because it seems apparent to me there can be any number of materials, either known to be valuable now, or to become valuable in the future, that could easily be located within 14 million acres. You could go no more than 200 yards away from an existing mining situation now and find that it plays out. So I think there is the possibility and almost the necessity of exploring for this, which should be considered.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Mr. Hilliard.

Mr. HILLIARD. Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Mr. M. E. Whitener, chairman of the board, Rio Blanco County Fish & Wildlife Association, Colorado, is next. Then Mr. Emil O. Kiehne of Reserve, N. Mex.; and Dr. Robert W. Viehe, Glenwood Medical Association of Glenwood Springs, Colo.

Since the first two called apparently are not here, you may proceed, Dr. Viehe.

## STATEMENT OF ROBERT W. VIEHE, M.D., GLENWOOD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLO.

Dr. VIEHE. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

I am a general surgeon in Glenwood Springs, Colo., and have been in wilderness areas, and wish to express my own personal opinion.

In my opinion there is urgent need for legislative establishment of a national wilderness preservation policy and congressional sanction of a wilderness preservation system to stabilize and insure perpetuation of the national forest wilderness system developed as an administrative policy which is generally accepted as being in the public interest.

The use of wilderness is truly multiple use. Not all uses are established on any one area but use as prime watershed, use as scientific study area, use as wildlife habitat, use as healthy enjoyment in the har-

vesting of game and fish, use of scenic value, and use for recreational value are all part of wilderness use. Add mining, lumbering, dam-building, roadbuilding, grazing, and oil and gas exploration and one loses much of the value of wilderness land.

The proper uses of wilderness can all coexist in happy union. Add any of the latter uses and part of the wilderness purpose and ideal is lost. Wilderness is like a rare piece of china; once broken, it is destroyed forever.

Opponents of this measure all fight it because of basic economic reasoning. The miner of minerals, the grazer of stock, the producer of timber, the producer of oil and gas all do not want to lose their chance for monetary gain from public land. They speak from their pocketbook and not from the mind or heart.

The opponents have turned to many untrue allegations in testimony previously heard in Senate hearings, such as "Wilderness use is for the rich only."

I have been in wilderness area with filling station attendants, schoolteachers, high school students and individuals from many many other occupations and walks of life, none of whom were wealthy people. They have saved their money for these visits because they realize that a wilderness experience is worth a sacrifice and is infinitely more physically and spiritually rewarding and probably less expensive than a trip to a plush hotel or motel in many of the neon recreational centers of the country such as Las Vegas, Nev., Palm Springs, Calif., or Colorado Springs, Colo.

Arguing that wilderness areas are for the privileged few—and for that reason can be abolished—might be considered analogous to churchgoing. Churches are open to everyone, but more people stay away than attend. In spite of that, churches have a pretty sure tenure.—Ernest Swift, Conservation News, September 15, 1959.

From the same source:

Probably not more than one-tenth of 1 percent of our population is dedicated or hearty enough to take advantage of this type of recreation. Leaving out the dedicated, if only one-tenth of 1 percent of the citizens of the United States are hearty enough to bear up physically under wilderness outing, then God help this Nation.

A conservationist is said to be blind to progress; I say, "Not so." A conservationist is opposed to blind progress. We have eroded, overused, burned, abused, polluted, and ruined a lot of these United States in the name of progress in the last 200 years.

Wise use and preservation when the wilderness legislation becomes law of the land will be most appreciated by coming generations.

Multiple use can be limited or extended in accordance with human experience. Multiple uses can be tailored to take care of present needs of man and as a guardian for what he may vitally need in some distant time to come. When men will get up and testify that there is no justification to preserve wilderness, they are putting words in the mouths of the unborn. That is assuming a grave responsibility.—Ernest Swift, Conservation News, September 1, 1959.

Since the proposed wilderness system would encompass only 8 percent of our national forest and slightly over 1 percent of the total land mass of the United States, I feel it is a duty for us to hold on to this last small amount for the uses listed above. We should bend our efforts to more wise use of our land rather than try to commercially exploit the last 8 percent of the national forest and to use the last 1

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percent of the land for commercial endeavor. If we are in such dire straits for survival, then I do not feel that this additional 1 percent of our land will change the outcome for this Nation.

Many things that have been done in the past in the name of progress violate the 11th commandment as written by Mr. W. C. Loudermilk in "Conquest of the Land Through 7,000 Years."

I wish to close my testimony by quoting this belief of the first director of the Soil Conservation Service:

> Thou shalt inherit the holy earth as a faithful steward, conserving its resources and productivity from generation to generation. Thou shalt safeguard thy fields from soil erosion, the living waters from pollution and drying up, thy forests from desolation, and protect thy hills from overgrazing by thy herds, that thy descendants may have abundance forever. If any shall fail in this, thy stewardship of the land, thy fruitful fields shall become sterile, stony ground and wasting gullies, and thy descendants shall decrease and live in poverty or perish from the fact of the earth.

Thank you, Madam Chairman.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Dr. Viehe.

(The following supplemental statement was subsequently received from Dr. Viehe:)

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLO., *November 3, 1961.*

Re wilderness legislation.

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: I wish to thank the committee for the privilege of appearing before your subcommittee in Montrose, Colo., on November 1, 1961, and to congratulate the gentleman and the lady for conducting a very dignified and instructive meeting.

I wish to supplement my statement which is in the hands of your committee with the following remarks and observations.

Many witnesses spoke in their concern with the limitation of mining in wilderness area. It occurred to me that if there is any relaxation of the mining permits in wilderness it should not be done under the mining laws of 1870 as this gives an absolute property right to the individual who files a patent, even if there is no production forthcoming. This would be completely antagonistic to the multiple-use principle in that it would give one person absolute right over an area in wilderness in which he could go so far as to construct a hamburger stand or a cabin, I presume. Oil and gas people, according to the laws of the early 1930's, must produce on natural forest land and they have no property interest, if they do not produce they pay a certain penalty. I would also like to see some sort of wording that if mining exploration was done and the material found was not necessary in the national interest, then the operator would be responsible to restore the area to a more esthetic condition such as planting grasses on the tailings, bulldozing tailings back into holes, and reforesting roads that were constructed. Two witnesses spoke in Montrose concerning mining, one with an iron mine near the Snowmass-Maroon Bells wilderness area in Colorado and another who had opened up an old coal mine and was now producing copper. I feel this is perfectly justified in national forest land but I do not feel that extending such mines into wilderness area would be in the national interest to produce more copper and more iron at this time.

A few comments concerning the opposition of the ranchers and the water interests and then I will close. I feel sure that most of the ranchers are completely confused as to the intent and purpose of this bill and from listening to their testimony and seeing one after another repeat the same fears, it seems that they almost feel that this bill will remove grazing from national forest land. Of course, this is not the case and, of course, it is not the intent because grazing on national forest land is an adequate and necessary and good use of national forest land. There are very few grazing permits that are available in any of the high altitude alpine wilderness country and would not be affected unless there was evidence of overuse of the land and this should be curtailed whether it is wilderness area or whether it is national forest land. Many of

the ranchers profess much interest in conservation, and yet when they do overuse the land and the Forest Service reduces their number of animals on the land they are very violent in their opposition to the Forest Service. I do not feel that they practice as good a conservation as they say they do in various meetings.

I wish I had been able to express my feelings concerning the esthetic value of wilderness more adequately. I feel sure there these people who have grown up in this wide open part of the country have no conception of what they would feel if they were not able to see and live in this part of the country. I would wager that if they were required to spend 5 years residing in such a town as Washington or Baltimore and New York and then were returned to their ranch or into the West, the first place they would go would be into the high country on horseback or on foot alone to get away from the asphalt jungle and the smell of monoxide fumes. They often have never experienced the necessity of not being able to ride in the open country or to visualize vast vistas from their ranches and they really don't have any conception of how so many million people in this country live and these people are actually just as much owners of national forest land as the ranchers whose ranch happens to lie right on the edge of public domain. It is for this reason that we wish to preserve wilderness so that those people who do not own a ranch or have never visited or lived in this part of the country are able to visit it and enjoy their part of the U.S. public domain.

Folks concerned about the limitation of dam building in wilderness area might be pacified and it might be in the national interest to use some of this land for high altitude small dams. I have always been in favor of multiple high altitude small dams rather than the large structures that have been built in the past which is known will be silted in and their value greatly diminished in 40 or 50 years. I would suggest that high altitude dams the size and about the altitude level of beaver dams would be intelligent construction, that is about the altitude of the aspen. The aspen in this country grows around 9,500 feet and most of the beaver dams are at that level. Very few beaver dams are seen above 10,000 feet and yet much of the high altitude alpine wilderness country that is such a value for its esthetic use and for the wilderness recreation use is actually above this level. This might be a compatible compromise on the building of dams in wilderness. If they were limited to one or two surface acres I think they would do a lot to hold the water in the high country and still not spoil the esthetic value of wilderness.

I hope the committee will report a bill favorable to the House so that there can be a conference committee set up and that some constructive wilderness legislation will be forthcoming from the Congress in the next session.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT W. VIEHE, M.D.

Mrs. PROST. Are there questions?

Mr. CHENOWETH. Madam Chairman?

Mrs. PROST. The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Doctor, I would like to just ask a question or two. You are contending before this committee that we ought to promote more use of wilderness areas and less use of established places of recreational value, such as Las Vegas, Palm Springs, and Colorado Springs.

I happen to represent the city of Colorado Springs, so I am somewhat concerned over this.

Dr. VIEHE. No.

Mr. CHENOWETH. And you suggest these people should be out in the wilderness areas rather than in Colorado Springs. I must protest against any such position as that.

Dr. VIEHE. I believe there is room for both, if you may let me answer it. There is room for both, but I am sure many people in Colorado Springs hate to see it going the way it is now, compared to the way it used to be 15 or 20 years ago. There are many uses.

The people of this country should engage in more physical activity, because we would be a much healthier Nation if we would. I think,

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as President Kennedy has shown, physical activity is important, and he encourages more use of it. One fine use is wilderness use.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Do you know of any person in this country who is anxious to explore wilderness areas, or visit our scenic spots and places of great beauty in this country that is now deprived of that privilege? Are there not plenty of such places to visit if they want to?

Dr. VIEHE. Yes, there are now, and we hope we can preserve them; and we think this bill will help preserve them.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Do you think they will be there for some years to come?

Dr. VIEHE. I do not think so, because we just lost 48,000 acres taken out of the wilderness for timber. Sooner or later, maybe not in my lifetime but in my children's lifetime, this area will not be wilderness any more, and there will be roads through it. Then this wilderness experience will not be available for their children or my children, because it will be gone.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Do you not think that people who go to national parks and national forests have ample opportunity to explore the type of area you are describing?

Dr. VIEHE. No. They may have opportunities, but I have been to many national parks, and you have, too, and they will drive rapidly through, stop and see Old Faithful for 5 minutes, then Rocky Mountain National Park, and then Grand Canyon.

When you are in a wilderness setting——

Mr. CHENOWETH. You are talking about a different type of people now. The average tourist is not the wilderness type. They are not going to spend much time in one place. They want to see as many places as they can. Time is short; they only have a couple of weeks' vacation, perhaps.

Dr. VIEHE. I think that is one of the things wrong with our whole moral approach to recreation—we are trying to do too much, and not sitting back, as easterners do, and contemplate seeing the setting of the sun.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I do not want to engage in a controversy with you, but I think there are plenty of places in this country today for anyone who wants to enjoy any type of recreation he desires. He can find that in this country today.

Dr. VIEHE. As Mr. Hilliard made the point, we feel that 50 years from now, unless something is done now, there will not be that land available at that time.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I, for one, may not want to spend a week in the same place you prefer. Perhaps I would rather spend it in Colorado Springs.

Dr. VIEHE. I should have the opportunity, if I desire to.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Our desires are not all alike.

Dr. VIEHE. Of course not.

Mr. CHENOWETH. We cannot legislate for every group that wants to make some special use of our natural resources. That is why multiple use is important. It gives every person a chance to enjoy these resources in his own way.

Dr. VIEHE. If it is not available, he cannot go.

Mr. CHENOWETH. My point is that it is available and will be for some time to come.

Dr. VIEHE. I hope it is.
Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Dr. Viehe.
Our next witness is Mr. J. Stanley Weidman of Durango, Colo.
You may proceed Mr. Weidman.

## STATEMENT OF J. STANLEY WEIDMAN, WEIDMAN MILL, DURANGO, COLO.

Mr. WEIDMAN. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Stanley Weidman, and I operate a small sawmill at Durango which I optimistically call Weidman's Mill. We employ about 100 men in mill and woods, producing about 450 cars of lumber a year. That's enough lumber to build about 1,200 new homes. Practically 100 percent of our log supply comes now, and will have to come in the future, from Government timber sales in the San Juan National Forest. Without a single exception, other mills in various southern Colorado communities are similarly dependent in part or in whole on Government stumpage to keep going.

I should like to enlist your interest and concern, gentlemen, for the typical western community which like our own is situated adjacent to large bodies of public lands upon whose resources much of its economy is based but over which it has no say whatever. When or if an absentee landlord like Uncle Sam threatens to do things with such lands to limit productivity or seal it off altogether, naturally the local folks are greatly disturbed, for they would be the principal victims.

The Government, in areas like ours, is part of and a partner in local problems. Its land policies can spell the difference between success and disaster for us. Deep down, we feel Government has a dual responsibility in matters of public land management—to all the people on one hand, but surely also to the local communities, local people, and local government.

Recently, Mr. J. B. Edens, of Phoenix, president of the Western Pine Association, put it this way:

> Congress and the Government agencies * * * are our partners in a delicately balanced economic mechanism in which they have tremendous influence and corresponding responsibility.

In discussing the wilderness system bill, I should like to make it clear I favor the wilderness preservation concept and so do most of my hometown people. But we want the permanent wilderness to be carefully chosen for wilderness values, not by a shotgun method of the largest possible land grab that could be put across. We realize that the bill, insofar as our localities are concerned, takes in areas already in a sort of special class, the so-called primitive areas. But we are against even such areas being permanently dedicated to wilderness purposes without study, land classification, and giving the people a chance to be heard.

If this bill, S. 174, were defeated, and the Forest Service's own long-established wilderness preservation program were allowed to go forward, then we would still oppose withdrawal of unsuited lands or more lands than needed. But we would favor wilderness preservation on lands best suited to that use, just as we do now.

Our people are most seriously concerned over any proposed lockup of commercial forest lands. We believe the highest use for commer-

cial forests is multiple use—for timber and water production, grazing, mining, recreation and wildlife management, and for wilderness, too, if you please.

The wilderness system bill would take out of production 193,000 acres of commercial forest lands in Colorado. It would take out 60,000 acres of commercial timber lands in the San Juan National Forest alone. Altogether about 800,000 acres of our Colorado lands are involved, and Colorado people would have no voice in any boundry placement.

How does the withdrawal of commercial forest land affect Colorado's economy? In 1957 the Western Pine Association, of which the Weidman Mill is a member, made an industrywide survey and found that on the average, for the 12-State region, the production of 1,000 board feet of lumber created 14.5 manhours of employment. Thus Colorado's 1960 lumber production of about 200 million board feet created close to 3 million man-hours of gainful work, which in turn created many dollars of tax income for Uncle Sam and for the local government. Many Colorado communities depend on the lumber payroll for their very existence.

It stands to reason that any time you take productive lands out of productive use, you hurt nearby communities. Our own forest-borne towns base a good part of their future on the allowable timber harvest on Government lands. When the acreage is reduced, naturally the allowable cut goes down accordingly, and everyone has to get along on less, or get out.

This is so needless, gentlemen, as to defy reasoning. The Colorado commercial forest is not being overcut. It can go on indefinitely yielding its blessings at today's rate, providing the resource—the land base itself—is not disturbed by unwise policymaking. Timber management in the commercial forest is man's way of doing right by the woods. It goes hand in hand with other uses, including recreation and even wilderness.

Selective harvests such as we make in the San Juan National Forest under the Government's own forest practice rules not only are compatible with recreation and other good uses of wildlands, but actually greatly increase recreational opportunities by making new areas accessible. Timber management even enhances wilderness enjoyment. Certainly it permits more families to enjoy the great outdoors.

On the other hand, land locked up in wilderness status can only restrict recreation, because roads are forbidden, and only a privileged few can get in. One of these days recreationists, campers, hunters, and others are going to catch up with wilderness salesmen who have let it be supposed that the wilderness system bill is a recreational bill.

S. 174 is a bad bill on other counts. I have been a lumber manufacturer all my life and have known lumbermen near and far, but I have never yet met one who wanted public lands locked up for lumber use only. That's why it is so hard to understand folks who want to bar everyone except themselves from some of our public lands, at public expense.

We do not believe that the way in which this bill goes about creating a wilderness system is right. The blanketing-in of unclassified primitive and wild areas is a dangerous procedure that could have damaging effect on the national economy as well as on Colorado's economy. We

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believe no unclassified land area should be withdrawn from productive use without public hearings for each area. Above all, we believe that Congress should always be the authoritative policy force in public land management. S. 174 would be a step toward a form of government in which the President writes the laws and Congress has only the veto power.

For these reasons, I urge this committee to do what it can to defeat S. 174 in its present form. At the same time let me reassert that neither I nor any Durango citizen I know is opposed to the principle of reserving carefully selected lands for wilderness purposes. The wilderness preservation concept is a good one—the trouble is that it has gotten out of hand in this bill.

I have found a great many people in our community share the same thoughts. There are a lot of people that wanted to come here today, but possibly you know we had a little snow on the mountains there.

As I said, I do not represent anyone other than myself in any official capacity, but I have been invited to two meetings of cattlemen and a meeting with oilmen, and they were all in favor of leaving the situation as it is, in the hands of the Forest Service, and having multiple use.

And if there are any lands that should be put into a wilderness, that should be left, more or less, to the discretion and to consulting the people that live in the community, or maybe the States at large.

As I said, I do not represent anyone, but the president and secretary of the chamber of commerce—and there are 10 here, and here is a hundred or more that wanted to come today that could not come—they asked me to present that list to you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the papers just handed to us be received and placed in our files.

Mrs. PFOST. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WEIDMAN. I guess that is all I have to say, Madam Chairman.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Weidman.

Are there questions?

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, I would like to ask my friend, Mr. Weidman, a question.

Do you at the present time harvest any timber at all on any area that is presently a wild, primitive or wilderness area? Or that would be considered as such under the terms of this bill?

Mr. WEIDMAN. We are harvesting timber on areas designated by the San Juan forest supervisor. As I say, 100 percent of our cut comes from the San Juan National Forest. Does that answer your question?

Mr. ASPINALL. No, not quite. Do you harvest any timber on the Uncompahgre Primitive Area?

Mr. WEIDMAN. No.

Mr. ASPINALL. Do you harvest any timber on the San Juan Primitive Area?

Mr. WEIDMAN. Do you assume that the primitive area has been set aside for cutting?

Mr. ASPINALL. I do not assume anything, Stanley. I cannot tell from here. If you do not have the information, of course, we will try to find out. These areas are definitely outlined, they have their borders. I was just wondering whether or not any of your operation goes into these primitive areas.

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Mr. WEIDMAN. I do not think so, no. I answered that without knowing what is in the mind of the Forest Service.

Mr. ASPINALL. We have the La Garita-Sheep Mountain Primitive Area.

Mr. WEIDMAN. I never heard of it.

Mr. ASPINALL. All right, thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you very much, Mr. Weidman.

Mr. WEIDMAN. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

Mrs. PROST. Our next witness is Mr. Elliott S. Barker.

## STATEMENT OF ELLIOTT S. BARKER, SANTA FE, N. MEX.

Mr. BARKER. Madam Chairman, I consider it a great privilege to be here and testify on behalf of this wilderness bill from my own personal standpoint.

I am Elliott S. Barker of Santa Fe, N. Mex.

While I am a member of a number of conservation and wildlife organizations, this is my own personal statement. Yet I know that in supporting wilderness preservation it represents the deep feelings of hundreds of my personal friends and hundreds of thousands of good American men and women who annually trail ride, hike, camp, hunt, and fish to refresh their minds, restore their souls, in the God-given, primeval wilderness areas of the West.

I know that is so because I have been on wilderness trail rides, camping, hunting, and fishing trips with some 600 of them from all stations of life and almost every State in the Union.

When such a sample is unanimous in its enthusiastic support of wilderness preservation, there can be no doubt that it is representative of national sentiment.

The fact that I have been the American Forestry Association's representative in charge of 14 11-day wilderness trail rides in 5 different States, with an average of 15 to 30 guests, on October 1, 1961, conducted a 1-day ride for 75 delegates to the American Forestry Association Convention and have made scores of other wilderness rides with guests might lead this honorable committee to believe that I speak from a single viewpoint. Quite the contrary is true. I speak from widely varied experiences and multiple viewpoints.

I migrated to a mountain ranch in New Mexico, overland in covered wagons in 1889, I was ranch-raised, some call it hillbilly, and for a time was a professional guide and hunter, and operated a sawmill. Then I was 10 years with the U.S. Forest Service, winding up 4 years as forest supervisor of Carson National Forest.

Then I resigned in 1919, and, wanting to get back into the ranching business, I ranched for 11 years, long enough to qualify thoroughly as a rancher, because I went broke twice in that period. That was in the Pecos Wilderness Area that I ranged cattle.

After that, for a year, I was in charge of wildlife management and predatory control on a 360,000-acre mountain cattle ranch and game preserve. I was head of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish for 22 years, retiring in 1953. I have been doing various things since then.

So I look at wilderness and its need for preservation from all angles.

The opponents of this bill seem, universally, to overlook the fact that the lands involved—national forests, public domain, national parks, and wildlife refuges are public property. They belong to all the people. The fact that an extremely small segment of the public—stockmen, lumbermen, miners, et cetera, are permitted to carry on commercial enterprises on the national forest and public domain lands gives them no right to dictate what shall be done with the small remnant of it.

Each American citizen's share of federally owned lands amounts to about 3 acres, and his share of national forest lands is about 1 acre. I for one want my share secure in a wilderness area, as do millions of others.

Speaking from a stockman's viewpoint, I would have to concede that since S. 174, section 6, paragraph B, specifically provides for continuation of established grazing privileges, I would have no possible reason to protest, I'd be content to continue to enjoy grazing privileges on national forest, public domain, and State lands at fees far below the commercial rates on private lands. My ranch and grazing permit successor and my friends and neighbors graze stock on the Pecos Wilderness Area. They are secure because this bill positively does not jeopardize grazing permits on wilderness areas.

Speaking from the lumberman's standpoint, I would have to admit that, so far as wilderness areas are concerned, 92 percent of the national forest area is now and will continue to be available for lumbering operations. I would also have to admit that for me to protest the reservation of the remaining 8 percent, most of which is too high and rugged or barren for lumbering anyway, as wilderness for the benefit of present and future generations would be an utterly indefensible and exceedingly selfish position.

If I were a miner, dam or road builder, I would read paragraph (C) (2) of section 6 of S. 174 which says these uses may be authorized when the President shall determine that permitting such commercial activities will be of greater public interest than would their denial. Then I'd ask myself why I would want to do them unless they are in the best interests of the public. Remember, it is the public's lands we are dealing with. Wilderness includes many uses, not just one as miners claim.

Speaking as a veteran hunter, fisherman, and camper myself and for untold numbers of others I can say that wilderness areas provide opportunities for the highest type of sportsmanship, recreation, and enjoyment of the great outdoors. The satisfaction of hunting, fishing, riding, hiking, and camping in the inspiring primeval environment of wilderness areas is incomparably greater than indulging in the same activities in adjacent road-scarred, inhabited areas.

From the standpoint of multiple use administration of national forests for the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run, that enduring policy set up by that great conservationist Gifford Pinchot and approved by Teddy Roosevelt more than a half-century ago, I say that wilderness is one indispensable use. It is one, but by no means the smallest one, of the multiple uses to which the national forests are dedicated. The 86th Congress by the Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act of June 12, 1960, specifically recognized wilderness preservation as being consistent with forest administration multiple-use policies.

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Wilderness is not a single use but inherently includes several uses. Highly important, of course, is that it automatically provides the very optimum type of watershed protection in the most important watershed areas. It includes grazing of livestock regulated just as it is on all national forest lands. It provides optimum habitat for wildlife. It includes hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, camping, picture taking, and nature study under rare primeval conditions. It provided untrammeled areas for educational and scientific study in a nation where such areas are rapidly giving way to the onslaught of mechanized civilization.

In fact, most wilderness areas are veritable natural history museums far surpassing anything that man is capable of setting up under a roof.

S. 174 would insure permanent and stability for the wilderness system which, to meet popular demand, has been developed through the years and provide strict procedures for creation of new areas, modification of boundaries, and abolition of wilderness, wild, and primitive areas, with Congress having the final determination. Without it the Secretary of Agriculture could, if he were so minded, wipe out the entire national forest system or add unlimited areas with a stroke of his pen.

S. 174 would take away no privilege that anyone now enjoys. It does not affect States water rights in any way, nor does it jeopardize established grazing privileges. The charge that watershed manipulation would be prohibited to the detriment of water users verges on the ridiculous. Water is the most valuable product of wilderness as the Creator set them up. In the high areas of minimum evaporation how could they be manipulated, or monkeyed with, to improve their natural water yield? The fact is that 92 percent of the national forest area is available and will remain available for watershed manipulation with practically none beneficially manipulated to date. After the 92 percent outside wilderness areas has been beneficially manipulated, in the unforeseeable future, will be time to talk about watershed manipulation on the remaining 8 percent of wilderness.

Mr. Chairman, 3 years ago the New Mexico Legislature passed a joint memorial protesting the wilderness bill, then S. 1123. Actually, it developed that only two or three legislators had ever read the bill. But we can agree with one statement made in the memorial. I quote:

> That the social and economic welfare of the State of New Mexico is best served by the present uses allowed on federally controlled land.

The uses were then, and had been for years, characterized by six wilderness, wild, and primitive areas. S. 174 would insure such continued uses which the memorial says would be for the best economic and social welfare of the State. We heartily agree.

The charge that only a very few people use wilderness areas just is not so. Typical of such baseless charges was one of the sponsors of the memorial referred to. He stated in a public Farm and Livestock Bureau meeting that statistics showed that only 3,600 persons visited the entire 83 wilderness, wild, and primitive areas on the national forests each year. Of course, that is utterly ridiculous.

For instance, last year the University of California had a bioecological report made of the 165,000-acre Pecos Wilderness Area in New Mexico for the National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Com-

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mission. Based upon carefully prepared estimates of the U.S. Forest Service and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish the report shows that two schoolteachers, chemists, engineers, doctors, secretaries, students, lawyers, et cetera, make up the average group. Some 30 questionnaires I obtained for the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission showed the average income under $7,000 per year; some as low as $3,500.

Even the deluxe wilderness trail rides sponsored by the American Forestry Association and the Wilderness Society and others, with everything furnished except one's bedroll, including horses, saddles, sleeping tents, good food, cooks, packers, wranglers, guide, and medical officer, cost only $20 to $22 per day. It costs that much to stay at a good hotel in the city without a horse or medical officer or guide. It costs that much to drive one's car 300 miles and the physical risk is far greater on the road than on the trail.

But there are cheaper ways. A day's hike in from roads costs nothing. Many backpack for a few days for a dollar and a half a day. It costs $3 to $4 per person per day for hikers with a horse-transported camp outfit. Horseback, pack-in trips without service crew can be made for $8 to $10, and with packer-wrangler for $11 to $12 per day. A wilderness trip is about as cheap a vacation as one can take. Certainly, it is the most refreshing and mentally and spiritually satisfying. For Boy and Girl Scouts and like youth groups there is nothing to compare with a wilderness trip.

Proponents of wilderness preservation are often accused by commercial interests of being selfish. With 92 percent of the national forest area available for regulated commercialization—mining, lumbering, road, and dam building, summer homes, and developed recreation areas—I ask who is being selfish? Those who now have 92 percent of the national forest area and want the other 8 percent, or those who would preserve 8 percent of it in its majestic, God-given pristine condition for the benefit of present and future generations?

Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that every single argument against this well-considered, streamlined wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, can be successfully refuted, and that there is no valid reason why it should not be passed by the House of Representatives promptly.

There is no reason to delay action, as some suggest, until the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission submits its report. Wilderness preservation legislation was initiated long before the Resources Review Commission was set up. Its report will inventory outdoor recreational resources that we have and project our needs for the future. This bill will provide much-needed insurance for a most valuable resource which we already know we have. This legislation is long overdue.

It seems to me that posterity will hold us in utter contempt if we fail to preserve an adequate system of unscarred, untrammeled wilderness areas. Call them wilderness, natural history museums, or God's sanctuaries—save them we must. Today's mad race for an ill-defined goal will not be an acceptable reason for failing to do so.

They mean so much to so many people, including our children and their children after them, for educational and scientific purposes, watersheds, recreation and wildlife, for a special place to go to relax tensions and stresses of modern life, for refreshing of minds and restoring of spirits. Let us not be guilty of saving too little too late.

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When we as a Nation are called to account for our stewardship of all the land the Creator granted to us in its primeval condition we must hang our heads in shame if we shall have failed to preserve a few bits of America in its unscarred, majestic, prestine grandeur. Instead, let's be able to say, "Those areas have been preserved just as God made them."

PERCEPTION LOST

His eyes are dim who cannot see
  A mountain's purple majesty.
His ears are deaf who cannot hear
  Love songs of birds in spring of year.
His feel is numb who never seeks
  A mountain breeze to cool his cheeks.
His soul is dead who gets no thrills
  From rocks and woods and templed hills.
He who no wilderness has trod
  Has missed a chance to walk with God.
—*Elliott S. Barker.*

Someone said here this morning, if I may comment on it, just a brief word about the New Yorkers, if they knew what the wilderness was, they might have to rough it to get into it, they would not be in favor of this bill.

I would like to call to the honorable committee's attention the fact that New York itself has over a million acres of State land set aside as a wilderness area. Four years ago they had a constitutional amendment up for adoption. One was to abolish that wilderness area, to open it up. They adopted five constitutional amendments and rejected, by 640,000 votes, the opening up of their own wilderness area in New York. That is New York's attitude.

Thank you.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Mr. Barker.

Mr. BARKER. Thank you very much. It is a privilege.

I have 100 letters sent to me to present to this hearing in connection with the wilderness bill. I have a statement from 30 organizations. These letters come from 14 different States and the District of Columbia.

Mrs. PROST. You may give the letters to the clerk and without objection they will be placed in the record on file, in accordance with committee rules and policy.

(The letters referred to and accepted for the record appear following the conclusion of the day's hearing with other material submitted for the record.

Mr. BARKER. May I ask one other question? A number of people, as the gentleman preceding me stated, from Durango should have been here. Mr. Hotter of the Packers outfit. Would it be possible to have his statement incorporated? He could not come.

Mrs. PROST. In answer to Mr. Barker's question, I will make this statement so that those in the audience may be informed, also. The record will be kept open until November 20 to receive additional statements from those people who would like to send statements in before that date.

Mrs. PROST. They should be mailed to the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, room 1324, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Mr. BARKER. Thank you very much.

Mrs. PROST. Our next witness is Mr. John Barnard.

## STATEMENT OF JOHN B. BARNARD, COUNSEL, ACCOMPANIED BY PHILIP P. SMITH, SECRETARY-ENGINEER, COLORADO RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Mr. BARNARD. Madam Chairman, I am counsel for the Colorado River Water Conservation District. Mr. Philip Smith, who is the secretary-engineer of the Colorado River Water Conservation District, and I have compiled the statement which I will make for that district.

The district which presents this statement is concerned, primarily, with the development of water resources of the Colorado River within its boundaries, for irrigation, domestic, municipal, industrial, recreational, and other beneficial purposes.

The wilderness bill, in the form approved by the U.S. Senate, will most seriously endanger that development, and may entirely preclude the construction of some of its important units, if it becomes a law.

The district includes, within its boundaries, 12 full counties and parts of 3 other counties, all in western Colorado. Its area is approximately one-fourth that of the entire State of Colorado.

Of the 10 participating projects authorized for construction by the Colorado River Storage Project and Participating Projects Act, Public Law 485, 3 are located in the district; and of the 24 participating projects on which the Secretary of the Interior is required, by the act, to give priority to the preparation and submission of planning reports, 17 are within its boundaries. One of the storage units, Curecanti, is also within the district area. It is, therefore, accurate to say that the Colorado River Water Conservation District has a bigger stake in water resource development, by the full implementation of the Colorado River Storage Project and Participating Projects Act, than has any other area, or even any other State in the Upper Colorado River Basin.

To illustrate what we mean when we speak of the adverse effect of the wilderness bill on this development, as that bill is now written, we will relate the facts which concern one of the participating projects named in the act for the preparation of planning reports, which probably cannot be constructed if the wilderness bill, unchanged from its present form, is approved by the House of Representatives and by the President. We refer to the Eagle-Divide project. This unit will provide water for the irrigation of 8,990 acres of land now barren. It will also provide a supplemental supply for an additional 1,885 acres, that is, land now partially but inadequately irrigated.

The heart of this project is the Red Sandstone Reservoir, which is planned for construction on the Piney River, and will be located a short distance northwesterly from, and is really a part of, the so-called Eagle's Nest area.

The Eagle's Nest proper is a group of high, rugged, practically inaccessible mountains. The annual snowfall is above the Rocky Mountain average and provides an excellent watershed from which the Red Sandstone Reservoir will derive its water supply. The Eagle's Nest proper is a wilderness area, the summits of its peaks rising to an elevation of from 13,000 to 14,000 feet above sea level. God Almighty made it that way. It will require no act of Congress or administrative or Executive order for it to retain its natural, primi-

tive character. Even the enthusiastic, hardy, pack-bearing devotees of outdoor life in the raw cannot be expected to brave all of its fastnesses. This true wilderness, primitive area is there and will forever remain there for them to explore its canyons, cliffs, and heights. We do not want that condition changed, and we couldn't change it if we wanted to.

The vice in the Senate-approved version of the wilderness bill lies in the fact that, under it, the natural Eagle's Nest Wilderness Area boundaries may be extended by Executive or administrative fiat to include an artificially created one, in which the Red Sandstone Reservoir will be located. That reservoir site is not in the natural wilderness area, and shouldn't be put there. It should be left for man to develop by means of the Eagle-Divide project, so that other men and their children and their children's children may utilize the vital natural resource, water, which the same Creator who made the real wilderness area provided for man's use.

We find entirely inadequate safeguards in the fact that administrative creation of any specific primitive or wilderness area may be reviewed and vetoed by the Congress. We deem it to be strictly a legislative function to establish such an area in the first instance. If the bill is revised so to provide, we are confident that Congress will never establish a wilderness area which will endanger the investment of public funds in the water resource development program made possible by the Storage Project Act.

In the same way, and possibility to a lesser degree, the so-called wilderness bill now before the House of Representatives will affect other participating projects; but we shall not dwell upon them.

People say to us: Why should we put additional land under irrigation and cultivation when the United States is already producing a surplus of so many commodities? The question is pertinent, and the answer is obvious and simple. Each year well over a million acres of land are retired from agriculture. Only in the undeveloped West, the Colorado River Basin, can a substantial part of those million acres be replaced. The Eagle-Divide project will provide some of those acres. In view of the increase in metropolitan and suburban development, we apprehend that the number of acres of land now being retired annually will be increased substantially each year in the future. Concurrently, the demand for food and fiber which come from the soil will increase as our population increases. The time will come, and that is not far distant, when America's ability to produce to meet the demands of the population will so deteriorate that where shortages now exist deficiencies will come into existence, despite improved agricultural procedures. In water resource development we must provide, not for the present, but for the future, and when we say "future" we mean 50 or 100 years hence.

The Congress made this investment of public funds in the storage project. It is a good one—a sound one. In interest and greatly increased tax revenue, the money advanced for the project will be returned to the National Treasury in a few brief decades, if full implementation of it is accomplished. We submit that it is the sole responsibility of the Congress to maintain the integrity of the storage project and of every one of its planned features, facilities, and units. And we also submit that it would contravene the letter and spirit of

the Constitution of the United States for the Congress now to avoid or evade that responsibility or to shift it to administrative or executive bureaus, departments, or officials.

Thank you very much for the privilege of being here.

Mrs. PROST. Thank you, Mr. Barnard.

Are there questions?

Mr. ASPINALL. Mr. Barnard, you have been a resident of Colorado how long?

Mr. BARNARD. You want me to tell my age?

Mr. ASPINALL. Tell them where you were born.

Mr. BARNARD. I was born right here in the Bobbie Hills, outside of Montrose, 68 years ago last April.

Mr. ASPINALL. And you have been working with the natural resources of the State of Colorado all of your life; is that correct?

Mr. BARNARD. That is right.

Mr. ASPINALL. And of the later years you have made it your prime responsibility to help protect the natural resource of water; is that correct?

Mr. BARNARD. That is correct; about 37 years.

Mr. ASPINALL. And is it your opinion that we can have a good wilderness bill, if we see that it is drawn properly, and provide for the protection of this most valuable of our natural resources?

Mr. BARNARD. I think there can be no question of that, Mr. Aspinall.

I might just interject this observation that occurs to me: That, if the people who create these wilderness areas will conform them somewhat to nature, they will be less trouble. You are familiar with the Eagle's Nest area that I mentioned.

On the other hand, it should be borne in mind that the Eagle's Nest is one of the most productive watershed areas in Colorado.

What we ask is that you do not extend it to include an artificially created wilderness area and, if it can be done, there is plenty of area out here in Colorado, and I have been in lots of it, where the pack bearers can venture to their heart's content.

Mr. ASPINALL. I will turn you over to the mercies of the Congressmen to whose districts you went, and from whose district you returned to this one.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You did not tell them where you spent a good part of your life. I am sure they would be interested in that information.

Mr. BARNARD. You want me to say in Pueblo?

Mr. CHENOWETH. That is right.

Mr. BARNARD. Yes.

Mr. CHENOWETH. We knew you were not ashamed of the fact you lived in Pueblo, where you have so many close and personal friends.

Mr. BARNARD. Not at all. On that subject, I think my years of residence and practice of irrigation law in Colorado gave me a better insight into the water resource development of the entire State than I otherwise would have. I do not say it is complete yet, but I am learning.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I want to ask this question: What do you think will be the impact of the designation of wilderness areas upon future water development in the State of Colorado? If we designate these areas, what will be the procedure and the process for the future development of our water resources?

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You mentioned one which you said was a very productive source of water.

Mr. BARNARD. Mr. Chenoweth, the 17 designated for planning reports, probably half of them are in a similar situation; but that is the best example I could think of.

In other words, if you designate these wilderness areas and do not permit their development for these participating projects then you are going to do two things: You are going to keep land bound from now on that should be producing. That is the first thing you are going to do.

The second thing is that you are going to endanger the Treasury of the United States, when it comes to getting the money back out of the Storage Project Act.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Do you personally feel that the designation of these wilderness areas may jeopardize the future development of water projects in Colorado?

Mr. BARNARD. That is right; that is why I am here.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Explain why that would be.

Mr. BARNARD. As I have said, we should apply what I said about the Eagle Divide project to all of the rest of them. All of these require storage. There is not any participating project that can be constructed without storage. A lot of people give lipservice to high-altitude storage; we give actual service to it.

That is the heart of these participating projects—they are up high.

Take the Silver Jack, up at the foot of the Uncompahgre Peak—and I carried a pack in there on my back 50 years ago as a boy—if that is wilderness area, you cannot irrigate Boswick Park, because you have to have that reservoir to do it.

The same thing with Soap Park up on Sapanero Creek, which will irrigate the land over east of the Black Canyon in the Fruitland Mesa project.

Every time you put a potential reservoir site within a wilderness area, and preclude its development, you head off a participating project, you make it impossible to build.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I know that you have given a great deal of study to this matter of water development in Colorado, and I know you have studied the wilderness legislation. Are you now telling the committee that you feel the enactment of the wilderness legislation in its present form would be a threat to the future development of the water resources of Colorado?

Mr. BARNARD. Let me put it this way, Mr. Chenoweth: If that act is revised so it vests in you people the right to say where these wilderness areas will be established and they will not affect these things we are trying to accomplish, I personally would sleep better nights.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You feel we could write a bill which would adequately protect the development of our water resources?

Mr. BARNARD. I do, and there is no particular difficulty, there is no controversy, between the wilderness people and me. I want to see the wilderness areas established and so forth, but do not put them where they are going to make impossible this development in western Colorado we must have if we are going to continue to be a State and not just attached to the United States for rations.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You strongly urge, then, Congress retain the authority to establish these areas?

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Mr. BARNARD. Absolutely.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You would be opposed to any legislation that does not contain that authority?

Mr. BARNARD. I do not want it handled by the bureaucrats, I want it handled by Congress, people we can whip when they come up for reelection, if we do not agree. [Applause.]

Mrs. PROST. Thank you.

Our next witness is Mr. Allen Brown of Delta, Colo.

## STATEMENT OF A. ALLEN BROWN, DELTA, COLO.

Mr. BROWN. Madam Chairman and members of the committee, I am A. Allen Brown, of Delta, Colo. I have lived in western Colorado for more than 50 years. For 21 years, I have been city attorney for the city of Delta and for many years have been town attorney for the towns of Cedaredge, Orchard City, and Crawford, all in Delta County, Colo.

Because of the limit of time, I have been asked to limit my remarks to these four municipalities, which I represent and have represented.

It is my purpose to present to you the objection of these municipalities to the wilderness bill being discussed here today.

The water supply for all of these municipalities is obtained from high altitude springs on U.S. public lands. The supply for Delta, Cederedge, and Orchard City is furnished by large springs on U.S. forest land at the top of Grand Mesa.

All of these own some reservoir water and it is the practice for the municipalities to divert their water from underground springs and whenever the amount required exceeds their direct flow decrees, the same is replaced in the streams supplying said water by releasing reservoir water in exchange for said spring water.

The town of Crawford obtains its water also from springs on forest reserve land. The importance of this water to these municipalities is demonstrated by the fact that the city of Delta has expended considerably over $1 million in the development of its municipal supply and also by the fact that in the year 1960, the town of Cedaredge joined with a rural domestic water association in the expenditure of something over $300,000; $200,000 of which was furnished to the rural domestic water association by the Farmers Home Administration to move the intake for said system from the lower elevations on Surface Creek to six springs on the top of Grand Mesa in the vicinity of the Cedar Mesa Reservoir.

The water supply for the town of Orchard City is obtained from five springs on the headwaters of Ward Creek also on the Grand Mesa National Forest.

It is vital to these municipalities that they not only continue to receive municipal water from high altitude sources, but also that they may be permitted to develop such resources in the future.

This is necessary because the waters of our streams and rivers after being diverted for irrigation purposes, returns waste and return waters to the stream with a high alkaline and mineral content, which makes the water so brackish that it is not suitable for domestic and municipal purposes.

For example, in 1952, the city manager for Delta, Mr. L. R. Kuiper, who is now director of the State water conservation board, dug wells

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and made an exhaustive investigation on the gravel bars in the vicinity of the Gunnison River immediately north of Delta to find additional supply, which might be palatable when mixed with our mountain spring water. The river water and well water was found to be unfit for human consumption.

We mention Grand Mesa particularly because, as you know, it is the largest flat-topped mountain in the United States, and with over 200 lakes, reservoirs, and good roads now serving the area, the same is now becoming quite popular as a recreational area. This mountain also furnishes direct flow and reservoir water for the city of Grand Junction. These municipalities also furnish rural and farm areas with domestic water for their homes and with winter water for their livestock.

At the present time, these public lands are administered by the U.S. Forest Service for multiple-use purposes. Not only do its watersheds make water available for our municipalities, but also for our irrigated farmland and the irrigation projects in the valleys. Its thousands of acres of grazing allotments produce some of the finest cattle and sheep in the country. Large quantities of timber are harvested each year. If it were not for these multiple uses, these municipalities would become ghost towns.

We are not about to permit anyone to cast covetous eyes upon this great mountain with the idea of converting the same to any wilderness area.

It has been said here that the wilderness area may develop use, and I say, if it develops a common use, it is no longer a wilderness.

This group also represents people who live in towns and who enjoy the great outdoors. In this connection, I have been trying to picture in my own mind, who is this wilderness man? Who is this man who is asking that millions of acres of public land be set aside as a wilderness? Who is this man who is not willing to share the beauties of nature with his fellow men? Who is this man who must seek supersolitude in the wilderness and who cannot find sufficient relaxation or solitude in the national parks or forestlands or State recreational facilities?

Where does he live? What use does he make of our present facilities? Why does he feel that control of vast quantities of our public lands should be placed in the hands of one person? Is it because he belongs to organizations which might exert pressure upon that one person?

Why is it not safe or proper to continue the control of our public lands in our elective representatives in Congress? Why should the administration of our public lands be taken away from our experienced public administrators in the U.S. National Park Service and in the U.S. Forest Service?

What benefit will this acreage be to the people who depend on public lands for their survival and economy, and to the other millions of people who wish to enjoy some of the comforts of life while also enjoying nature?

As Judge Dan Hughes will tell you, these people who depend upon public lands for their very existence and for their recreation are dedicated people also. These are the people who pay taxes, raise the food, produce things, and who just as much or a little bit more than anyone

else believe in the conservation of our lands, our water supplies, our timber, our grazing rights, and our recreation for future generations.

We are unalterably opposed to this unrealistic piece of legislation, and apparently our House of Representatives in Congress is the only agency that can save us from it.

Thank you very much.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Brown.

Are there any questions of Mr. Brown?

Mr. BROWN. Thank you very much, Madam Chairman.

Mrs. PFOST. Our next witness is H. G. "Si" Berthelson, immediate past president of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association of Rio Blanco, Colo.

The committee will take a short recess.

(A short recess was taken.)

Mrs. PFOST. You may proceed, Mr. Berthelson.

## STATEMENT OF H. G. "SI" BERTHELSON, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, COLORADO CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, RIO BLANCO, COLO.

Mr. BERTHELSON. Madam Chairman and members of the committee, my name is H. G. "Si" Berthelson and I reside on my ranch near Rio Blanco, Colo. I am immediate past president of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association.

The Colorado Cattlemen's Association is a nonpolitical, nonpartisan organization made up of livestock producers and feeders from all sections of Colorado. Four thousand two hundred and eighty-six livestock producers and feeders are at present paid up and active members, in addition to which there are seventy-two local livestock associations affiliated with the Colorado Cattlemen's Association. The policies of the association are established by democratic procedure in open conventions.

My appearance before you today is in support of the position and policy of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, adopted during our association's 94th annual convention, held in Grand Junction, Colo., June 8, 9, and 10, 1961. Resolutions during the business session of this convention were considered by delegates casting a rollcall vote of 3,044 votes. The convention unanimously opposed any wilderness bill that would in any manner endanger any phase of the present principles of multiple use of our Federal lands.

Does Senate bill 174 as passed by the Senate restrict in any way the presently recognized multiple-use system of our Federal lands?

While the bill on the surface appears to preserve all multiple use of our Federal lands, it is so drafted that it could be interpreted by those charged with the administration of our wilderness areas to seriously restrict our multiple-use system. In addition in its present form the endless redtape of governmental procedure could prove to be a very serious detriment in obtaining approval for the common use of Federal lands which is now accepted within our multiple-use system. For example: The bill states—

> That the President of the United States may authorize the establishment and maintenance of reservoirs and water conservation works needed in the public interests.

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A simple statement, but after analyzing it, I wonder. For instance, if several farmers operating adjacent to a wilderness area requested the right to build two small irrigation storage dams at the cost of $10,000 within the wilderness area, how much time would it take, and what would the governmental procedure be, and the cost be in obtaining approval of this $10,000 construction project? After the procedure had been completely followed, would the President of the United States feel that these reservoirs were in the public interests? In this instance, we feel that the chances for approval would be mighty slim even though such an irrigation system was essential to these farmers' operations and would materially benefit the economic conditions and tax structure of the community, county, and State.

Many other projects could fall in the category despite the fact that much of Colorado's economy is built on these small irrigation systems and their maintenance and future development of such systems.

This is just one example of why the Colorado Cattlemen's Association cannot support Senate bill 174 in its present form. We in the Western States must have multiple use specifically spelled out in any wilderness bill.

Another general subject heading in discussing this proposed bill could be "The Purpose and Effect of the Wilderness Bill." Under this heading we could discuss the fact that this apparently is legislation designed for the benefit of a very few people and results in the elimination of a vast area of the United States from use by the overwhelming majority of people.

I believe everyone would agree that if the wilderness bill actually accomplished purposes of making the 65 million acres which would be subject to wilderness classification under the bill more usefully employed for the purpose of conservation and recreation, it would tend to overcome many of the other objections to the bill. However, we must recognize the fact that we have come to the age of mechanization and people do not obtain their recreation by hiking into the wilderness or even by packing in with a pack string. It appears that it is the purpose of the bill to render this vast acreage inaccessible to anyone who is not willing to seek his recreation either on foot or on horseback.

From the standpoint of conservation alone, the true conservationist realizes that man can actually help nature in conserving the great natural resources of water, minerals, timber, and feed, and that the greatest loss occurs in those areas where true conservation practices are not utilized.

Why should we now exclude him and reduce his help in the overall conservation plan?

For instance, it would be impossible under the terms of the wilderness bill to bring in any mechanized equipment for the purpose of making a series of small reservoirs and retaining ponds at the headwaters of streams. These small manmade bodies of waters at the headwaters of streams conserve the soil, conserve the water and, from the standpoint of recreation, provide a fisherman's paradise. Everyone recognizes that these small reservoirs and retaining ponds at the very headwaters of these streams, many of which will originate in the so-called wilderness area, better serve the cause of conservation in many respects than if they had to be installed downstream outside of the wilderness area. These conservation practices thus occur high

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enough up where they can conserve the soil, conserve the water, protect the surface growth and, from the standpoint of recreation, afford a fisherman's paradise.

The governmental agencies under whose jurisdiction these public lands are now administered are doing a very adequate job in accomplishing good conservation practices and also making these lands available to great numbers of people for recreational purposes. It does not appear that by the creation of these huge wilderness areas either the cause of conservation or recreation for the general public will be well served. The question here goes deeper than multiple use of public lands. It is true the wilderness bill seeks to accomplish a shift of public policy from multiple use to a much more restricted use. Although recreation has been recognized as one of the basic multiple uses of public lands, the so-called wilderness bill tends to exclude the very substantial segment of the public who are not so hardy as to be willing to give up modern means of transportation in their pursuit of enjoyment of these areas.

The Congress assumes a very serious responsibility when it undertakes to enact legislation that has the effect of singling out an extremely small number of citizens as the beneficiaries of that particular legislation and excluding the rest of the public. This responsibility becomes even more grave when vast areas are removed from an area of carefully supervised multiple use and restricted to a single use for the benefit of a small segment of the population.

I say to the advocates of this legislation, why don't you take a trip, leave Steamboat Springs, Glenwood Springs, Eagle, Grand Junction, Gunnison, Durango, or almost any town west of Denver, and I assure you that you will find peace and solitude within 50 miles, untrammeled geography within 50 miles of any of these towns.

The aforesaid responsibility becomes even more grave when we see that under Senate bill 174 as paassed by the Senate the Congress has followed the alarming current trend of abdicating its responsibility and delegating its authority to the executive branch of the Government. The negative approach of Congress in the matter of increasing the area to be included in a wilderness area is tantamount to an abandonment of congressional authority over the supervision of public lands. From the practical standpoint, this important matter would not be subject to judicial review and we therefore find ourselves in the position of adding further impetus to the alarming trend of making the executive branch of the Government dominant over the legislative and the judicial branches. If the Congress is not willing to assume this important responsibility, it should not delegate its legislative authority to the executive branch but should delegate that important legislative authority to the legislatures of the States in which the land under consideration is located.

If this committee does elect to recommend Senate bill 174 to the House of Representatives for passage, then we urge you to accept your responsibility and retain your legislative authority by adopting the Allott amendment, which would provide for this.

As an alternate, we urge serious consideration of the Gruening amendment.

We are strongly in favor of the Congress retaining its full legislative responsibility by taking affirmative action on any increase in the areas

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to be affected by the wilderness bill, but if the Congress is not going to meet the responsibility, it should at least afford those States in which large amounts of public lands are located the same kind of protection as the Senate bill affords to the State of Alaska by providing for a Presidential Land Use Commission.

In Colorado 1,329,402 acres are subject to wilderness classification under the wilderness bill. That figure is substantial and therefore each and every citizen of Colorado has a vital stake in this bill. The Senate recognized as sound public policy the utilization of a land use commission in a State where a substantial percent of the total land area was under the control of the Federal Government. In Colorado 37.4 percent of all of the land in Colorado is Federal land. When we realize that substantially more than one-third of the entire State of Colorado is owned by the Federal Government, it is certainly rank discrimination against Colorado and, in fact, against all States other than Alaska that have substantial quantities of Federal land in them to permit section 9 of the act to apply only to Alaska. The basic unfairness is best illustrated by comparing the situation of Alaska and Nevada.

The criteria used in the Gruening amendment (sec. 9) is 90 percent Federal land. In Nevada we find 87.9 percent Federal land. A grave constitutional question is raised when we see discrimination of this kind which turns upon the point of whether or not one State with 90 percent Federal land is entitled to protection whereas a State with 87.9 percent is not entitled to protection.

We respectfully submit that if this principle is good for any State with substantial amounts of Federal lands, it is good for all States with substantial amounts of Federal lands, and Colorado falls in this category.

I need not remind you of the threat of war or, if you please, of survival that we face each day. Should events transpire, and we all know they could, that would place us in a contest for survival, then I ask of you which would be better for America, to have 65 million acres locked up or have it readily available for the use and benefit of all of the people?

Thank you. [Applause.]

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Berthelson.

The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. ASPINALL. Madam Chairman, I think it is perfectly all right for the witness to mention the name of the Senator who was not able to convince the body to which he belonged about the language that he, the witness, would like to have. But I can assure him, if there is any amendment to the House bill, it will not be under the name of a Member of the other body, it will be under the name of some Member of our body.

Mr. BERTHELSON. We'd certainly be agreeable to that.

Mr. ASPINALL. I thought so.

Mr. DOMINICK. Madam Chairman?

Mrs. PFOST. The gentleman from Colorado, Mr. Dominick.

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. Berthelson, I appreciate your statement. I want to ask you a couple of questions.

Under this bill, as you see it, if the Congress does keep the power over inclusion of areas within this wilderness concept, do you feel

that we are still retaining the multiple-use concept within those wilderness areas?

Mr. BERTHELSON. Mr. Dominick, not necessarily so. The bill is perhaps too broad and does not, we feel, specifically provide for a reasonable system to continue the use of our multiple uses.

The bill essentially says this: We want a wilderness area, we want it untrammeled, but we will give the President and Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture the privilege of saying who shall get in and trammel it in order to continue the multiple use.

I feel it is ambiguous, and I think the witnesses today have proved it. Those in favor of the bill say it does provide for continued multiple use, and those of us who essentially oppose S. 174 say it is not specific enough.

So we are heartily in favor that Congress should approve the areas which will be incorporated in the system. I think we go further and say we think the bill is not quite specific enough to provide for the multiple-use principle.

Mr. DOMINICK. Thank you.

Mrs. PFOST. The gentleman from Montana.

Mr. OLSEN. Mr. Berthelson, one more question. I take it, then, you do not challenge the present boundaries of wild and primitive areas in Colorado: Is that correct?

Mr. BERTHELSON. I think it is proper that we would say we are not in a position to challenge the areas, nor is it our policy to seriously challenge the administration we have experienced in the past.

Mr. OLSEN. But you do think it would be a better idea that Congress determine the boundaries of these wilderness areas than the Department of Agriculture, which is the present case?

Mr. BERTHELSON. Yes, I think so. I misunderstood your statement to this extent; I do not mean to say we think that all of the areas that are now in the system should be included in it. I think the Congress should examine the situation and study the situation, and if they do have real wilderness value, leave it up to Congress to put them in.

Mr. OLSEN. But you think that the Forest Service has done a good job in designating the present boundaries?

Mr. BERTHELSON. I think it could be said there is not very much complaint in that respect.

Mr. OLSEN. Thank you very much.

Mr. ASPINALL (presiding). The next witness is Hon. Dan H. Hughes, of Montrose, Colo. Will Mrs. Nina Brouse also come forward?

You may proceed, Judge.

## STATEMENT OF DAN H. HUGHES, MONTROSE, COLO.

Judge HUGHES. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, we certainly appreciate the committee coming to Montrose and holding these hearings.

I preceded John Barnard in the public schools of Montrose by 3 years. That gives you a little idea of how long I have been around. I have been here since 1916, a user of forests in the operation of livestock. I have been a user of the public domain of the Bureau of Land Management since it was started.

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I have served on advisory committees on down and at present the Bureau of Land Management.

I am still using forests. It so happens I own with my family about 7,000 acres which immediately adjoins Mount Wilson Primitive Area.

I can answer, Wayne, a few questions you asked in that connection.

I do not know how profitable the mines are that they have opened up and recently operated, but I do know that they are trying to make a go of them in this area.

I know that with my family we have constructed three ditches out in the area and are irrigating approximately 800 acres of pasture in the area. I know that we will have to, if we maintain the ditches, take crawler cats up over the country and clean them. It could be done by shovel and hand, and some of the ditches were originally built that way. But I do not think we are constituted today to go along with a pick and shovel, we would rather use machinery.

It has been, as near as I can analyze the situation, the public policy of Congress to permit the development of resources on public lands. Remember that we have potential resources. They do not become natural resources until they are put to beneficial use for humanity.

It has been, further, the public policy of Congress to permit this development and turning a potential resource into a natural resource to be done by private individuals, through private initiative and enterprise, and to obtain title to the fruits of their labor, and to obtain title to the things they work with. Your land is as much a tool of your trade as your pick and shovel or ranch, and human beings are not satisfied unless they have title to the tools they make their living with.

We have heard about dedication today. In my humble opinion, the man who is dedicated, the man who dedicates himself to serving his country, supporting himself and his family, is as highly dedicated as anyone can be.

It seems to me that this is in a sense an about-face if we pass this bill. We are closing—maybe it does not say it, but there is a lot of ambiguity, if I am any lawyer, in this bill. You say what you are going to do in the preamble and then you put some exceptions.

You say there will be no roads, it will be untrammeled, will not show the works of man. If that is true, how are we going to maintain our ditches, how are we going to maintain our mines?

There is no need, as I think the previous witnesses have shown, for setting aside any particlar area of land. If millions of people of these United States want to go there, tramp on it, camp out, we have approximately 600 million acres of forest and public domain. There is no law against anyone going on there and camping and doing what he pleases in that connection.

Mr. ASPINALL. I thank you.

Judge HUGHES. Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Are there any questions of Judge Hughes?

Mr. CHENOWETH. I want to inquire a little further in the matter of the ditches on the land you own. I have a similar situation which Mr. Oxley mentioned a moment ago. What is the situation with the Forest Service there? Why can they not give you permission to clean these ditches?

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Judge HUGHES. They never interfere with us.

Mr. CHENOWETH. They do not object?

Judge HUGHES. They never interfere with us. They have not.

Mr. CHENOWETH. They have in my district. They let you use machinery?

Judge HUGHES. Yes.

Mr. CHENOWETH. To clean the ditches?

Judge HUGHES. Yes.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Is this in a wilderness area?

Judge HUGHES. It is my understanding, and I have been in that country 31 years, that the boundary lines of the wilderness area there include this, Congressman, but I never followed out the boundary lines. I am sure they do. It is in the forest area, and that area is designated as the Mount Wilson Wilderness Area."

Mr. CHENOWETH. I consider you one of the outstanding lawyers of Colorado and the West. I know of no one who has any greater knowledge of public land laws and their usage than you do. Judge Hughes, do you know of any law which would prohibit the Forest Service from giving permission to use machinery to clean ditches in a situation of that kind?

Judge HUGHES. I do not; no. However, I know of several instances, not personally, where the Forest Service has refused permits to construct a ditch.

Mr. CHENOWETH. In other words, where the Forest Service takes that attitude, that is an arbitrary attitude of theirs, and not based upon any law or statute so far as you know?

Judge HUGHES. I well remember that Judge Marks, when that came up in the actual trial of a case, said:

I am a States rights Democrat, and I am not going to stand for that kind of action on the part of the Forest Service jurisdiction.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I am happy to get your comments, Judge, because I know you speak with authority. I appreciate that contribution because it is a situation which is causing us considerable concern over in the district I represent.

Judge HUGHES. Let's put it this way: Under certain forest supervisors you have no trouble; others get in and are a little autocratic—that is, usually all of us have that tendency.

Mr. CHENOWETH. In other words, it is a matter of supervision?

Judge HUGHES. They feel their power and shut you off if you try to do anything.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Thank you very much.

(The prepared statement of Judge Hughes follows:)

STATEMENT OF DAN H. HUGHES

My name is Dan H. Hughes of Montrose, Colo. I am not speaking on behalf of any organization, but for information as to my qualification or lack of qualification I give you a brief statement.

I came to Montrose County in 1904. I have been engaged in the livestock industry, owning lands and livestock, since 1916 with the exception of the years 1917, 1918, and 1919, during which years I was in the Armed Forces. I practiced law since 1911 in Montrose until 1948. I was then elected to two 6-year terms as district judge for this district, which comprises seven counties. I still operate, with two of my sons, both sheep and cattle, mainly in San Miguel County. During all of this period I have been a user of forest and public domain lands. At present I hold a forest permit for 1,000 head of sheep, public

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domain permits for approximately 4,000 head of sheep and some 200 head of cattle.

I am a director of the Producers Livestock Marketing Association of Salt Lake City, which has branch offices from Denver to California. I am president and director of a livestock loan agency in Denver, Colo. I am a director in the National Livestock Marketing Association and of the National Feeder & Finance Corp., both of Chicago, Ill.

I am a director of the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association. I am a director of the Colorado River Water Conservation Board. At the present time I am a paid employee of the Colorado Natural Resources Board in the capacity of consultant in connection with recodifying the Colorado water laws. I am a member and chairman of the district grazing board for district No. 4, Colorado, which starts in northern New Mexico and runs to the Uncompahgre Divide in Montrose and Mesa Counties. I am a member and chairman of the Colorado State Advisory Board, and since its institution I have been a member and now am chairman of the National Advisory Board Council under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

The statistical appendix issued by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, in 1959 contains valuable information concerning land-ownership in the United States. Statements now made are from this volume.

Part 1, page 1: "Various Federal departments, agencies, or commissions hold title to 769,717,115 acres, or about 33 percent of the gross total area of the United States."

The acreage of this ownership by departments, agencies, or commissions for States appears on pages 3 and 9. Referring to page 9, and to the percentage o fownership: California, 46 percent; Oregon, 51.5 percent; Arizona, 44.8 percent; Idaho, 65.1 percent; Nevada, 86.2 percent; Utah, 69.4 percent; Colorado, 36.3 percent; Montana, 30 percent; New Mexico, 35 percent; and Wyoming, 38.5 percent. These are the States in which a large percent of the land is owned by the Federal Government, or, as stated in this book, "by the several departments, agencies, or commissions." The grand total of the acreage in the United States is 2,269,306,240 acres, of which 1,500,376,812 acres are owned by the Federal Government. This is 33.8 percent.

Pages 15 and 16 give the federally owned lands by agencies and States. The National Park Service has 22,239,934 acres, Fish and Wildlife 16 million.

Throughout the years since our Government was first organized the Congress has followed the policy of permitting land to pass into private ownership. Under this policy there are only some 13 States left which are designated as "public land States." In these States Congress has followed its general policy of permitting land to pass into private ownership and to be built up by individual initiative and enterprise. The only way the public land States can become and remain industrially independent is by following this policy.

We must admit that there is a small group of individuals, but insofar as I am advised none of them are actively engaged in agriculture who claim they are dedicated to the principle that the public land States shall become colonies of the industrial East: that the Government shall continue ownership of the land and thereby stifle the industrial growth of the West and private ownership initiative and enterprise in these States.

We earnestly ask that Congress continue the policy followed since the formation of this Government of permitting the potential resources to pass into private ownership and become resources for all the people. We believe this is for the greatest good for the greatest number.

Today there is no law against and no reason why anyone who wants to go on the public domain or the national forests cannot go there on foot with their blanket on their back, packing their grub, and an ax, seek out secluded places and be as primitive as they desire. I understand the forest records show for last year there was in excess of 700,000 people who went into the forest with automobiles, drove over the roads and enjoyed the scenery and communed with nature. There was also approximately 6,000 who went in on foot and camped. In other words, something less than one individual out of a thousand who visited the forest areas had any desire to wander on foot and camp out in a primitive state. We see no reason why anyone who wants to go on foot into the mountains, into the forests, or on the public domain should not do so today. Any forest ranger can give one who inquires the location of areas which are just as primitive as any of our citizens desire to go into.

I own land on Wilson Mesa which adjoins a primitive area. Since 1930 I have only heard of one group who desired to camp in the area. W. I. Wilson, forest

ranger, told me there was a group of naturalists from Boston who were coming out to go into this primitive area; that he did not know how he would get them there. I told him I would be glad to furnish a pack string and a packer, and pack them in from the road but that they would have to furnish their own cook. This went along. I heard nothing from the ranger and when I inquired as to when the party would be out he said he had written them and received no answer and could not fix the time. They never came.

No fall passes but what hunters are lost on the western slope of Colorado. Practically in every county the sheriff is called upon to form a posse and search for lost hunters. These hunters certainly know something about finding their way through the forests and in the mountains. If parents take their children into the present mountainous and timbered forest areas, there is no question but what there would have to be parties sent out constantly to search for lost ones. I know of one instance where a young girl was lost in the mountains near Telluride, and where a mother and her small girl were lost on the Uncompahgre Divide.

There is no logical reason for passing a wilderness bill to give the public the privilege of doing what they already and legally do to their heart's content. The only end it would serve would be that of creating more Federal bureaucracy with more employees. Certainly someone would have to look after the tourists if they go on foot in the forests and mountain areas in any large number. Facilities such as toilets would have to be made available. Campgrounds would have to be made available, policed and maintained. In national parks firewood is cut for the tourist and I assume it would have to be done in the wilderness areas. I do not believe there would be more than one person in a hundred thousand of the total inhabitants of the United States that would take advantage of wilderness areas, from the standpoint of going in on foot, sleeping on the ground, and presumptively communing with nature.

I read the two volumes containing the congressional hearings in connection with the former wilderness bills. The most logical argument for the creation of the areas was made by some gentleman who gave statistics on the number of transquilizer pills consumed by the American public, the number of wakeup pills, the volume of liquor drunk, the number of hard drinkers, ad the number of old soaks. He then gave his conclusion, "Pass the wilderness bill and these ills will be cured." I am not familiar with transquilizer pills or wakeup pills, but I have associated to some extent with the hard drinkers and even with the old soaks and I would bet a thousand to one that you would not get them into any wilderness area, at least without their bottle.

What reason can we advance against this idea?

Counties where wilderness areas would be located are primarily agricultural. They are too far from market to justify the raising of cash crops except a few easily transported crops, such as beans. They cannot compete with the Great Plains area in wheat production. Therefore, agriculture of these areas is based almost solely on livestock, the raising of forage for the feeding of the livestock, and grain for the fattening of the livestock. In other words, livestock must be available in sufficient numbers to consume the production of the farming land. Any curtailment of grazing areas necessarily will curtail livestock numbers upon which the counties and cities involved depend for their existence.

The bill states, "that increasing population accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanism is destined to occupy and modify all areas within the United States." Possibly this is an exaggeration but accepting it as correct we are then faced with answering the question, Is it better to live in a land of plenty as far as food is concerned or in a land of want, such as China? We believe that the greatest good for the greatest number will be served by continuing as long as we can an ample supply of food and this even if at times there is an overproduction.

Nothing is a natural resource except it be put to beneficial use for humanity. We ask that Congress continue to permit the potential resources of the public land States to be beneficially used. There can be no question but that the passage of the proposed wilderness bill would be an about-face on public policy for the West and that soon vast acreages of land would be withdrawn from use.

There is now 33 million acres in parks and fish and game withdrawals, 188 million acres of forest land, 198 million acres of Bureau of Land Management land. All of this land is open to the public. On most of it, say 95 percent, the public can hike, camp, and live as primitive as they desire. There is now over one-fourth of the total land area of the United States open and legally usable for hiking and camping. That should be sufficient.

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**If Congress is convinced that an area should be designated for "preservation and protection in its natural condition," then take one or more counties, buy out private industry, abolish local government, school districts, municipal and county, and let the land go to waste from the standpoint of industry. Certainly it is better to die a quick death than from lingering pains.**

Mr. ASPINALL. Our next witness is Mrs. Nina Brouse of Whitewater, Colo.

## STATEMENT OF MRS. NINA BROUSE, REPRESENTING KANNAH CREEK COWBELLES, WHITEWATER, COLO.

Mrs. BROUSE. I am Nina Brouse of Whitewater, Colo. I represent the Kannah Creek Cowbelles of Whitewater, Colo., an organization of 32 members.

We are opposed to the Wilderness Act, S. 174, as it is written in the present form.

For the past several years now, we in western Colorado have been hearing about this wilderness bill, and I can say that we have been sincerely worried about its effects on western Colorado.

We have also heard that the bill that has passed the Senate was an improvement over the old bill, but, as I understand it, it is still very vague as to guaranteeing Colorado the use of these Federal lands for future small water development projects for our irrigation system in small towns and so forth.

Possibly big reclamation projects would have a better chance of being authorized. I don't think that we can be too specific in any bill as far as spelling out the use of our Federal lands in any type of water development.

You and I take water for granted. For years and years, almost without exception, we have been able to go to the spring, cistern, or well and fill a bucket or turn the tap and have at our disposal a plentiful supply of good, potable water. As our standard of living has progressed, we have become accustomed to the modern innovations of a 20th century home. Automatic dishwashers, automatic washing machines, dryers, lawn sprinklers, and all the other multiple uses to which we now put water in our daily living. Where some 30 or 40 years ago it took 20 gallons of water to supply our daily needs in the house, it now takes an excess of some 200 gallons per person to do our cooking, run our washing machines, wash our dishes, take our showers and baths, and keep our toilets in operation.

Today it takes almost 1,800 gallons of water per day per unit of population in the United States to supply all our daily needs, which include not only our household water, but our uses of water for the production of mining, transportation, manufacturing, merchandising and consumption of the multiplicity of articles that go into our complex system of living.

It is difficult for you and me to understand and comprehend that we are now in the position where we must carefully plan for our present as well as our future needs so that we will always have available to us that most vital of all resources—a good supply of water. This means we must carefully lay our plans so that today's needs may be translated to available supplies for tomorrow.

None of our major watersheds should be so constricted and restrained so that we would not be able to carefully analyze and study

their production of water and make plans and surveys for storage reservoirs, powerplants, transmission systems, and all the other facets of water development and usage.

The wilderness legislation as it passed the Senate would appear on the surface to encompass and contain safeguards for the development of water resources. In actuality it bears much closer scrutiny. We should give very serious consideration to the passage of Senator Allots' amendments which would make possible an easier development of necessary water supplies in those areas that have been set aside as wilderness areas or for reserve lands.

We appreciate the fact that it is desirable to have areas set aside in their native state. We are also aware of the fact, however, that the importance of some of the resources that some of these areas produce is essential to the stability of our national economy. This is particularly true with water.

We urge you to take steps to safeguard your interests and the interests of public at large in the development of water in wilderness areas so that your children and your children's children may turn a tap, press a button, and have at their command the privileges we now enjoy in the use of our vast water resources.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Are there any questions?

Your statement relative to the use of water, of course, and the amount is very timely.

Mr. OLSEN. Very timely.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you.

The next witness will be Mr. Howard Bjelland of Montrose Chamber of Commerce. He is not here.

The next witness will be Mrs. Mona Orr, of the Montrose Cowbelles. Is she here?

And the next witness will be Mrs. Wayne Gore of the Western Colorado Cowbelle Council.

You may proceed, Mrs. Orr.

## STATEMENT OF MRS. MONA ORR, LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN, MONTROSE COWBELLES

Mrs. ORR. Mr. Chairman, I am Mona Orr, am representing the Montrose Cowbelles as legislative chairman, my husband, Elmer H. Orr, my son, Howard L. Orr, and myself.

We believe that the 14,661,614 acres set aside in the existing 83 wilderness, wild, primitive and canoe areas, together with the 29 national parks and multitude of National and State monuments and parks, which are administered as wild or primitive areas is, and will continue to be, adequate for the small percentage of the Nation's population who will, or can, make use of such recreational facilities. Additional areas not only are not necessary, but would constitute a menace to economy and welfare of the Nation and to western Colorado in particular.

The establishment of additional wilderness areas in Colorado under the provisions of S. 174, known as the Wilderness Act, would hamper the livestock industry; would prevent further mining activities in

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many areas, especially explorations; would curtail lumbering activities and endanger all U.S. forests, as well as private property, by creating greatly increased fire hazards and inviting additional insect infestation, while at the same time curtailing construction of access roads which permit free movement of firefighting equipment and bug eradication programs; would stop construction of proposed dams which are essential for the conservation of water resources and for flood prevention, and for the future development of Western States; would remove vast areas from access by the general public for recreational purposes, and would prove to be an expensive monopoly of public resources for the benefit of a mere handful of ardent naturalists and financially endowed sportsmen.

We feel that the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and State and National Park Services are adequately administering the forests, public lands, and parks for their preservation, and the conservation of natural resources for the best interests of all of the people, including recreational interests, as well as grazing, lumbering, mining, and agricultural, and we see no reason for additional laws.

The present wilderness areas are more than adequate for the small percent of the people of the Nation who have the time, the financial resources, and the physical stamina to enjoy them. The vast majority of the people do not have the time for a pack trip into a wilderness area, do not have the money to hire guides and equip themselves for such a trip, and are not physically able to stand the rigors of horseback trips or to hike the miles necessary to enjoy the interior of a wilderness area where there are no roads and where cars, trucks, and jeeps are not permitted. Figures show that very few avail themselves of the present wilderness areas compared to those who visit vacation spots where good roads and other facilities make them readily accessible to travelers.

Additional wilderness areas would even prove dangerous to the lives and health of vacationers. This is called to attention by the many hunters and fishermen who suffer heart attacks or accidents or become lost in the Montrose area, requiring the services of the sheriff's office and a host of volunteer searchers who are called upon to leave their jobs to join in the rescue. Local citizens are also called upon to rescue fishermen who venture into inaccessible canyons in the area, and sometimes lose their lives.

A few days ago a hunter, native to the area, and familiar with the terrain, suffered a broken hip in a fall from a tree while attempting to orient himself. In spite of search by plane, ground parties, and individuals, he suffered exposure by lying in the open overnight in freezing temperatures. This was at a time when thousands of hunters are in the field. Another man is missing and an all-out search has failed to discover him or his pickup truck.

We have read of the horrible ordeal of the family whose car broke down on a little-used road in eastern Utah and who were not rescued for several days. This sort of thing would become common with the addition of vastly greater areas to the already large wilderness areas in the West. If these wilderness areas are used by the people who are so ardently supporting the act, it would undoubtedly require the creation of a new Government agency, a well-manned rescue force.

Finally, S. 174, as now written, deprives Congress of its constitutional function of making laws, placing it in the hands of the execu-

tive branch, actually the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Interior who are not directly answerable to the people, leaving Congress only the privilege of vetoing their acts. We consider this a very dangerous matter which might well be the beginning of a movement to deprive Congress of its powers, placing all authority in the executive branch of the Government. The potentials of such action is too dangerous to be overlooked.

For the economic, political, and recreational welfare of the Nation, S. 174, as written, must be defeated.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Are there any questions of Mrs. Orr?

Apparently not. Thank you very much.

Now, Mrs. Gore, we will have your statement.

If State Representative William Gossard or Senator Wilson are in the room, please come down front.

You may proceed, Mrs. Gore.

## STATEMENT OF MRS. WAYNE A. GORE, LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN, WESTERN COLORADO COWBELLE COUNCIL AND THE DELTA COWBELLES

Mrs. GORE. I am Mrs. Wayne A. Gore, legislative chairman for the Western Colorado Cowbelle Council and the Delta Cowbelles.

Why should we set aside 8 percent of our public land for only 2 percent of the people to use? We need an answer to the question of how much wilderness these few people really need. It could amount to one of the biggest land-grab movements we have ever had.

For economic growth, it is necessary to estimate the value of wilderness preservation nonuse against use for the production of water, livestock, minerals, gas, oil, and recreational development. Under the principle of multiple use, such areas can be adequately protected from fire, floods, disease, and insects.

Ranchers, miners, farmers, counties, and others whose economy depends upon access to resources of the range favor multiple use of the great outdoors. Wilderness areas tend to exclude too many people. People with money to hire guides and horses to explore these areas are likely to be the only ones to enjoy the vast areas of roadless wilderness. Older people and those in poor health would be unable to make these trips. The idea of blocking off millions of acres and doing it in the name of protecting public lands would stifle development of the West and bring future growth to a standstill.

Nikita Khrushchev has said:

> We cannot expect the Americans to jump from capitalism to communism, but we can assist their elected leaders in giving Americans small doses of socialism until they suddenly awake to find they have communism.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Are there any questions of Mrs. Gore?

Thank you very much.

Is State Representative William Gossard present?

Mr. GOSSARD. Yes.

Mr. ASPINALL. You may proceed.

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## STATEMENT OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM GOSSARD

Mr. GOSSARD. Mr. Chairman and honorable members, I have just a couple of thoughts I would like to leave with the committee, and these run to the practical aspects of the wilderness concept.

My State, Colorado, has approximately 64 million acres of total land area, and of that total land area, 24 million acres is federally owned.

I represent a district comprised of four counties, and of those four counties, only one county has Federal ownership of less than 50 percent, and that county has 45 percent.

So you can see my concern.

Now, here in Colorado, in connection with game and fish management, we have a serious problem, which we call the access problem. This is access of hunters and fishermen over private lands to the public domain, one, and the critical factor, really, which aggravates and prolongs this access problem, is the fact of the insistence of hunters and fishermen on driving by vehicle to the pool where they want to fish or to the site where the game is grazing, the very spot. They want to sight the animal from the car, they want to get out and shoot it, drive to the carcass, toss it in, and drive back home.

Now this is a fact in Colorado. These recreationalists, whether it is good sportsmanship or not, have clearly indicated to us that they do not want to walk, they do not want to ride horseback, they do not want to exert themselves.

I wonder if the eastern Congressmen who are concerned with wilderness legislation are aware of this fact. And it is a fact.

One other aspect is the economic aspect. Almost every year in Washington there is deep concern expressed concerning economic growth, the expansion of our economy. Our Western States are even yet substantially undeveloped and certainly offer the best prospect for a fundamental element of economic growth, and that is our undeveloped natural resources.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you, Bill.

Mr. GOSSARD. May I ask one thing, sir? Will you please convey to your colleagues that we want you to specify in the act our rights and privileges exactly, and your intent?

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Are there any questions? [Applause.]

The next witness is State Senator Hestia Wilson.

## STATEMENT OF STATE SENATOR HESTIA WILSON

Senator WILSON. Members of the committee, I have no prepared statement. I have been listening carefully to the testimony that has been given by the people here in Colorado.

I think, with our national parks, with our national monuments, with our wilderness areas—and we do have them now in Colorado—with our forest lands, with our primitive areas, that there is an area to suit every resident of the State and our tourists, if they want to go there. I see no need to hold over the people of Colorado the threat of a wilderness where no wilderness now exists.

If the wilderness areas we have are preserved as they are, and in the proportion that they now exist, those who want to go to the wilderness may go to the wilderness. I hope we will not have wilder-

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ness legislation that will deny to those who are now making good use and careful use of our resources in the forests that continued use.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much, Hestia.

Is there a representative present for the Albuquerque Jeep Herders Club?

I understand he is not here; he has been held up because of the storm. We have received his statement and it will be placed in the record.

(Statement for Albuquerque Jeep Herders Club follows:)

ALBUQUERQUE JEEP HERDERS CLUB,
*Albuquerque, N. Mex., October 24, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Grand Junction, Colo.*

HON. WAYNE ASPINALL: The Albuquerque Jeep Herders Club, consisting of over 50 members fully endorses the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, and urges its passage as an insurance of continued enjoyment of the great outdoors by future generations and prevention of exploitation by minority groups.

Sincerely,

HENRY RECTOR.

Mr. ASPINALL. Is Mr. Bob Burch of the Colorado Petroleum Council present in the room?

(No response.)

Mr. ASPINALL. Is someone here speaking for the Conservation Federation of Missouri, headquarters at Jefferson City, Mo.? Is that individual present this afternoon?

If not, the next witness is Mr. Mark B. Garman.

He is not here.

The next witness is Mr. J. A. Hughes, Jack Hughes, of Montrose. He is here. You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF JOHN A. HUGHES, SECRETARY, THE TRI-COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT, AND ATTORNEY, THE UNCOMPAHGRE VALLEY WATER USERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. HUGHES. It is indeed a pleasure to appear before you today.

My name is John A. Hughes, and I live at Montrose, Colo. I am appearing here in my capacity as secretary of the Tri-County Water Conservancy District and as attorney for the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association which administers the Uncompahgre project which is located in Montrose and Delta Counties, State of Colorado, serving approximately 70,000 acres of land with irrigation water.

I welcome the opportunity to present the views of these organizations at this hearing.

I have read and am familiar with S. 174, known as the Wilderness Act.

Let me say first that the boards of directors of both of these organizations are opposed to this legislation. We feel that it is founded on a false premise and will not be in the national interests of our country and will on the other hand hamstring the development of our area. To hold back the development of any part of our country can only hurt the Nation as a whole.

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Insofar as S. 174 concerns the development of our water resources it is not justifiable for the following reasons:

The climatic conditions of our area are such that our streams have a large runoff in the spring of the year and in a short period of time most of our water is gone. During the latter part of the summer, from approximately July 10 on, our streams are at a point where the flow of water is not sufficient to irrigate properly the land in cultivation now.

From that time on, our streams are overappropriated. The only way we can develop this area is to store water. The water has to be stored at a high elevation to be of use to obtain the maximum benefit from it. Without being able to go into the high areas where these wilderness areas are and develop storage areas, we are not going to be able to develop the area. We respectfully suggest the bill be amended to provide protection for this matter.

It is these areas that are being placed in the wilderness system. We feel that the result of S. 174 will be to place so much redtape in the way of getting Presidential approval of every water project will be to stifle the growth and development of our area.

Of what benefit is it to say that the bill shall not be construed to be in derogation of State water laws and then require Presidential approval for the construction of a water project?

We feel that the bill—if it has to be adopted in some form—should permit the construction of any water projects which comply with State law.

Can you visualize any farmer who desires to construct a water project going through all the redtape and expense of obtaining a Presidential determination that his project to irrigate his 160 acres will better serve the interests of the United States and the people thereof than will its denial? I cannot.

How far would the United States have developed if such restrictions had been in force since 1866? Fortunately the Congress of the United States saw fit to adopt a wise policy in the act of 1866 of encouraging the development of our United States.

The United States must continue to develop and use its natural resources if it is to continue to grow and prosper.

Recreation is important, but it should be kept within the needs of the people and should not be permitted to stifle the development of the country.

We feel that the entire concept of the wilderness system has been promoted by a very minute portion of the people of the United States, that the acres selected are completely out of proportion to the needs.

We also are concerned with the dangerous precedent which would be set if this legislation were adopted by delegating legislative authority to administrative bureaus.

The Constitution of the United States places the authority and the duty of enacting the laws of our country in the legislature.

S. 174 would abrogate this concept on which our country is founded and would require affirmative action by Congress to prevent a law from coming into force. This negative approach to legislation is a dangerous departure from the Constitution and in our opinion should not be adopted.

The areas should be studied first by the appropriate bureau and a report submitted to Congress, but Congress should have to say by a

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majority vote that the area be placed in the system. The concept of a veto is no protection against the unconstitutionality of the bill. I am sure you know better than I, that this reversal of legislative action will make it much easier for an area to be placed in the wilderness system.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my views.

Mr. ASPINALL. You heard the testimony of John Barnard?

Mr. HUGHES. Yes, sir.

Mr. ASPINALL. As I understand, your statement is in agreement with his statement; is that correct?

Mr. HUGHES. That is correct.

Mr. ASPINALL. Are there further questions of Mr. Hughes?

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. ASPINALL. The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. Hughes, I got somewhat the impression, from Mr. Barnard anyhow, that if this bill were amended to provide that Congress should determine what areas would be in the wilderness areas, and that these would exclude at least the storage basins for water development, that they would have no appreciable objection to the wilderness concept.

Mr. HUGHES. Yes.

Mr. DOMINICK. Do you also feel that, if Congress did this, they should also try to delineate mining or useful grazing areas or timber areas, in the process of designating these areas?

Mr. HUGHES. I feel, Mr. Dominick, that the Congress should consider all of the prospective areas that are going to be put in wilderness for their uses. I feel Congress should not delegate its authority to the administrative agency to specify these areas, and that these particular uses you mention should be given consideration where they are of beneficial use and are being presently used.

Mr. DOMINICK. If they are all to be considered and if they are all going to be eliminated from any area that you are going to put in the wilderness area, what are you going to have left?

Mr. HUGHES. I feel that consideration should be given. If the areas are, say, more adaptable to wilderness than these other uses, that is the type of area that should be placed in it. But I do not think it should be placed in it to the exclusion of the other uses that can be made that are not detrimental to the use of it as wilderness, too.

Mr. DOMINICK. Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Are there further questions?

Thank you very much.

Mr. HUGHES. Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Will the representative of the Colorado-Ute Electric Association come forward? And whoever is here representing the Mountain States Association, with headquarters in Ogden.

You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF GORDON ROBINSON, ASSISTANT MANAGER, COLORADO-UTE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC., MONTROSE, COLO.

Mr. ROBINSON. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, Mr. Bugas, manager of the Colorado-Ute Electric Association, could not be here. I am Gordon Robinson, assistant manager.

Because of other witnesses having expressed opposition to this bill as it now stands, and because our views are in concurrence with their opinion, we will not make a statement at this time or take any more of the subcommittee's time.

If you have questions, we will be glad to answer them.

(The statement submitted by Mr. Bugas follows:)

STATEMENT OF JOHN J. BUGAS, MANAGER, COLORADO-UTE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, my name is John J. Bugas. I am general manager of Colorado-Ute Electric Association, Inc., Montrose, Colo.

Colorado-Ute provides wholesale electric power and energy to consumer owned rural electric associations on the western slope of Colorado.

We are sure that this committee is interested in the attitude of this organization concerning S. 174, which provides for the establishment of a National Wilderness Preservation System.

Colorado-Ute recognizes that there may be a need for setting aside certain Federal lands to be designated as wilderness areas, and also recognizes a corresponding need for legislation to protect and preserve the wilderness character of the areas so designated.

We are, however, opposed to S. 174 because the wording of the act is very indefinite and does not establish how the value of wilderness nonuse is to be measured against the value of the multiple use of these areas for production of water, timber, recreational development, mining, and other uses.

It is our firm conviction that great harm can be done to sections of our Nation, by incorporating too much area into the wilderness system, without clearly establishing the need for these areas for wilderness use alone.

We respectfully request that this committee recommend amendments to S. 174, which would provide that an area shall not be included in the wilderness system without a specific act of Congress. We further request that section 9 of S. 174 be amended and broadened to include all of the States.

The Congress would then have the benefit of the views and advice of a State commission, as to how federally owned land within a State could best be utilized, developed, protected, and preserved, before taking action on specific areas to be included in the wilderness system.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to express our views on this very important matter.

Mr. ASPINALL. Mr. Robinson, do you support the position that the users presently allowed in these areas should be continued?

Mr. ROBINSON. We do, sir.

Mr. ASPINALL. Are there other questions?

Mr. CHENOWETH. What is the concern of the REA groups concerning this legislation?

Mr. ROBINSON. I am not speaking for the entire REA group; I am only speaking for Colorado-Ute. The Colorado-Ute would like to see each State have a commission that would be consulted before this is declared a wilderness area. Likewise, we would like to see the Congress keep control so that they are the people that are designating the wilderness areas.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I was curious to know if the REA cooperatives, as such, have taken any position for or against wilderness legislation.

Mr. ROBINSON. This I cannot say, sir. I am only speaking for our organization.

Mr. CHENOWETH. What attitude does your association take?

Mr. ROBINSON. We take the attitude this bill needs to be amended and made more specific so we know how we will be affected.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You are not opposed to wilderness legislation, providing it contains the necessary safeguards. That is the position of your association?

Mr. ROBINSON. Right.

Mr. ASPINALL. The gentleman from Montana, Mr. Olsen.

Mr. OLSEN. Mr. Robinson, are you opposed to, or do you challenge the present wilderness and primitive area boundaries?

Mr. ROBINSON. Not the present.

Mr. OLSEN. Would you have any objection to the present wilderness areas and primitive areas being designated so by congressional act?

Mr. ROBINSON. You mean by this bill?

Mr. OLSEN. By a congressional act.

Mr. ROBINSON. We think the areas should be considered on an individual basis, so that the people who are going to be affected will have a right for this particular area.

Mr. OLSEN. What I have reference to is that the present primitive areas and wilderness areas have been designated by the Forest Service and those boundaries fixed by the Forest Service. Would you have any objection, or what would be your position with respect to the Congress adopting those areas and designating those areas and those boundaires as wilderness areas?

Mr. ROBINSON. We would not be opposed to this, provided these can be considered on an individual basis, and the Congress keep power over them.

Mr. OLSEN. Do you think that some of these areas should not have been wilderness areas, that have already been designated?

Mr. ROBINSON. No, we are not opposed to them as they are.

Mr. OLSEN. Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. The gentleman from Colorado, Mr Dominick.

Mr. DOMINICK. I have no questions.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you, Mr. Robinson

Mr. ROBINSON. Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. The next witness is an individual representing the Mountain States Association of Ogden, Utah. Our good friend, Ed Nelson, come forward.

## STATEMENT OF ED NELSON, MOUNTAIN STATES ASSOCIATION, MONTROSE, COLO.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, the Mountain States Association, an organization composed of some 140 chambers of commerce and similar organizations in the 8 mountain States of Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana opposes the wilderness bill, S. 174 for the following reasons:

It is our understanding that the bill as presently drawn provides that recommendations for wilderness withdrawals will be presented by the President to the Congress and if one of the Houses does not veto the proposal the recommendation takes effect after a certain period of time. We believe that Congress should retain the right to make public land decisions, and this should be done in a positive manner requiring the full approval of Congress.

About 8 million acres of national forest lands, classified presently as primitive, will be blanketed into the system prior to thorough field review but subject to later review without positive congressional action. National forest areas should receive the same treatment as pro-

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vided for national parks, monuments, game ranges, and refuges. These areas will not come into the system until each has been reviewed by the responsible department, the areas proposed for permanent inclusion have been specifically described and recommended and congressional committees have examined the entire question.

It would prevent the recreational use of vast acreage of our important Federal lands for use by the majority of the people. It would limit to a single purpose expansive areas for the use of a very small percentage of those who want and are able to reach absolute wilderness.

It would prevent all development of natural resources on these lands—mining, oil and gas, forest production, grazing of livestock, and above all, water development. Without continued development of these natural resources the growth of the Rocky Mountain States would be seriously impaired. The Nation as a whole would also be affected if supplies of vital minerals, forest productions, and livestock were curtailed.

It would make it difficult for the Government agencies to properly administer the lands now in wilderness areas. As an example, it would prevent access roads being built which must be available for firefighting.

The Federal lands of the Nation must continue to exist for the "greater good of all." The multiuse principle has been a sound one and must continue in force. The administration of lands and resources involved must remain in the hands of the dedicated public servants who now administer them. The proposed legislation adds still another administrative responsibility and expense to the Government. This expense is not needed because we feel that the present existing agencies have been and can do the job.

We are against the bill, in view of the fact we feel it will economically retard the area in which we serve.

Mr. ASPINALL. Mr. Nelson, you are a member of the Mountain States Association?

Mr. NELSON. I am manager of the Montrose County Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Mountain States Association.

Mr. ASPINALL. Are there any questions?

Thank you very much.

Mr. NELSON. Thank you, sir.

Mr. ASPINALL. The next witness is Mr. Harry Palmer of Cedaredge.

Will the representative of the San Miguel Water Conservancy District, with headquarters at Norwood, come down front?

You may proceed, Mr. Palmer.

## STATEMENT OF HARRY L. PALMER, CEDAREDGE, COLO.

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Chairman, this statement is in opposition to the wilderness bill, because I believe our way of life in Delta and Montrose Counties, and in other similar localities in the West, will be adversely affected; could, and probably would be, adversely affected by it.

My name is Harry L. Palmer. I have been a resident of Cederedge, Colo., and vicinity since April 1911. I am and have been engaged in growing fruit and in the sale of fruit in the Surface Creek Valley on

the south side of Grand Mesa in Water District No. 40 of the State of Colorado during the major portion of that time. For 32 years I have been secretary of the Grandby Ditch & Reservoir Co., which holds storage decrees for 1,850 acre-feet of water on Grand Mesa and natural flow decree for irrigation of approximately 1,500 acres of farmland owned by approximately 50 stockholders. About one-seventh of this storage water is used by the city of Delta for municipal purposes.

For over 40 years I have been an officer of the board of directors of the Surface Creek Ditch & Reservoir Co., which holds decrees for approximately 10,000 acre-feet of storage water on Grand Mesa for irrigation purposes. Improvements on these two systems have been financed within the last 10 years by loans from the Wichita Bank for Cooperatives.

I have also been a livestock permittee on the Grand Mesa National Forest and I also own a summer dwelling in the Grand Mesa Lake area where I entertain friends and relatives from Denver and the East.

The domestic water in my house is furnished by the town of Cedaredge from underground springs on the top of Grand Mesa.

At the present time water users in the Surface Creek Valley have storage decrees and reservoir capacity for 34,264 acre-feet of water on Grand Mesa, and in the North Fork area water users have storage capacity for a little over 11,000 acre-feet of storage water for irrigation purposes in the Surface Creek and North Fork Valleys.

During this same year, the Grand Mesa area delivered over 79,000 acre-feet of direct flow water to the Surface Creek Valley and over 69,000 feet of direct flow water to the North Fork Valley. This direct flow is available for only about 3 months irrigation season and in order to bring our crops to maturity, we must rely then on storage water and we find that this is still inadequate.

Consequently, our whole way of life and economy is based upon and limited to our water supply. The systems are located in the U.S. forest on Grand Mesa at an average elevation of 10,000 feet. The proper care and management of our watersheds on this mesa is of extreme importance to us.

The area is also used to a large extent for livestock grazing, production of timber, and recreation. There are approximately 150 summer homes built in the vicinity of these storage reservoirs which have been superimposed upon approximately 200 natural lakes on the top of Grand Mesa.

In the last 3 years, the State and Federal authorities have constructed new hard-surfaced roads into the area and even with the great increase in the number of visitors and tourists going into the area, we have no conflict between these multiple uses as the same are administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

I note a provision in the wilderness bill that the President may authorize the establishment of reservoir and water conservation works in public lands, set aside for wilderness, if he determines that such will better serve the interests of the United States.

To me, this is not the answer. In the first place, we are a still growing and developing young area and our more or less costly development of water resources has been taken care of by individuals, ditch

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companies, and our municipalities. More expensive and difficult projects are now being developed by the Bureau of Reclamation.

In the second place, we are just now reaching a stage for actual development of the Colorado River participating projects, for which we have worked so earnestly for so many years.

In the third place, I do not think that any of us ever expect the United States to elect a President from the State of Colorado and I do not agree that our rights to the development of our public lands and our water resources should be represented in the National Government by anyone other than our own elected representatives.

Without water, we cannot exist and any law which limits our right to develop water resources directly limits our very existence and directly or indirectly restricts the growth of our towns and our right to future development in the arid West. In my opinion, the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service are already administering our public lands in an adequate and satisfactory manner to the great and overwhelming majority of our people.

Multiple uses are beneficial to our public lands and complete access thereto is necessary for their preservation. If the grass and forage on our mountains are not used, they become fire hazards. If our timber is not harvested, our forests become subject to insection infestation. Even with careful management, great damage sometimes results from storms which leave weakened timber subject to infestation such as the Englemann spruce infestation on Grand Mesa which resulted from windstorms in the year 1939.

What I have said about the dependency of this community upon the Government lands for water supply, grazing, timber production, and recreation I believe applies to each and every community, large or small, in this State.

A number of amendments have been proposed to make the bill more palatable and if this law should pass, certainly amendments will have to be made to keep control of the matter in our own representatives and in Congress where it belongs and to protect our rights to develop water, timber, grazing, and also recreational development for the great majority of our people, but in my opinion the whole proposal is fantastic and should be opposed in its entirety.

Thank you very much.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you, Mr. Palmer.

Are there any questions?

I noted you referred to the fact that it is not likely we will elect a President from the State of Colorado. I do not believe that makes very much difference, because I think the people of the Western 19 States, which includes Hawaii and Alaska, should know that this bill was supported by all but 7 Members of the U.S. Senate. So this question of locale does not mean too much; it is a question of understanding what is involved.

We will hope that the House will understand the different matters that are involved in the bill.

Mr. PALMER. What I meant, of course, was that we want this under the supervision of the Congress rather than the President of the United States.

Mr. ASPINALL. Of course, that pleases this committee very much; that is a part of it.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You state that you do not believe this bill can be amended or any legislation written which would meet the approval of this area. Is that correct?

Mr. PALMER. While we think the bill is more or less fantastic, yet, if it is going to be passed at all, we feel it should be passed with suitable amendments.

Mr. CHENOWETH. But you would rather see no bill passed at all?

Mr. PALMER. That is right.

Mr. CHENOWETH. That is all. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. ASPINALL. Is someone representing the San Miguel Water Conservancy District present?

## STATEMENT OF GEORGE MIKE YOUNG, CHAIRMAN, SAN MIGUEL WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Mr. YOUNG. My name is George Mike Young, chairman of the San Miguel Water Conservancy District, also a member of the Southwestern Water Board.

It is my opinion and that of many others that I have talked to that the public lands of our country should be used for the most benefit of all the people. In order for public lands to be used for everyone's benefit, we must have water and power development where and when needed to insure the proper future development of our great country. Without adequate water and power, no country can continue to progress, and in many cases such development must be made on public lands.

Other important uses of public lands are the grazing of livestock and mining; the two are important to the economy and welfare of many communities and areas.

Recreation is another very important use of our public lands. In this age of modern travel, people like to see nature's wonders, but they want to see it from an automobile or jeep. Only a very small minority are willing to travel on foot or by horse to see anything.

I therefore feel that a wilderness bill that did not take all of the above things into consideration would not be in the best interest of the majority of the people or the economy of our Nation.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Mr. Dominick has a question.

Mr. DOMINICK. Do you oppose the bill in its entirety? Or do you think it could be amended to make it possible?

Mr. YOUNG. I think it could be amended to make it possible.

Mr. DOMINICK. At the present time we have some primitive lands, as you know. Do you think that some of them should be taken out of that category?

Mr. YOUNG. I think some of the primitive lands I know of are being used more or less for multiple use at the present time.

Mr. DOMINICK. Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. The next will be Mr. J. Reed Williams, representing the soil conservation district at Montrose.

If he is not here, his statement will be placed in the record at this point.

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(Statement of Mr. Williams follows:)

COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS,
*Olathe, Colo.*

To: House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.
From: J. Reed Williams, director, Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts.
Subject: Wilderness legislation.

The supervisors of the Shavano, Uncompahgre, and Cimarron Soil Conservation Districts met on the evening of October 20, to discuss the wilderness bill.

Points brought out in the discussion were:

Access roads are necessary in the wilderness area to fight or prevent forest fires, as well as small dam construction.

That very few of our population would benefit from an area designated as playground. That wilderness areas now set aside, are not being used.

At this meeting, the supervisor unanimously endorsed the resolution passed at the annual meeting of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts in January 1961, which is:

The NASCD, in view of the rapidly expanding population of the Nation, recognizes the need for allocating additional areas of public lands to parks, defense, recreational, wilderness, and other noncommercial purposes.

At the same time, we take position that each and every allocation of public land to such specialized single-purpose use be made only after thorough study and justification; that any allocation of public lands transferred from multiple to restricted use be made only after a complete inventory of all the resources of the area involved—which sets forth their essential uses; that these uses be cataloged in accordance with the present and potential needs; and further, that we oppose vigorously all indiscriminate, unselective, and exclusive allocations beyond the demonstrated, justified needs for the purposes indicated.

Moreover, we strongly urge adequate provision for access roads, fire protection, watershed protection, and water production on all lands retired from multiple to restricted use.

J. REED WILLIAMS.

Mr. ASPINALL. The next witness is Mr. F. M. Petersen, of the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

Will Mr. William J. Dodd of Delta also come forward?

You may proceed, Mr. Petersen.

## STATEMENT OF F. M. PETERSEN, MEMBER, WATER CONSERVATION BOARD OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

Mr. PETERSEN. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is F. M. Petersen. I am a member of the Water Conservation Board of the State of Colorado.

I appear here today as the representative of that board. It is the general purpose of the board to formulate and further a continuing State policy with respect to water development programs and problems, both intrastate and interstate. It is my purpose today to present the views of this board on S. 174, an act to establish a national wilderness preservation system for the permanent good of the whole people and for other purposes.

I wish to express the deep appreciation of the membership of our board for the committee's scheduling of this hearing in Colorado. The act, in its present form, will have a material effect on the economy of the State of Colorado and its impact on future development in Colorado is of great concern to this board and to the people and interests of the entire State.

We do not disagree with the broad policy statement included in section 2 of the act presently before this committee. The maintenance of

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certain areas in their wilderness condition will undoubtedly be of benefit to present and future generations of the people of this country. Certain segments of the population have the means and the desire to avail themselves of the solitude and the primitive nature of these areas for unconfined recreation. The maintenance of certain areas for "ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value" will undoubtedly prove to be of some value.

At present 21.5 percent of the land area of the State of Colorado is included in national parks, monuments, and national forests (including wild and primitive areas). The concern we have for the administration of these areas can be appreciated when it is realized that 90 percent of the water supply in Colorado, which is subject to development for beneficial uses, originates within this 21.5 percent of our State. Anything which is done in this area, whether it be in the nature of restrictive regulations or permissive regulations, affects water, the lifeblood of our economy.

The concern which we in Colorado have for the preservation and utilization of our limited water supplies is borne out by the findings of the Senate Select Committee on National Resources. Our State is in a semiarid zone and is entirely dependent upon the conservation and wise use of the water resources originating in our mountain areas.

Major Pike, in his report on the results of exploration in the West and Middle West, stated that this was a desert area which would forever constitute a barrier toward development westward. Major Pike did not reckon with the ingenuity and perseverance of the early settlers in developing the water resources originating in our mountain areas and making the desert bloom. The increasing store of information on streamflows and the technological advances in control and utilization of these streamflows makes it possible to collect and use waters which only a few short years ago were considered to be unusable because of the problems involved in collection, storage, and transportation to the sites of use. It is this progress and continued development of our water resources which we wish to preserve.

We do not feel that adequate safeguards to permit the orderly conservation and development of our rapidly dwindling water supplies, have been incorporated into the legislation now under consideration. It is our feeling that this legislation approaches the problem from the negative rather than from the affirmative side. As a practical matter the act amounts to an abandonment of congressional authority over public lands and leaves the disposition of vast areas to the decisions of administrators who are not answerable directly to the people. It is our feeling that a more proper procedure would be for the legislative branch to take affirmative action in the establishment of specific wilderness areas. The legislative branch should not be placed in the position of being required to veto administrative recommendations. The privilege of local and State interests of making their voices heard in the Halls of Congress through affirmative actions of their elected representative should not be denied.

The State of Colorado in concert with the Federal agencies charged with the development of water resources has expended a great deal of time and money in the inventory of water supplies and in the uses for these water supplies within the State. Waters originating in the

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mountainous areas of Colorado flow through 18 States in their course to the sea. Through the medium of interstate compacts and under decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court, the State of Colorado must share its water with these other States; therefore, any action which affects the water supply of Colorado also affects the water supply of those States through which the water must flow.

Should the potential area to be covered by this proposed legislation become incorporated into wilderness areas, the source of nearly all of our water would be under a wilderness blanket. Because of this blanket it is impossible at this time to determine the complete effect of this legislation upon our water supply.

Since we have made long and determined efforts to locate the exact sources of our water, the character of the flows from these sources, the uses to which this water may be put, and the locations in which it is required, we feel that specific wilderness areas should be studied to determine their effect on our water development program before they are created. Utilization of water in wilderness areas is only one of the resource requirements for water.

The requirement of water for wilderness and its effect on existing supplies has not been determined. It should have its proper niche in the water-use picture; however, all other uses of water should not become subsevient to it. The act should not only permit, but should require, a determination of water uses which may be in conflict with wilderness areas before those areas are created. It is only after such a detailed determination has been made that intelligent designations of wilderness areas can be made. This would, of course, involve a statement of the views of other affected agencies of the Federal Government as well as the views of the State and local interests involved.

Modification of the provisions of section 9 of the proposed act to include a State such as ours would at least insure that the people of the State of Colorado would be represented at deliberations on the use of public lands, including wilderness area designations.

Colorado, together with the other States of the Upper Colorado River Basin, finds itself in the position "once burned, twice shy." Our experience with the protection assured in Executive proclamation has not been good. The enlargement, by Presidential proclamation, of Dinosaur National Monument excepted the operation of the Federal Water Power Act of June 10, 1920, as well as the reclamation withdrawal of October 17, 1904, for the Brown's Park Reservoir site. The situation there was somewhat similar to the situation here in that detailed investigation of the most feasible reservoir site had not been completed. Water interests were assured that the intent contained in this proclamation would protect water resource development. When the time came for authorization of the Echo Park Dam which would encroach on the enlarged Dinosaur National Monument, the authorization was defeated in spite of the assurances that ample protection for water resource development had been provided in the proclamation.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much, Mr. Petersen.

The gentleman from Colorado, Mr. Chenoweth.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I would like to inquire if the Colorado Water Conservation Board has taken any official action or position on this legislation?

Mr. PETERSEN. Yes, sir; they have.

Mr. CHENOWETH. What was that action?

Mr. PETERSEN. That action was that the bill as now presented in its entirety was not acceptable, and that there should be more defined amendments to clarify the position of water development in wilderness areas.

Mr. CHENOWETH. They feel, then, the bill as passed by the Senate would be a definite threat to the future development of our water resources?

Mr. PETERSEN. That is absolutely right, sir.

Mr. CHENOWETH. They did not take any position on the theory or principle of wilderness areas as such?

Mr. PETERSEN. No, except I think it was the majority opinion if there were no wilderness area bill at all, it would be just fine. [Applause.]

Mr. CHENOWETH. That is all. Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you.

Does a Mr. Van Gorder wish to present the statement of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts?

You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF RAY VAN GORDER, PAONIA, COLO.

Mr. VAN GORDER. My name is Ray Van Gorder, of Paonia, Colo., where I have lived for the past 17 years. I am a member of the supervisors and vice president of the Delta Soil Conservation District, which embraces all of Delta County and portions of Montrose and Gunnison Counties in the State of Colorado.

It is the objective of our organization to develop land and water resources and to preserve and conserve land for its greatest beneficial use within its capabilities. This includes recreational uses, protection of wildlife, as well as farming and grazing uses.

It is our observation that we have a number of able Federal and State agencies which already are working our public lands. We have our Forest Service, our Park Service, our Bureau of Public Lands, and our State park recreation groups. All of these existing goups perform their duties under the laws and regulations fixed by our legislative bodies and we are unable to see where any benefit can be gained or obtained in connection with our public lands by putting the same under the control of any one person or removing it from the administration of agencies who are already experienced in its management and preservation.

We believe that no changes in classification or use of public lands should be made without complete studies and that the uses should be cataloged to develop the maximum beneficial use for the overwhelming majority of our people.

We cannot conceive that it is for the best interests of our country that large quantities of our public land should be set aside for very restricted uses for a very, very small percentage of our people. It is our observation that the multiple-use system, as developed and practiced by our Forest Service, still continues to be the most desirable way of handling our public lands. To us, the limitation on access roads and limitation on types of vehicle to be used in the area and the

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other restrictions proposed by the wilderness bill appear to us to be a dangerous practice, particularly in the semiarid West where we are constantly menaced by fire and where water development is so essential to our very existence.

We believe that our public lands should be administered and managed so as to secure the greatest possible development in water resources, grazing, timber, oil and gas, mineral resources, and for recreation of the great portion of our people, and we feel that if this bill is passed that it will take the control of a large segment of our public lands away from our elected representatives in Congress and that these benefits will be lost forever.

Thank you very much.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Are there any questions?

Mr. Dodd is not here.

Mr. B. C. Collins is the next witness.

While he is coming up, will Mr. Douglas Nelson, of Denver, also come up?

You may proceed, Mr. Collins.

## STATEMENT OF BERT C. COLLINS

Mr. COLLINS. Thank you for this opportunity, Mr. Chairman.

My name is Bert Collins. I represent my children. I represent my children here today, opposing the wilderness bill as written.

I will say this: that I do not understand the bill too well. You can cross me up in a lot of ways.

I want to make this observation of the testimony given here today, to thank those that have testified for the bill for doing a better job of saying that we can work out a workable agreement whereby we could continue to use multiple use of our natural resources and our forest lands. I think, to me, that is what most of them have said, that it can be done.

I said I represent my children, and I say to you, never should you, Mr. Aspinall, or any other Congressman, put themselves or any future Congressman into a position whereby they can pass the buck to some administrative department of any issue that is so vitally important to the future generations of our country.

I say it can be used. I said in my statement that years ago people did not use these undeveloped areas, and you say how do I know they did not use them. I was there. I was in the Black Canyon, what is now the national monument, when I was 8 or 9 years old. There was no one over there. There were no roads. I was on Grand Mesa, where the road now is, and there was no one there; there was no road.

I will just say this: I do not know why they were not there, but I often thought it was because I would go up there and stay 3 or 4 weeks at a time without a bath.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

(The prepared statement of Mr. Collins follows:)

**I do not think the Senate bill 174, as written, will be beneficial to the most people. As I read it, setting aside designated areas of the national forest to remain as nearly as possible as were created can only be enjoyed by a very few people.**

When I was a boy, 8 or 9 years old, I made several trips on a burro into the Gunnison River, what is now the Black Canyon Monument, and wondered why more boys could not see this magnificent sight. As I grew older I spent several years riding horseback on the Grand Mesa National Forest where the Lands End road is now; there again I wondered why more people could not see the wonderful scenery. Now some 30 years later through initiative and progress we have wonderful roads into these areas where each year thousands enjoy these wonderful sights.

Today we can find many undeveloped areas that will compare to these areas that I have described. People did not use them then, they are not using them now; how can anyone's imagination lead them to believe that people are going to use these undeveloped areas in the future under the provisions of Senate bill 174?

In conclusion, my thought is merely that as long as we are a nation of free people, let us never surrender the power to any one man or group of men to curtail the development of our natural resources and scenic beauty; let's leave this to you Congressmen.

Mr. ASPINALL. Mr. Douglas Nelson of the Independent Petroleum Association of America.

## STATEMENT OF CHARLES HENNING, COLORADO DIVISION MANAGER, ROCKY MOUNTAIN OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION

Mr. HENNING. Mr. Chairman, my name is Charles Henning. I am the Colorado division manager of the Rocky Mountain Oil & Gas Association.

Mr. Nelson was unable to arrive in time to testify and asked me to summarize the statement he has submitted to the committee. He was to represent the Independent Petroleum Association of America.

We would like to urge Congress to analyze the forthcoming report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. We believe the Commission should serve as a watchdog over the national recreation resources of the country.

If legislation is passed, we would like to recommend that two important things be included: First, that the multiple-use concept be continued; and secondly, that provision be made for an inventory of resources in the area before that area is withdrawn.

Finally, we urge that any legislation include provision for affirmative action by Congress on any recommended withdrawal of land into a wilderness system.

One final observation I would like to make on the sometimes-heard charge that we users are being selfish regarding this bill: We are not trying to keep people out of the wilderness areas. After all, as individuals, we, too, enjoy these same areas. All we are contending is that there is room for all types of users under the concept of multiple use.

One example: We have been active for some time now developing natural gas reserves up on Grand Mesa. So far as I know, these operations have not interfered with fishing, hunting, camping, or other uses of the scenic area.

If it has worked on Grand Mesa, we feel it can work elsewhere. All that is required is supervision.

Mr. ASPINALL. Your home is in Denver?

Mr. HENNING. Denver; yes.

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(The statement submitted by Douglas E. Nelson follows:)

STATEMENT OF DOUGLAS E. NELSON ON BEHALF OF THE INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

My name is Douglas E. Nelson. I am employed as division exploration manager for the Rocky Mountain area by the Argo Oil Corp., in Denver, Colo. I am also a member of the Public Lands Committee of the Independent Petroleum Association of America, and am appearing here on behalf of the association.

The Independent Petroleum Association of America is a national trade association of independent producers of crude oil and natural gas, including land and royalty owners. The principal interest of the members of the association is in the domestic production of oil and gas. Every oil-producing area of the Nation is represented in the association membership.

The wilderness bill, as passed by the Senate, does not adequately recognize the congressional policy of multiple-use development of the public lands. Experience has shown that operations of the oil industry, as well as activities of other industries operating on public lands, with proper Government regulations, do not conflict with recreational, wildlife, or other multiple-use purposes. We can carry on exploration and production operations without in any way destroying the wilderness aspect of any wilderness-type area. We cannot believe that the provisions for exceptions to the ban on development in these areas have any value. Because of the restrictions on obtaining this information initially, it would be almost impossible to develop the facts necessary to secure Presidential permission to carry on nonwilderness activities.

The Senate bill in its present form fails to provide for a determination of the value of the natural resources of a proposed wilderness area. It seems only logical to evaluate any proposed withdrawal before putting it into a system in which the lands could lie fallow permanently.

Many of the questions on wilderness which have gone unanswered up to now should, hopefully, be answered to everyone's satisfaction when the report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission is completed. If Congress will evaluate the report before passing a wilderness bill, the 3 years and $2½ million expended for this review will have been a better investment than if final action is taken prior to receipt of this study, which is due this year.

Finally, the present version of S. 174 fails to provide for a concurrent resolution by the Congress favoring any recommendation of the President for inclusion of lands into the wilderness system.

In summary, our association is opposed to the bill in its present form. In the event legislation is passed, we strongly urge that any wilderness legislation contain provisions for—

(1) A continuation of the multiple-use concept, as established by Congress:

(2) Provision for a resources review or inventory before withdrawal; and

(3) Provision for affirmative action by Congress on any recommended withdrawal of lands into a wilderness system.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our views on this proposed legislation.

Mr. ASPINALL. The next witness is Orest A. Gerbaz of Aspen, Colo. Will Mr. John R. Boulton come down to the front?

You may proceed, Mr. Gerbaz.

## STATEMENT OF OREST A. GERBAZ, ASPEN, COLO.

Mr. GERBAZ. My name is Orest A. Gerbaz. I am a stockman and farmer and am a member of the Board of County Commissioners of Pitkin County, Colo. I am also a member of the Colorado River Water Conservancy District.

I have lived in my district for 61 years. I am not as old as John Barnard, and not as wise, but I have lived a long time.

I do not believe in the executive branch of the Government saying you may do this unless it says "shall."

I would like to see the Forest Service still administer our permits. I do not want the executive branch of the United States to do that.

Going back to recreation, mining, and watershed in our district, we are now on the upper end of Pitkin County, in the primitive area from Snowmass to Castle Creek. At Castle Creek we have an open iron ore mine at 11,500 feet, at the edge of the primitive area. They are now shipping. This summer when they got started—they just started last year—they shipped 10 cars a day for 2 months. Next year I predict it will triple. That is the mining.

Skiing started with the toboggan on a 400-foot run, pulled by an old motor on the hill with a rope. One toboggan went up as the other came down. Now we have a lift that runs into the hills for these people that do not want any construction on these hills.

I want to see them carry up their ski facilities on their back. Nobody walks to the top of that hill, they all ride.

They do not mine with a teaspoon. It is an open iron ore mine, and they have got to get their equipment up there.

If it is handled through our local representatives, our Congressmen, we can go to them and say, "We want this left out."

I don't want the President of the United States—I do not care whether he is a Democrat or a Republican—to say that is going in the wilderness area.

Thank you.

(The statement submitted by Mr. Gerbaz follows:)

STATEMENT OF OREST A. GERBAZ

My name is Orest A. Gerbaz. I am a stockman and farmer and am a member of the Board of County Commissioners of Pitkin County, Colo.

Mining, livestock, and recreation in Pitkin County are the essence of our livelihood.

Senate bill No. 174, section 6(c)(1), line 18, page 14, says:

"(A) The President may, within a specific area and in accordance with such regulations as he may deem desirable, authorize prospecting (including but not limited to exploration for oil and gas), mining (including but not limited to the production of oil and gas), and the establishment and maintenance of reservoirs, water-conservation works, transmission lines, and other facilities needed in the public interest * * *."

It does not say "shall," it says "may." We don't want to hang our future on a "may."

And in line 6, page 15, same section, it says:

"(B) the grazing of livestock, where well established prior to the effective date of this Act with respect to areas established as part of the wilderness system by this Act, or prior to the date of public notice thereof with respect to any area to be recommended for incorporation in the wilderness system, shall be permitted to continue subject to such resrictions and regulations as are deemed necessary by the Secretary having jurisdiction over such area."

My contention is that permits are yet not established. Based upon experience in the past where permits for 4,000 ewes and lambs were permitted to graze on forest lands, now the same area only grazes 1,000 ewes and their lambs. Two-thirds have been removed in number and the time has been cut to 80 days from 120 days per season, all in the last 15 to 18 years, and which I now consider is definitely not yet established.

As to recreation, in my opinion, the recreation opportunities in Pitkin County will definitely be hurt if wilderness legislation is adopted because each year some of the new recreation areas are extended into the federally owned lands under permits granted by the Forest Service. Some skiing areas now extend into existing designated primitive areas. There is nothing in the proposed wilderness legislation to guarantee the continued use of these public lands for grazing or recreational purposes. Even though the uses are now established they may be discontinued by Executive order. Also, in my opinion, mining and prospecting

in our county on public lands may be discontinued, which would seriously hurt our economy. I am, therefore, very much opposed to Senate bill No. 174, or similar legislation, and I am sure I speak for the vast majority in my county.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to present my views on this matter.

Mr. ASPINALL. As I understand, you would rather have some open mining of iron ore up there than to have it all shipped from Labrador or Venezuela. Is that right?

Mr. GERBAZ. I certainly would, because I undertsand now they are going to ship from Pueblo. Our friends from over there that want our water are getting our ore.

Mr. ASPINALL. Judge Chenoweth wants to ask a question.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I could not resist the temptation to express a word of greeting to you, an old and valued friend, who has been before our committee on many, many occasions.

I am happy that you and I are seeing eye to eye now. Perhaps we did not always do so on some other matters.

Mr. GERBAZ. That all depends if you add or subtract.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You do not want to leave the impression with this committee, I am sure, that Aspen is a wilderness area.

Mr. GERBAZ. I will put it this way: We do have a primitive area from Snowmass Lake on through to the head of Castle Creek. That is where the mining is, because there is a belt that runs for 25 miles of iron ore. It is not developed. If this goes into the wilderness area, it is my impression you will have to go up with a teaspoon and dig.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I have the impression that at Aspen there is one of the great resorts of the United States.

Mr. GERBAZ. It is. We are not objecting to mining, it holds our railroad in, and we are getting $5,000 in taxes.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I did not want people who read the record to think that Aspen is a wilderness. I think it is anything but that.

Mr. GERBAZ. But the skiing areas are going to extend into the wilderness area. Where this mining is, someday it is going to be developed for skiing, too. It is all open country.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Do you feel we should have the wilderness bill or not?

Mr. GERBAZ. Not under present conditions; no, definitely not. I do not want anybody back in Washington telling us what to do right here. I want to go through our representative; I can fight with him and not back there.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You feel, if Congress has something to say about the designation of these areas an acceptable bill could be written?

Mr. GERBAZ. It has to be coming from local approval.

Mr. CHENOWETH. But you are opposed to the bill as written by the Senate?

Mr. GERBAZ. I certainly am.

Mr. CHENOWETH. I am glad to see you again. It is always a pleasure to have you before our committee.

Mr. GERBAZ. Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Sometimes one wonders whether these meetings are love feasts or not.

The next witness is John R. Boulton. Apparently he is not present.

The next witness is William F. Darmitzel. You may proceed.

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## STATEMENT OF WILLIAM F. DARMITZEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW MEXICO MINING ASSOCIATION, SANTA FE, N. MEX.

Mr. DARMITZEL. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am William F. Darmitzel, executive director of the New Mexico Mining Association, Santa Fe, N. Mex. The New Mexico Mining Association is a trade association composed of large and small mine operators in nearly all segments of New Mexico's mining industry. I would like to express our appreciation for the opportunity to appear before you and to present our comments on S. 174.

The members of the New Mexico Mining Association have been, and still are, opposed to the enactment of legislation which calls for wholesale withdrawal of large areas of the public lands for a single purpose, unless it can be clearly demonstrated that such action is in the public interest. We are convinced that the proponents of wilderness legislation have presented evidence to show the need for such legislation. We further feel that this bill is being pushed by a sense of urgency that has been artificially created by enthusiastic and vocal minorities.

While we do not question either the need for, or the desirability of, having certain lands preserved in their natural condition; we do, however, believe that such areas should be established on an individual basis by Congress, where the advantages or disadvantages of each area can be weighed and thereby have the best interest of the public protected.

Whether Congress agrees that the proponents of this legislation have clearly shown the need for immediate action or not, we feel that New Mexico has a very clear and apparent need to expand the industrial area of its economy. Any legislation which would withdraw large areas of our State without first determining the best use to which these lands are suited is not in the best interest of our State.

Specifically we object to the provisions of the bill which would:

(1) Place large uninventoried areas, presently designated as primitive areas, into the wilderness system with the only criteria to judge whether they remain in the system being their suitability as wilderness without any consideration of their desirability or suitability for any other use.

(2) The existing power of Congress to take positive action in regard to our public lands would be limited to negative action on the recommendations of the executive branch.

(3) The well-established rights of every citizen under the mining laws would be completely wiped out.

New Mexico is growing, and in order to support our growing population, we are actively supporting and encouraging industrial development. Development of our natural resources offers one of the best methods to achieve the economic growth we need so badly. To close off large areas of land for a single purpose use, without first analyzing its potential for other uses can be detrimental to the best interests of the citizens of our State.

We also ask that in planning for the future, Congress should give more consideration to the need for all types of use before setting aside large areas for only one purpose. It is our belief that a thorough analysis and inventory of our public lands can achieve the most efficient use

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of the public lands and at the same time will satisfy the need for economic growth and recreation.

It is the opinion of our members that the multiple-use concept should be followed in as much of the public domain as possible. With the full cooperation of interested parties, we see no reason why two or more uses of public lands cannot be carried on compatibly, such as mining, cattle grazing, and recreation.

I would like to thank the committee for this opportunity to present our views on S. 174.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Are there any questions?

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. ASPINALL. The gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. Darmitzel, on the mining end, suppose we do leave the powers in the hands of Congress, we get recommendations from the local citizens, and we narrow down the areas so that the water interests are properly protected and so on and the existing mining interests. How do we know what products there may be in the ground in the primitive areas that will be remaining that you cannot explore from a mining point of view?

Mr. DARMITZEL. That is our point: you cannot. We feel there has to be some safeguard in any type of legislation that would allow people to go into it. We have some access under the present setup in the Forest Service, and you can go in and do some exploration and do some prospecting. We feel that any further action should take this into consideration.

There is no way of telling now what may be needed in the future. Uranium is a good example. New Mexico has one of the largest deposits of uranium. We knew we had some before. It had been found, but we did not know how extensive it was, and there was no particular need for it prior to the development of the atomic fission reaction.

Mr. DOMINICK. You believe, then, there should be access rights for exploration and development?

Mr. DARMITZEL. Not necessarily development immediately, but there should be some allowances made so that a person can do some reasonable amount of prospecting to ascertain what is in the area, and to stake a claim, although they may not immediately develop it, to have some right to protect their rights and the expense that they have gone to in this prospecting and exploration.

Mr. DOMINICK. You would like to see us, then, keep mining laws insofar as the right of discovery and location is concerned, even in the primitive areas?

Mr. DARMITZEL. Yes, sir; in the primitive areas.

Mr. DOMINICK. Thank you very much.

Mr. ASPINALL. The next witness is Mr. Frank D. McClellan, chairman of the Board of Park County Commissioners, Wyoming.

Will Mr. Stoddard of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts come forward?

You may proceed, Mr. McClellan.

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## STATEMENT OF FRANK D. McCLELLAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PARK COUNTY, WYO.; PRESIDENT, WYOMING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. McCLELLAN. Mr. Chairman, my name is Frank D. McClellan. I am chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Park County, Wyo., and also president of the Wyoming County Commissioners Association.

I am appearing before this committee as a private citizen and as an administrator of Park County, Wyo. No one is paying me or my expenses. Park County, Wyo., is one of the areas in the United States which is being penalized the worst of any area in the United States by this bill. In Park County the Federal Government owns 52.4 percent of the entire area of our county, and if this bill is enacted the way it is presently written, it will set aside 48.2 percent of our entire county into the wilderness and completely stop any development of any possible natural resources we might in the future develop.

I have lived in this area for a great number of years and the Forest Service people are to be commended for their handling of these lands under the multiple-use program. I have no public lands, either forest or Bureau of Land Management. All of my stock run on deeded land so I have no personal ax to grind.

In all of the years I have been in this area, I have never seen one person put a pack on his back and walk into the forest. This restricting of such vast areas for such a minority group doesn't seem, to the people who live next to these areas, as the greatest good for the greatest number of people. Being mathematically inclined, I figured up last night that we would put all of the people in the United States who would be so inclined to hike into the wilderness, in our county's part of the wilderness, and they couldn't yell loud enough to hear the next one. I don't believe that the sponsors of this bill realize how much land this is any more than most of them comprehend how much a billion dollars is.

As an administrator of our county, I cannot comprehend how the sponsor of this bill can rationalize what it means to any community to have such a large portion of their counties placed in such a position as to never be able to develop any of the natural resources they may have in their location.

As president of the Wyoming County Supervisors, we, of course, are very interested in the tax base upon which we have to levy our tax. In Wyoming, better than 43 percent of our total taxes of the State come from production taxes on the natural resources of the State of Wyoming.

We in Park County are very fortunate. Over 70 percent of our taxes come from the natural resources of the county. We do not like to see any stopping of the development of the natural resources.

We have seven counties in our particular State of Wyoming which are very hard pressed to pay their county employees. Any future development they might have in the way of uranium, or any unforeseen developments, should not be hindered.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

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The next witness is Mr. C. A. Stoddard. His statement, which is in Washington, will be examined by the gentlewoman from Idaho and the ranking member of the minority side and will be placed in the record at this place, in conformity with our rules.

You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF C. A. STODDARD, MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Mr. STODDARD. Mr. Chairman, I will not take time to go into my testimony at this time, on account of the time element being limited.

I am appearing here as an individual farmer and businessman and as a member of the State Board of Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts. We find no fault with properly established and organized wilderness areas. We believe this bill, S. 174, is far too comprehensive and takes in too much territory.

We believe that Congress should retain its full authority, after all investigation, to select those areas which shall be set aside in perpetuity and forever as wilderness areas.

We think that the positions as established by testimony here today are not incompatible, they can be put together in a good bill which I think would do all of us good.

Thank you very much.

(Prepared statement of Mr. Stoddard follows:)

CRAIG, COLO.

*To the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Room 1324, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: As a s tockman and farmer, as a businessman, and as a member of the State Board of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts, I want to register a protest against a number of provisions of S. 174 as passed by the U.S. Senate at its last session, commonly referred to as the wilderness bill.

This bill is far more comprehensive in its scope than it needs to be to accomplish its purposes, which are chiefly to provide recreation and preserve certain areas in their primitive state.

Instead of providing recreation opportunities for the many citizens who should find opportunity for such recreation, the proposed wilderness areas will limit their use to such an extent that only a few citizens will be able to enjoy them.

The wholesale withdrawal of areas to preserve them in their primitive state for future generations is like taking a cloth factory to a man in order that he may select the material for a suit of clothes when a swatch of cloth would serve the same purpose. Small primitive areas for study of flora and fauna are desirable, but the withdrawing of vast areas for this purpose is a waste of ground which should be contributing to the economy of the Nation.

It is universally recognized that in the West especially, water is a vital necessity. To limit the use and storage of water in northwestern Colorado through the establishment of wilderness areas would most certainly work a real hardship on our livestock industry.

The greatest good to the greatest number of citizens is a proper standard for determining the uses to which any given area of ground should be put, and surely the residents of any given district or area should be permitted the right to aid in the selection of any ground which is to be set aside in perpetuity as a wilderness. For this reason Congress should not turn over to any department or bureau the right of selection of ground for wilderness areas. Congress should retain jurisdiction of all Federal lands and give over its discretionary power to decide what shall be done with it only after adequate evidence is presented that a given area is needed for a purpose which will serve the common good. The proposed wilderness bill reverses this process and makes it necessary for Congress to prove that a given area should not be made a wilderness. This is unwise delegation of power and authority.

With population experts telling us that our world population is growing so rapidly that there is prospect for standing room only and no room left for living room, we should never accept a proposal which will limit the possibility of adequately feeding our people with something left over to give aid to other peoples. Withdrawing millions of acres of land from multiple use will, without question, greatly reduce the possibility of our feeding our own people in the not far distant future.

It is my firm conviction that the wilderness bill in its present form should be greatly modified before it is permitted to become the law of the land.

Respectfully submitted.

C. A. STODDARD,
*Editor, Craig Empire-Courier.*

Mr. ASPINALL. Are there any questions?

Mr. CHENOWETH. Mr. Stoddard, did I interpret your position correctly that you feel there should be some wilderness areas set aside in perpetuity?

Mr. STODDARD. That is right.

Mr. CHENOWETH. But they should be few in number and small in size?

Mr. STODDARD. That is right, and distributed over a wide area so that there may be a sampling kept of this area, of that area, and all areas where people can go and see that area in its primitive state, study the flora and the fauna, the animals, and everything that grows there naturally. I think that would be a wonderful thing, both for people who want to enjoy it and for scientists and biologists.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Do you feel Congress should have the authority and responsibility for designating those areas?

Mr. STODDARD. I certainly do, and I think it should not be delegated to anyone else.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You feel the Senate bill goes too far?

Mr. STODDARD. I certainly do. I think we should not turn so much authority over to the executive branch, and we should keep it closer to home. Congress and the House of Representatives is the closest to us, the people, that we have in our Government.

Mr. CHENOWETH. As a newspaperman of long standing, I know of your great ability to analyze news events. You have heard the testimony today. Do you feel there can be reconciliation of these diverse views, and a bill passed which would meet with general approval?

Mr. STODDARD. I am quite sure of it.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Thank you very much.

Mr. ASPINALL. The next witness is Mr. Farrell T. Wankier, Jr.

## STATEMENT OF FARRELL T. WANKIER, JR., ASSISTANT SECRETARY, NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Mr. WANKIER. Mr. Chairman, I am Farrell T. Wankier, Jr., assistant secretary of the National Wool Growers Association.

This statement regarding wilderness legislation is the official position of the National Wool Growers Association. Our association is composed of 19 State organizations and represents an area where between 70 and 75 percent of the Nation's sheep, lambs, and wool are produced. The National Wool Growers Association has been the recognized spokesman for the Nation's sheep producers for the last

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96 years. This association is opposed to any new or presently proposed wilderness legislation such as that set forth in S. 174.

Wilderness legislation as now proposed would incorporate into a wilderness system some 44 separate tracts of national forest land totaling almost 7 million acres which have heretofore been classified by the administrative action as "wilderness," "wild" or "canoe." It should be emphasized that we have no objection to this section of the bill.

The bill, however, also blankets into the wilderness system almost 8 million acres of unclassified national forest lands presently designated as "primitive" and makes possible the inclusion of an estimated 22 million acres of land presently contained in national parks, monuments, and other units of the national park system, and an estimated 24 million acres in wildlife refuges and game ranges, a total of 54 million additional acres in one broad sweep without congressional approval.

More than 90 percent of the land affected is located in 12 Western States. In one State 20.6 percent of the federally owned land would be committed to single-use purpose. This is not an economically sound situation for the States involved that depend largely upon the Federal lands and the raw material they produce for their very existence. The new wealth of any State or country is its raw material upon which most of us depend for our livelihood.

The present multiple-use program on our public domain is a utilizing principle in land management that meets the interest of all people and the Nation and permits development of all resources, soil, and water, recreation, fish, and wildlife, mineral, timber, and forage. Therefore, any wilderness bill must be one with which the West can progress and not be held back, expand and not be put into a deep freeze, but go forward and develop its potential for the good of the country.

In traveling around the country I have been asked the question many times by sheepmen, Just what is the exact purpose of this wilderness bill? What good does it actually do? This is a difficult question to answer. One answer would be that it is to satisfy the desires of a few special-interest groups. Another would be to hold in its present state some of our land for future generations—but they all add up to the same answer—it just isn't necessary.

One sheepman said, "I thought we already had sufficient legislation written up to provide us with all the wilderness areas necessary. Don't we already have around 7 million acres of wilderness which is already being managed under the wilderness system?"

"Yes," I said.

He continued, "Seems that this should be enough to take care of the few people in this generation and future generations who have the time and money to rig up an expensive packstring and spend several days or weeks out in the so-called wilderness. As I see it, most people like parks and recreation areas where they can relax, but they are not too interested in getting very far off the highway to set up their camp—regulations for these types of areas are already successfully in effect."

The next question asked concerns taking the power away from Congress and giving it to the executive branch. Another sheepman said, "As far as I'm concerned, I want Congress to have this power because it keeps me closer to what is happening. I know this land. There-

fore, I should be allowed to speak for it. A hearing gives me a chance to voice my opinion before congressional groups."

Another sheepman said, "Seems like it would be a darn shame to waste all that grass. If you don't utilize the grass each year you lose or waste it forever. There's no getting it back. Seems that all this wilderness bill would do would to be confuse the issue and tie up the land so it couldn't be developed for the highest uses, thus retarding the growth of the West."

As the old saying goes, you either go forward or back. There is no standing still. Apply this to wilderness. If we lock up vast areas and discontinue to develop what we have with a sound Government multiple-use program, we are going backward.

Increased wilderness legislation is designed to set up vast areas of land for extremely limited use to the exclusion of all others.

We are opposed to S. 174 because we feel there is already in effect adequate legislation to establish new wilderness areas, administer established areas and regulate the many independent uses through the multiple-use concept. Primitive areas were well established between 1930 and 1939. Within recent times many of these areas have been reclassified as wilderness. Both primtive and wilderness areas have been managed in accordance with the regulations applicable to wilderness areas since originally established. Just last year Congress gave official recognition to wilderness as an authorized use of national forest lands in the Multiple Use Act of 1960.

Also, no one will seriously dispute the fact that national parks wilderness was assured in the act of 1916. According to Conrad L. Wirth, Director, National Park Service, 90 percent of the national parks system now qualifies under a reasonable definition of wilderness. Therefore, additional legislation would only confuse the issue and tie up that which eventually would have to be undone at considerable expense and expenditure of much time and effort.

We hope the House in its wisdom will not see fit to pass S. 174. However, if this legislation is to be acted upon, then certainly it should be further amended to include positive congressional approval of the land to be included within the wilderness system, and not be given just the negative approach of a "congressional veto" as now set forth in S. 174.

The bill delegates to the executive branch a traditional power of Congress, that of disposing of and making all necessary rules and regulations with respect to Federal territory. This is unquestionably in violation of the purpose of those provisions set forth by the U.S. Constitution. Abdicating such authority to the executive branch would represent extremely bad legislative policy. Logic and orderly procedure calls for inventory, evaluation, and public hearings, and reclassification of the primitive areas to their highest use. Each area is different within itself and likewise the influence the federally owned land now has and can have on the economy in a particular area can vary greatly. Therefore, prior to any reclassification, the citizens of a State who depend heavily upon the land for their livelihood and the man directly responsible for the welfare and development of the State, the Governor, should have an opportunity to express their feelings regarding any reclassification.

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If the authority to act is given to the executive branch as now proposed, the people will no longer have a direct voice to their proprietor, or landlord, but instead must sit back and rely almost entirely on his judgment. The best interest to the most people can be more nearly met by leaving the authority with Congress as proposed by Senator Allott's amendment to S. 174.

In any legislation passed by the House it is important to retain the provision on grazing as set forth in the Senate version.

> The grazing of livestock where well established prior to the effective date of this Act * * * shall be permitted to continue subject to such restrictions and regulations as are deemed necessary by the Secretary having jurisdiction over such area.

Grazing by cattle and sheep played one of the most important parts in developing the West and this great country. Today, as in the past, much of agriculture is directly or indirectly connected with the livestock industry which depends on grazing as a necessary link in the production chain. Therefore, to keep our livestock industry strong, we must utilize as nearly as possible, according to good, sound, range management practices, the raw materials Mother Nature so graciously provided. Locking up and wasting in the case of forage the development and use of these vital resources on the land within the proposed wilderness system could have serious economic implications.

In summary, while in complete sympathy with the concept of preserving the "primitive" aspects of certain public lands, we are convinced first of all that the legislation S. 174 proposes is not necessary, since there are already sufficient laws to handle all wilderness necessities; secondly, S. 174 would deprive Congress of disposing of and making all necessary rules and regulations with respect to Federal territory, which has traditionally been their obligation and not that of the executive branch. In any House wilderness legislation it is important to retain the provision:

> Grazing of livestock * * * shall be permitted to continue * * *—

as set forth in the Senate version of S. 174.

This particular article [indicating], "Our Vanishing Wilderness," was entered into the record yesterday. I wish to take opposition to this because of the way it accuses grazing. I personally went into this and explored it as an expert, and I found most of this statement to not fall as it is printed here.

Mr. ASPINALL. The article was not placed in the record, it was placed in the file.

Mr. WANKIER. That was my understanding, that it was in the record.

Mr. ASPINALL. Are there any questions?

Thank you, Mr. Wankier.

The next witness is Amos W. Horn. It is good to see you, Amos.

## STATEMENT OF AMOS W. HORN, MONTROSE, COLO.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Amos W. Horn. I am a cattle rancher from Grand County, Colo., in the Granby area. My ranch supports approximately 1,000 head of beef cattle.

When I was informed of this hearing I remembered in my many years service as a county commissioner for Grand County that an ap-

preciable part of our school and road revenues were derived from our share of revenues paid the Federal Treasury for special use permits and leases of public domain in Grand County.

Upon checking the records in the courthouse of Grand County, I found that in 1960 the county's share in such funds amounted to $35,855, divided as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Federal Land Material Act | $655 |
| U.S. mineral leasing | 12,379 |
| Lumbering and grazing in the national forest in the county | 23,298 |
| Use of Taylor grazing lands | 523 |

I also checked on similar revenue from our neighboring Garfield County, where the total revenue from such source in 1960 amounted to $100,777, divided as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Mineral leasing | $61,956 |
| Forest logging and grazing | 12,099 |
| Taylor grazing | 1,619 |
| Federal Land Material Act | 15,102 |

Undoubtedly, if the wilderness legislation now under consideration is enacted into law, such revenues to the counties of our Western States, that is so important to maintenance of our schools and roads, will be drastically reduced. Now if this happens, what will be the source of this needed revenue? Is it proposed that the proponents of the wilderness legislation are agreeable to making restitution from other available funds, or is this tax burden to be passed on to the county residents as involuntary supporters of wilderness proposals originating primarily outside the Western States? Are we to also build and maintain the roads leading to the borders of these roadless wilderness areas?

Wilderness legislation to me seems entirely incompatible and inconsistent with the recently adopted policy approved by the Congress and our Federal courts that provided for awarding offshore mineral rights along our coasts to the adjacent or bordering States. Many of these proposed wilderness areas are to be located within the boundaries of my State and county, not in a bordering area.

I happen to live just a few miles from the Rocky Mountain National Park, and I, personally, know that although this park is one of the most popular in our Nation, the true wilderness portions of the park are seldom seen by the park visitors. Naturally, the visitors are to be found where there are roads giving ready access to the park's attractions.

As I understand the pending wilderness legislation, it is proposed that if a visitor wishes to enjoy the wilderness area, he must either employ guides and horses to conduct him over the area, which undoubtedly would be beyond the means of the average citizen, or travel afoot into these wilderness areas as best he can. Even if I were a proponent of wilderness legislation, this does not seem realistic or practical to me.

I appreciate this opportunity and privilege to present my ideas on the proposed wilderness legislation to this committee.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Are there any questions?

If not, the next witness is Mr. Francis P. Murphy. We are glad to have you down here.

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## STATEMENT OF FRANCIS P. MURPHY, RANCHER AND STOCKMAN FROM WALDEN, JACKSON COUNTY, COLO.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, it is my pleasure to be here. I am a ranchman from Jackson County, Colo. I am speaking for myself and the stockmen of Jackson County, Colo.

In reviewing Senate bill 174, the first thing that stands out, to me, is the fact that this bill, although it reflects a lot of valuable work and thinking, is taking away from the people and the State in which these wilderness areas are located, all the rights of administration and regulation of their use.

We realize there is a place for preservation legislation, but Senate bill 174 does not answer the question of how much wilderness there should be set aside for nonuse or how the value of wilderness nonuse is going to be measured against the value of wilderness use for production of water, timber, grazing, mining, and recreational development.

The only safeguard the people would have under Senate bill 174, who use the area at the present time, would be an appeal to the President of the United States. This, we know, is almost impossible because the cost both in time and money would be out of reach of the average individual, and we know that in 90 percent of the cases they would lose due to the fact that they would be too small to be given consideration on a national basis.

It is the firm conviction of our people that this bill would give too much power to the Secretary of the Interior in administering the law.

We also strongly endorse Senator Allott's amendment which would require that no area could be created as a congressionally established wilderness area without a specific act of Congress.

Over the past 75 years these Federal lands have been utilized as multiple-use areas which have served the various interests, such as timber, grazing, water development, mining, and recreation. Now, under Senate bill 174, all uses—with the exception of recreation—would be drastically curtailed at a great cost to the State in which they are located. As for the recreation angle, they would be building a millionaires' paradise because the average American citizen could not afford to pay the price of having pack outfits to take them into the interior of these areas.

It is true, our vast wilderness areas must be conserved, but at the same time must be used to their full productive capacity to serve and provide the people of this Nation with the materials that they produce.

Our people urge this House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to give serious consideration in their recommendations on this bill to the future development of water storage which will be used for irrigation of agriculture land outside the area. This is very important as many of these reservoirs are very small in comparison to big reclamation projects, but at the same time are very vital to our agricultural program.

We are strongly opposed to any change that would transfer to an administrative branch of the Government any powers that should be maintained by the Congress.

We are opposed to S. 174.

Mr. ASPINALL. That is what I understand. Thank you very much. Are there any questions?

If not, the next witness will be J. Fred Schneider, of the Western Slope District County Commissioners Association.

You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF J. FRED SCHNEIDER, REPRESENTING WESTERN SLOPE DISTRICT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, we prepared this during the noon hour, because a number of the western slope counties felt the sense of urgency for enactment of S. 174 was not only artificial but fictitious. They felt there should be something brought before the committee in behalf of the taxpayer.

Nothing has been said concerning the effect on the tax roll when you remove some of these areas by virtue of this bill, such as the south half of Ouray County, taking two of the biggest mining operations in the State, namely, Idarado and Camp Bird mines.

When the bill was passed we had asked Senator Anderson to address the Interstate Association of Public Land Counties. The Senator was in the hospital, we learned, in New Mexico, with a very major operation, so he sent a staff member, Robert Wolf, to speak to the representatives from the Western States.

Mr. Wolf made a very able presentation.

I want to commend the Members of the Senate for attempting to recapture some of the authority they have been delegating to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture and to the President of the United States for the last 75 years. They did try to recapture some of that authority.

With some amendments to this bill, we might be able to live with it.

Thank you very much.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

(Prepared statement of Mr. Schneider follows:)

### STATEMENT OF J. FRED SCHNEIDER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, REPRESENTING THE WESTERN SLOPE DISTRICT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

This statement is made in behalf of the 24 western slope counties of Colorado who are opposed to the bill S. 174 in its present form.

1. Many of the counties of this group are still somewhat dependent upon mining. The south end of Ouray County is chiefly mining and is included in the wild area encompassed in the bill. As a matter of fact two of the largest mining operations in the State of Colorado, the Camp Bird and the Idarado are in this wild area and the restriction of prospecting operations in this area would seriously affect the tax structure of Ouray County. Large areas of San Miguel County are in the wild area and likewise would affect the tax structure in San Miguel County.

2. Nearly all of the western slope counties are dependent upon the raising of livestock and while the bill permits a continuation of grazing under certain conditions, the whim of an administrator could abolish this.

3. This entire area of the State of Colorado was developed on the theory of so-called multiple use and has prospered under that setup. To discontinue this principle would seriously endanger the tax structure of all of these counties.

4. Some of our counties are enjoying excellent timber operations. Under the bill as we interpret it this phase of our economy could be seriously affected, and would jeopardize our communities, our jobs, our homes, and the future of our children.

5. We feel that the "sense of urgency" that lies behind the drive for enactment of S. 174 is artificial and fictitious, that so few persons can benefit now or in the future. Only the tough, rugged mountainmen can now take advantage of this proposed legislation and will not fill the bill of the masses east of the

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Mississippi River who apparently are demanding the urgency of passage.

6. Water development is now in its infancy. Presently these wild areas are the cradle of our water resources. The closing of these millions of acres would not only hamper the development of some of our communities but could effectively stop their growth.

We respectfully ask therefore that this legislation be given further and continued study.

Mr. ASPINALL. Let the record show that Mr. Horn's statement did have some matters in it relative to the tax base.

Are there any questions?

If not, the next witness is Mr. Ross Chambers, vice president of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF ROSS CHAMBERS, VICE PRESIDENT, COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Mr. CHAMBERS. Mr. Chairman, I am Ross Chambers, vice president of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts, more specifically representing our local Soil Conservation District of Eagle County.

I have lived in Colorado and have been a rancher or connected with ranching for all of my 53 years. Prior to the enactment of the Taylor Grazing Act, our public domain was admittedly badly overgrazed. There were many ranchers who vigorously objected to the Taylor Grazing Act and subsequent acts regulating the use of our national forests and other public lands. We have lived to see that these acts were indeed wise in principle and generally in practical application.

Since these acts the land has been used wisely, our forests and grasslands are again productive, and wildlife has increased to numbers probably greater than before the coming of the white man. Our streams have cleared and the forests have helped conserve our waters. I believe that there are few of us who still believe that these acts should be repealed and the stockmen, lumbermen, and miners be given unlimited use of the public domain.

This does not, in our thinking, mean that the lands or any of them should be completely set aside by bureaucratic dictation for the use of a favored few. The geography of this country is such that there are certain areas that will never be usable for production of livestock, metals, or timber. It is right that these lands remain in a primitive condition and that access to same by roads be limited. We do not believe that economic use of large areas of our forests should be prohibited.

My own experience is that the last number of years has shown a great deal of cooperation between the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management and the ranchers and other residents of the area who are dependent upon the forests for their livelihoods. While I am on that subject, I might refer to the often stated misconception that the ranchers and lumbermen wish to hog the lands belonging to the public in general. Certainly we wish to use these lands. Ranching, lumbering, and mining would be economically prohibitive in the West without the use of so-called public lands. Our grandfathers came here because there were public lands to use and develop. We do not have here the adequate rainfall, the level lands, the long growing seasons which make it possible in the eastern part of our country

to economically farm one's own land only. Yes, the ownership of these lands is in the Federal Government, but there is an equitable right in the farmers, ranchers, lumbermen, and miners to use and develop these lands.

The properly managed economic use of the public lands helps, rather than hurts, the recreational use of these lands. The counties and the individuals have built roads which give access to these lands, for the use of the public as a whole. Our own game and fish department has conducted studies which show that proper grazing by sheep and cattle is not detrimental to game but is actually helpful, in that the domestic animals as a general rule feed on different plants than do the game species, and that the balanced grazing is beneficial to the forests.

I do not think it can be disputed but that properly managed lumbering is necessary to preserve our forests. Like other living things, timber matures. If not harvested when mature, it must die, to become disease ridden or a fire hazard. Proper harvesting may well have prevented or decreased the seriousness of the spruce beetle infestation in Colorado of recent years. Unmanaged wilderness areas may well become the breeding grounds for insects and plant diseases which will spread throughout our national forests.

We ranchers know better than most people the dangers of promiscuous vehicular traffic through the forests. But established roads remain a necessity, with proper management to insure that traffic stays on these roads.

Mining was the basis of our economy here for many years. Mining is now practically dead. Certainly the mining situation will not be improved if prospecting and mining are restricted so severely as provided in this bill. Granted that there were also abuses in mining in the early days, that the country was defaced and the streams polluted, with modern methods of mining and tailings disposal, proper mining is inoffensive to the beauty of the forests.

The soul of the economy of the Western States is water. I believe we will find it much more important to develop water to the fullest possible extent in our forests than to restrict our forests to the use of those wealthy and fortunate enough to be able to pack in to our primitive and wilderness areas.

Overall, our forests have been well managed in the last number of years without this bill being in our laws. We, the residents of these forest areas, have realized the necessity of cooperation with the agencies of the United States in conserving our public domain. But we see no valid reason for our forests to be withdrawn from economic use by Executive decree as is provided in Senate bill 174.

Thank you very much.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you, Mr. Chambers.

Are there questions?

If not, the next witness is Jack Rigg. You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF JOHN R. RIGG, DENVER, COLO.

Mr. RIGG. Mr. Chairman, my name is Jack Rigg. I operate the Summitville Mine—and my statement is up there—under 5 feet of snow at the present time.

We have lived with the multiple-use bill the last 5 years in the mining industry.

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As an individual surrounded by the Forest Service, I wish to state we find the Forest Service to be a most inhospitable neighbor. They do not appreciate the mining industry. They are, frankly, I think, against mining. Their pamphlet on "Operation Multiple Use," I will leave with you. It lists here five things that are multiple use. Mining is not one of them.

To the man from the Izaak Walton League here earlier, who stated he had talked to a number of geologists and mining engineers, and all the minerals were found, I wish to state to him at Summitville in the last 6 years we have taken a district gold mine closed down by the war and have now developed it into a copper mine. It has taken 6 years of work, and a lot of labor, but the ore is still in the hills and the wilderness bill will deny a person like myself, who is out for profit, I admit, the right to go out and look for the minerals of Colorado.

It does not take much land to make a mine, you know. Climax Mine only covers about 20 miles, and is one of the largest mines in the world.

As iners, we need any area where there is a possible mineral deposit, the right to be able to look at it. I look at it from a personal standpoint. I do not want to be denied the right to go any place in the State.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

Are there any questions?

Mr. CHENOWETH. How long have you operated the mine?

Mr. RIGG. Six years.

Mr. CHENOWETH. You say your relations with the Forest Service have not been pleasant or congenial?

Mr. RIGG. They have been terrible.

Mr. CHENOWETH. What is the difficulty?

Mr. RIGG. I have some unpatented mining claims up there, as well as my patented mining claims. I did some exploration work on them, cut down some trees and built a road to get into these unpatented claims. They got up and made a public statement at the chamber of commerce meeting that I was in trespass.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Where?

Mr. RIGG. South Fork, Colo.

Mr. CHENOWETH. What did they tell you?

Mr. RIGG. They told me I had to pay them for the timber that I cut down on these mining claims to use for windrow protection against the snow. I would not do it, and then they told me I had to burn them, and I would not do that, either; and they told me I had to sign a permit to build a road on my own mining claim, and I would not sign their permit.

I find they are very easy to get along with if you just ignore them.

Mr. ASPINALL. Thank you very much.

(COMMITTEE NOTE.—The complete statement referred to by Mr. Rigg follows:)

STATEMENT OF JOHN B. RIGG ON LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM

My name is John B. Rigg, of Denver, Colo. I am speaking as an independent mine operator. Since December 1956 I have been associated with the redevelop-

ment of Summitville, Rio Grande County, Colo., the second oldest mining district in the San Juan Mountains.

As operator of Summitville, I have enjoyed the opportunity to develop a seemingly abandoned and mined-out district to a position of production in our State. Also, since my patented and unpatented mining claims are surrounded by Rio Grande National Forest, I have been able to receive the rulings and interpretations made by the Forest Service under the multiple-use law.

I wish to go on record as opposed to S. 174, which would remove over 4 million acres of public land from mineral development because of the following reasons:

(1) The full mineral potential of the proposed withdrawal blocks is not fully known at this time.

(2) Prospecting of the areas involved would never be undertaken with modern tools of exploration because of the restrictions imposed under article 8.

(3) Withdrawal of the public lands as a wilderness area removes that land from ever contributing to the local ad valorem tax structure because the land may then never become privately owned.

(4) The wilderness area bill is an attempt by a small group of citizens to grab part of our public lands for their own personal use.

In support of my reasons, the following is offered for your consideration:

(1) The mineral deposits in the Ouray-Telluride area of withdrawal have been expanded extensively in the past 5 years. Also, at Summitville, we have shown dissemination of mineral away from the vein structures into the wall rock. These two facts show exciting promise to areas now considered for withdrawal for further mineral exploration.

(2) Nowhere in the literature of the geological survey or of the Bureau of Mines is there an economic survey of the proposed withdrawal areas. We as a nation need to know accurately if any minerals whatsoever are in any of the proposed wilderness areas and this can be done only by thorough study and evaluation.

(3) The control by the Forest Service of their lands, as expressed by the interpretation of the employees in Rio Grande National Forest of the multiple-use law seems to be to discourage mining in any manner possible. I was accused at a chamber of commerce meeting in South Fork, Colo., by a representative of the Forest Service, of trespassing while developing my own mining claims. Such an accusation of trespass is not conducive to cooperation between those of us working under the mining laws of 1872 which gives a person a right to develop mining claims and those Forest Service employees who consider the forests unavailable for mineral development. Passage of S. 174 would give the Forest Service more authority over the small mine operator and prospector than the present multiple-use law and further discourage individuals from entering the field of mineral exploration. Only those groups and corporations large enough to withstand bureaucratic harrassment would be able to stay in mineral prospecting.

(4) Full utilization of our natural resources whether they be timber, grasses, or minerals is of more importance to future generations than sudden political withdrawal of our lands for the use only of those who have the desire to rough it in the mountains. I used to be associated with Mexican hat expeditions and we took tourists on boat trips through the gorges of the Colorado and San Juan Rivers. I was, 12 years ago, violently opposed to the upper Colorado River projects such as Glen Canyon Dam. However, as I see eastern Utah and western Colorado develop in all aspects of their economies, including boat trips, I strongly support those congressional actions that help our frontier areas develop. S. 174 will not do this, it will instead defer the total development of the West.

Mr. ASPINALL. The next witness is Mr. G. A. Bilstrom. You may proceed.

## STATEMENT OF G. A. BILSTROM

Mr. BILSTROM. Madam Chairman and members, it is a pleasure to be here today to express my opinion.

I came to Colorado when I was 3 years old. I saw this country when it was undeveloped. At one time in this country we had over 10,000 miners in the San Juan district that were consuming the products produced. We whipped the panic of 1893 by so doing.

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I am opposed 100 percent to the wilderness bill. I think we have got plenty of legislation the way it is.

Furthermore, God created the world in 6 days and the seventh He rested. We have in this country six definite geological periods. The wealth lying under these different periods is unfigurable.

I have discovered in the last few days an iron mine, and there have been several uranium claims discovered in places.

I think this bill, as it reads now, reminds me too much of Russia.

Thank you.

Mr. ASPINALL. That finishes our list of witnesses.

The gentlewoman from Idaho has announced previously that the record would be kept open until November 20. If there are any statements to be made by anyone, they can send them in and, if they conform with our rules, those statements will be made a part of the record.

There is no need for any repetitive material, because repetitive material is likely to defeat the point entirely.

The record of the attendance here will be made a part of the file.

May I commend those attending this hearing today for the decorum. You will notice at times the chairman of the full committee, even while he was not acting as chairman, had a frown on his face when there was applause. We understand how you applaud your local people. On the other hand, we feel that the legislative department of Government is just as important and just as much to be respected as the judicial or the executive, and we hold these hearings for a definite purpose.

The reason we ask for decorum is so our record can be written, and then when we get it written, we can go over it with our staff and the members of the committee and see just exactly what is involved.

You have been a good audience. We are, all of us, very, very pleased with the attendance and the decorum.

Now it is my pleasure to turn the meeting back to the gentlewoman from Idaho, for any observation she may wish to make, and to close the hearing.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

First, without objection, I should like to place in the record these statements which have been handed to me by the clerk. Is there objection?

Hearing none, it is so ordered, with the understanding that the staff members and minority members will go over the statements together with myself, to see that they do conform to the rules of the committee.

(The statements follow in alphabetical order:)

NOVEMBER 1, 1961.

HON. GRACIE PFOST,
*U.S. Representative From Idaho, Chairman, Public Land Subcommittee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I regret not being able to attend the public hearing on the wilderness bill in Montrose, Colo., to speak in favor of the bill. Please consider making this letter a part of the record of the public hearing. I feel very strongly that this bill should be passed. It is perhaps not all that it should be after having been watered down, but half a loaf is better than nothing.

I will not take your time to reiterate the reasons for passing the bill—they've been stated many times. You will understand the reasons for my position if I list the interests I represent, each of which is a justifiable reason for the bill.

I am a third-generation Coloradan; a father; a believer in what Colorado has meant to me; chairman of the Colorado State Park and Recreation Board; director of parks for the city and county of Denver, including the Denver moun-

tain parks system; a director of the American Institute of Parks Executives; a member of the executive board of the Denver Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and district chairman; and, above all, an American citizen.

I don't believe that the results of a bout with polio 10 years ago, which prevents me from using the wilderness areas as I once did, justifies me (or anyone else who sits on his tail) in taking away from my children, and my children's children, the right and opportunity to have the many wonderful and sometimes terrifying experiences I have had in the Colorado wilderness. Because of my work, I recognize it as inevitable that the sense and feeling of wilderness will gradually disappear in many ways unless it is given special protection down through the years. These are incalculable values for all of America for many generations. I don't believe America is yet so poor that she can't afford them and hope that day never comes.

Sincerely,

DAVID M. ABBOTT.

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ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION,
*Albuquerque, N. Mex., October 28, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Committee on Insular Affairs,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: Mr. Elliott Barker, the executive secretary of the New Mexico Wildlife & Conservation Association, has been authorized to represent the Albuquerque Wildlife & Conservation Association during your hearing on the wilderness bill being held on November 1, 1961, in Montrose, Colo.

The Albuquerque Wildlife & Conservation Association feels that the wilderness bill is an important piece of legislation and also feels that for the preservation of the recreation facilities at the present and in the future it is imperative that the House Committee on Insular Affairs act speedily and favorably on this bill, in the hopes that action can be taken immediately after the session begins in January 1962.

We appreciate your assistance and support that you may give to the passage of this bill and if there is any help which we may give, please advise.

Yours very truly,

JUNIUS A. THOMSON, *Secretary.*

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ALL IOWA CONSERVATION COUNCIL,
*Waterloo, Iowa, October 25, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

HONORABLE SIR: The All Iowa Conservation Council, a State organization of the independant sportsmens and conservationists clubs, and State affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation, do submit our plea for your earnest support for the passage of the wilderness bill.

We have supported this bill through endorsement of the National Wildlife Federations resolution for support and through adopting our own resolution of support from the member clubs throughout Iowa.

Your consideration of support for this bill will be greatly appreciated by all conservationists, sportsmen, and recreational seekers of the great State of Iowa.

Respectfully yours,

M. E. CLARK, *Secretary.*

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AMERICAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION,
*Phoenix, Ariz., October 25, 1961.*

Mr. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: The board of directors of the Coronado section of the American Camping Association approves of wilderness bill S 174, and wishes to go on record in support of the bill.

We feel that it is vitally necessary to protect the remnants of wilderness that now remain. Wilderness areas in the United States are a part of our heritage. Once gone, they can never be replaced.

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The strength of a nation stems in part from its conservation policies and attitudes. Let us contribute to America's strength by protecting and preserving those wilderness resources that are still ours.

Sincerely yours,

R. ALICE DROUGHT, *President.*

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OLATHE, COLO., *October 27, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Building, Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: I believe it is desirable to set aside some areas for wilderness preservation.

Senate bill 174 passed by the Senate is an improvement over the bill as it was considered several years ago.

This bill does not answer the question of how much wilderness is really needed. It does not require a study of other possible uses of the land before areas can be established as wilderness. Great potential, including mining, lumber, and reclamation may be destroyed without a true assessment of those values. The needs of the people should be determined before we set aside a valuable area as wilderness.

Senate bill 174 should be amended to require that any area must be established as a wilderness area by specific act of Congress and not by executive recommendation with veto power of Congress.

Respectfully submitted.

HAROLD C. ANDERSON.

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APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB,
*Boston, Mass., October 25, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

MR. DEAR MR. ASPINALL: Since legislation for a national wilderness preservation system was first introduced in Congress in 1957, the Appalachian Mountain Club has most wholeheartedly supported it in its various forms.

Our organization of some 7,500 members (the oldest mountaineering club in the country) is deeply concerned with the preservation of open spaces. That so few unspoiled natural areas remain in the East makes us all the more sensible of the necessity of protecting those wild regions which have so far escaped exploitation. To recognize the importance of wilderness is profoundly essential. Valid protection of wilderness must be achieved through a definite program rather than have such preservation dependent on easily altered administrative regulations. The possible pecuniary gain of the few should not be allowed to outweigh the wants of the many citizens of today and tomorrow who feel the need for keeping intact in its natural state some small portion of our great land.

Much study by many organizations and individuals has been given to the subject of a wilderness bill. S. 174 meets all valid criticisms of the opponents of such legislation, and we believe most strongly that it should be enacted without further delay.

Sincerely yours,

MARJORIE HURD,
*Chairman, Conservation Committee.*

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PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLO., *November 1, 1961.*

PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE,
*Lions Park, Montrose, Colo.:*

Due to hazardous driving conditions we are unable to attend the hearing on Senate bill No. 174 en masse. By wording it would seem that the intent is to confuse rather than inform the public. The purpose appears to be idealistic instead of real.

LESLIE HALVERSON,
*Chairman, Archuleta County Advisory Council.*

PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLO., *November 1, 1961.*

PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE,
*Lions Park, Montrose, Colo.:*

Due to the inclemency of the weather we are unable to attend the hearing on Senate bill No. 174. We are opposed to this measure as we see no real merit other than creating another tax burden.

HARMON T. CLARK,
*Chairman, Archuleta County Commission.*

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AZTEC, N. MEX., *October 31, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: Please accept this letter as an indication of my wholehearted support for S. 174, the wilderness preservation bil, on which you are holding hearings on November 1.

These wilderness areas, which actually occupy such a minute part of the total area of our country, provide a particular and wonderful kind of recreational activity which cannot be duplicated. To allow easy access and exploitation of these areas is to destroy them, and once destroyed they can never be restored in their primeval state.

I believe that we owe it to future generations not to allow this to happen. I also believe that this view is held by an overwhelming majority of the American people.

Yours very truly,

EMERY C. ARNOLD.

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DURANGO, COLO., *October 26, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Committee Chairman,*
*Grand Junction, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: We wish to have our statement concerning the wilderness bill incorporated into records of the hearing at Montrose, Colo., this November 1.

My husband and I wish to go on record as favoring the wilderness bill and urge that it be voted on as soon as possible before it is watered down to mean nothing.

We who favor preserving portions of our country in its natural state are, for the most part, unorganized and the least heard from as a result, but this does not mean we are necessarily the minority. Besides, the majority is not always correct or just.

Few today would advocate abolishing our national parks but the history behind the establishment of their beginning, our Yellowstone Park, tells of its struggles through Congress and finally the establishment of the national park system.

Today's wilderness bill calls for no such new concepts in conservation thinking as its opponents would have us believe. It does not transfer lands and no new agency is created. It simply provides that wilderness areas be used in such ways as to preserve them as wilderness.

It does not "bottle up" our country's resources. It does not affect areas now subject to lumber cutting, livestock grazing, or mining. Only existing wilderness areas will be included with passage of the bill. Then it will take a 10-year review before Congress may choose to include the national parks, monuments, and wildlife refuges. None of these areas is subject to commercial exploitation now and I hope they never will be.

How can the wilderness bill then "bottle up" our natural resources unless lumber and cattle and mining interests have their eye on eventually cutting over and otherwise destroying our present national parks, monuments, and existing wilderness areas?

In our State of Colorado, the total land area affected by the bill is 1.8 percent of the State's total area. Of this, about half (1,294,192 acres) are in the maximum proposed wilderness. After the 10-year reviews, the other half (1,200,000 acres) now in national parks, monuments, and wildlife refuges can be included, a total of 1.8 percent of the whole State of Colorado.

The wilderness bill does not surrender the congressional right of saying what is to be done with Federal lands. Section 3(h) says that the addition of any

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other area not so specifically provided for in this act, shall be made only by another act of Congress.

The areas to be saved in their natural state are not simply locked up but are ours to use. We who are fortunate enough to live where some of the wilderness still exists, can take our horses, or go on foot, into them for a weekend. People from farther away can take advantage of the pack trips offered into these areas. The Hotter Brothers Ranch just north of us on U.S. 550 outfit the trips into our San Juan wilderness. But it isn't just for the easterner who pays for such trips. We who live here can take advantage of our heritage—wilderness at our back door.

National resources are not only measured in lumber and minerals but also in the intangible values found in our national parks and wilderness areas. Once we commercially exploit these, we can never get them back.

Let us pass the wilderness bill, now, so we and future generations will be more nearly assured of preserving this portion of our national heritage, a wealth not measurable in money alone.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Kent Atkinson.
MRS. KENT ATKINSON.

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SANTA FE, N. MEX., *October 28, 1961.*

Congressman WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.*

HONORABLE SIR: This letter is submitted for the record in the hearings at Montrose, Colo., on the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

I am near my allotted threescore and 10 years. I have 3 children, 10 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. It is for their sake and millions more like them that I want to see our grand wilderness country preserved. I feel strongly that the bill that passed the Senate, S. 174, is needed to save wilderness areas for posterity.

From the time they were little tots we took our children back into wilderness country horseback to camp. How they loved it. In more recent years we have gotten a great deal of pleasure in taking grandchildren on wilderness pack-in camp trips. And our grandchildren love it and get a great deal out of it. It is fine youth-training experience.

Last year we took a 12-year-old granddaughter on a week-long horseback pack-in trip into the wonderful Pecos wilderness. This past summer we took a 17-year-old grandson. We have taught him and others to ride, pack horses, and to camp comfortably, and how to take care of themselves in the mountains. There is no better antidote for juvenile delinquency.

My husband and I packed far back into the wilderness and camped for a week the first summer we were married. We have done it hundreds of times since. We intend to keep right on doing it taking grandchildren and great-grandchildren for years to come. We may have to slow down a bit but we will go just the same. Incidentally we are not rich as some say one must be to take these wilderness trips. Our income is less than $5,000 a year. There are so many silly charges against the wilderness bill, please stand firm and pay no attention to them.

Please do all you can to pass this bill next January.

Very truly yours,

ETHEL M. BORKER.

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LAS VEGAS, N. MEX., *October 24, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: When God made the world He did a pretty good job. Despite the changes man has made, most of them necessary to civilization as we know it, there are still a few areas left almost as unspoiled as they came from the Creator's hand. As a Coloradan, you are familiar with the kind of areas I'm talking about. The word for them is "wilderness." As you must know, there are millions of thoughtful Americans who hope their children and their children's children may be privileged to see and enjoy at least some small part of America the beautiful just about the way the good Lord made it.

Senate bill 174 proposes, quite simply, to insure them that privilege by giving the force of law and congressional policy to the continued existence of wilderness areas already so preserved by administrative order of the Secretary of Agriculture. I search the text of the amended measure in vain for any indication of any forfeiture of any currently existing rights in such areas. We ask, and the bill provides, for the permanent setting aside of no more than 8 percent of our national forests as a priceless heritage of nature, natural grandeur, and unspoiled natural beauty for future generations. How anyone can believe that denying them that heritage can be justified by claims of economic need, whether present or future, is simply beyond comprehension.

Yet I understand that you actively oppose passage of the measure which has already passed the Senate by an overwhelming majority. Certainly you are entitled to your own opinions, but I trust that your hearing in Montrose will give equal scope to those who favor the bill. Indeed, I feel sure that supporting letters such as this will be entered in the record of the committee's hearings and be duly considered in the findings to be reported to the Congress by your committee, since many of us cannot attend the hearings in person. You have, I believe, given such assurance to all parties concerned, whether for or against S. 174, and you may be sure your intention to conduct a fair and open hearing is appreciated.

Actually, the issue is a simple one: the setting aside of wilderness areas is nothing new, and its operation has been of inestimable benefit to thousands, with neither damage nor injury to anyone. We ask that S. 174 be passed to give permanence to the policy of wilderness preservation currently in force but still subject to cancellation at any time by one man's directive—whatever man happens to be Secretary of Agriculture. It's that simple.

I offer my views in this matter as one having lifelong familiarity with all phases of the question. I have grazed cattle on wilderness areas, I have lived on their boundaries, I have been a U.S. forest ranger, and as a lifelong outdoorsman have written extensively on outdoor subjects in many national publications.

In closing, let me say that I support in full the efforts of the Wildlife and Conservation Association in behalf of S. 174. But I would be just as deeply concerned for its passage if no such organization existed.

Thanking you for accepting this communication as part of the committee record, I am,

Sincerely yours,

S. OMAR BARKER.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 28, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIRS: I would like the following statement admitted to the record on the hearings concerning the Wilderness Act (S. 174).

The placing of certain specified wilderness areas into our preservational system of natural resources and scenic wonders is much to be desired. This should be done in the immediate future. Indeed if it is not done now there will be little opportunity to do so in the future. The preservation of wilderness is of great value to our country not only from a scenic and recreational viewpoint but also from an economic and scientific standpoint.

The wilderness system as envisioned in S. 174 is not unduly restrictive on any part of our economic, industrial, farming, mineral or power resource life. It does not "lock out" any particular segment of our population in that anyone who desires will have access to the areas providing only that they leave it in a natural condition. This is in direct contrast to the several exploitive interests who desire only that their particular developmental schemes be not excluded.

In fact, the very word "development" is often bandied about by these interests in such a way as only to mean that they want to get everything they can get out of an area to the exclusion of the interests of anyone else.

This is true "lock out."

The bill still provides for grazing in those areas where such practice is already permitted. It allows mineral prospecting. It does not prohibit tunnels of any kind from being bored beneath such areas. Any area can, when the national interest demands it, be developed to it's full "exploitive" potential. This is only right.

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At the present time it is in our national—as opposed to regional and private—interests to protect these areas of wilderness value. In a society which is increasingly forced to live in a state of constant tension it is of the utmost importance that we should maintain areas where tensions can be forgotten, where we can renew our spiritual, mental, and physical resources. Wilderness is one place where such a renewal can be found.

I will conclude by saying that because it provides for the protection of wilderness areas by law (as opposed to administrative decree), areas which are vital for the spiritual, mental, and physical health of the people of our country; and because it imposes no harsh unnecessary restrictions upon prior users; and because it provides for the maintenance of the national interest I am in favor of the immediate passage of a Wilderness Act by the next session of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Your sincerely,

ROBERT D. BEARD, *Lutheran Pastor.*

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HOBBS, N. MEX., *October 26, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I would like to indicate by this letter that I favor the adoption of a wilderness bill as proposed by House bill S. 174. We need such a law as this to keep public lands open and free to all citizens for recreational purposes.

Yours very truly,

E. W. BECKER.

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BOOKBINDERS UNION, LOCAL NO. 84, I. B. OF B.,
*Cedar Rapids, Iowa, October 25, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

HONORABLE SIR: As secretary of Local No. 84, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, AFL–CIO, I present this request from the membership, that your committee present the wilderness bill on the floor of the House at your earliest opportunity and we also urge prompt passage.

We ask you, in the name of the working people of this country, to cast your support for this most important of all bills concerning our natural wildlife resources and nature areas.

Yours very truly,

M. E. CLARK, *Secretary.*

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STATEMENT OF THOMAS B. BORDEN, DIRECTOR, COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE, FORT COLLINS, COLO.

My objective in appearing before this subcommittee is not to debate the pros and cons of wilderness preservation. Certain tracts of land should be designated as wilderness for the future enjoyment of all citizens.

There are, however, two provisions of S. 174 which should receive reconsideration.

1. Congress should not surrender its power to the executive. S. 174 provides for a "negative approval" or a "congressional veto" similar to a recently defeated proposal whereby farmers could write their own agricultural program. Is there a significant difference in principle?

2. The 7 to 8 million acres of primitive areas should not be included automatically in the wilderness system but should be acted upon in a positive manner, separately.

If automatic inclusion of primitive areas is honored, it will be much more difficult to withdraw certain portions not predominantly of wilderness value than to add areas of wilderness value.

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SILT, COLO.

*Hon. Wayne Aspinall and Those Here Assembled:*

I, John R. Boulton, wish to testify on Senate bill 174, the wilderness bill.

I do not wish to testify against this bill as such because I am of the opinion that we are going to have a wilderness bill, but I do think there are some very important things that should appear in this bill.

In the first place I do not think this bill or any other bill should take the power away from the Congress of the United States delegated to them by the people. Therefore, I think any lands set aside as a wilderness area should be done so by a specific act of the Congress.

In the second place before any lands shall be set aside as a wilderness area those lands should be very carefully scrutinized as to the need of these lands to benefit a much larger segment of the population than would be gained by putting them into a wilderness area.

JOHN R. BOULTON.

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YAMPA, COLO., *October 7, 1961.*

Representative Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: Since I will be unable to attend your field hearing of the wilderness bill to be held at Montrose, Colo., I am requesting that you incorporate this letter into the record of the hearing.

The United States has been blessed with many natural resources. Some of these resources were ruined by unwise use to the extent that they are gone forever. The protection of the remaining resources is very important.

Most of our wilderness has been converted to areas unsuitable for true wilderness. Most of this conversion was necessary in order to develop our country. We still have a limited amount of wilderness area which will be lost as a resource if not protected. The wilderness bill, if passed, will be a big help in retaining wilderness areas for the future.

It is hoped that your committee will be able to make a favorable report on the wilderness bill.

Yours truly,

JO ANNE BROWN.

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STATEMENT OF BOB BURCH

I am Bob Burch, an independent oil producer, secretary-treasurer of the Colorado Petroleum Council and member of the Mining Petroleum Committee of the Colorado State Chamber of Commerce from Denver. I am a small businessman. My business is acquiring oil and gas leases and drilling wells in the attempt to find oil in commercial quantities. As in all businesses there are tools with which we work and make a living therefrom. Oil and gas leases are the most important tools in my business; for without them, I cannot prospect for new oil which I must find to keep going. Therefore, anything that prevents me from being able to get an oil and gas lease on a geologic prospect that my geologists have worked up, is another fallen tree across my path. I would add that we work up many prospects that are not obtainable because they are already leased, are not accessible, or for some reason are unobtainable. The wilderness bill is one part of a pattern that is designed (probably not intentionally) to legislate me and many other small oilmen, miners, ranchers, farmers, ski operators, and others out of business by making the tools with which we work unavailable to us by legislative act designed to satisfy a few pressure groups. I count on getting a percentage of the Federal lands I apply for to prospect for oil and gas and I'm sure many other small operators in fields I have mentioned do too. It would seem to me that the natural resource field in this instance is being discriminated against. I would like to point out that the natural resource field is in no small degree responsible for the standard of living we all enjoy today. One of the best measures of standard of living is a country's consumption of energy and I am sure all of you know this country is the largest consumer of energy in the world. Along with providing energy, the natural resource field must provide the raw materials for much of today's industry. This wilderness bill strikes at the very part of the United States that has and will be called upon in the future to provide these raw materials and any withdrawal of these lands will affect the ability to provide the very things that make us great.

Just 2 weeks ago I attended the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Oil & Gas Association in Denver and learned that not only am I threatened with having under the wilderness bill millions of acres withdrawn from available lands on which to prospect for oil and gas and other minerals, but I am also threatened with competitive bidding to obtain what lands are left available for prospecting. I'm sure I don't have to tell you who wins in a situation of this type, but it has something to do with the size of one's bank account. These

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are some of the reasons I say it seems they are trying to legislate the small businessman out of business by taking his tools away from him or making it too expensive for him to buy them. The Government lets certain businesses get big probably some from lack of knowledge and then changes the rules so no one else can. If someone has a degree of luck you slowly strangle him to death by taxes, harassment, removal of tools with which he works, thereby perpetuating in business the ones who started early and got big enough prior to the rule changes to withstand the pressure. I would like to point out this is very discouraging to the younger generations who have ambition, desire, and the guts to try to accomplish something. The wilderness bill is just one more thing to make it impossible.

To me, you lose sight of the fact that the basic thing in life is survival and the essentials to survival are food, clothing, and shelter. You are trying to remove from the economy part of the natural resources that will provide not only many of the raw material needs of future generations, but the jobs and livelihood to support many of us and them. Think of the expanding population in the years to come of your children and your children's children and the needs they will have. No doubt, there are things these hills and mountains contain that will be essential to their survival and maybe even to your own survival. Land should be used to serve humanity in its highest and best uses and I emphasize uses, for land is limited in quantity, and if it will serve multiple uses, it should do so. It is economic waste to think in any other terms.

To me, when you compare the benefits that can be provided to our people through natural resources and their use in comparison to the few who want to stroll and look, it seems the height of folly. I tell you it is time to become alarmed and I say this to the small businessman as well as the large. When a pressure group is powerful enough to push something like this wilderness bill through the Senate 78 to 8, what will be next?

In analyzing this bill it occurred to me that not only is economic activity eliminated, but so are the very people it is designed to be for. The thing that brings people to see natural splendors is accommodations, such as hotels, motels, restaurants, and recreation facilities. All that is designed here is a turnpike through the wilderness, and I'm sure to those who even care enough to come, that all they will see will be from the turnpike, whereas if there are places to stop and stay there would be many more walks taken and education derived therefrom. The original idea behind the national parks and forests was utilization by more people. This cannot be done by locking the land up so to speak. I cite as an example of how many will walk in the Rocky Mountain National Park where for several summers a college friend of mine from Colorado State University, which I attended, worked as a park ranger. It is called the North Fork and is above Estes Park on the North Fork of the Big Thompson River. One must park at Glen Haven and walk 6 miles to the ranger station which I have done several times. It is one of the most delightful walks I know of and yet only 300 people on an average go there either on foot or horseback over a year's time. This is only 30,000 people in 100 years.

I want to say to you today that the citizens of the United States will be best served by multiple uses of all publicly owned lands and that they have a right to do so. The idea of setting aside millions of acres for the use of a very small number of people to the exclusion of the benefits that can be gained by the jobs provided and the raw materials that can be created for the betterment of all our citizens, is ridiculous to even consider.

As a small businessman, I must appeal to the Congress for protection; and why they want to usurp their traditional power and give it to the executive branch, I can't understand. I do appeal to the House of Representatives through this hearing, which I appreciate the opportunity to appear before, to either kill this bill or sufficiently amend it to protect the interests of the natural resource field, and by so doing protect the majority of the citizens of this country.

Thank you.

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COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., *October 22, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I wish to add my voice to those urging passage of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174. As the tensions and pressures of living in our urbanized, mechanized world continue to increase, it becomes increasingly urgent that some areas unspoiled by man be preserved. The spiritual refresh-

ment to be found in the wilderness can be matched nowhere else. I think, too, that no one can truly understand and appreciate the history of this country if he has not had some experience in the wilderness. As a trail rider, I know how thrilling and wonderful this experience can be.

Wilderness is an important part of every American's heritage. It must not be destroyed. Passage of S. 174 would provide needed safeguards against despoilment of these areas.

Sincerely yours,

MARJORIE E. BURDETTE.

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CAMALIER, FROSH & FERGUSON,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
*Washington, D.C., October 25, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, Grand Junction, Colo.*

MY DEAR CONGRESSMAN: My many years of experience in matters of general welfare concerning the good people of Colorado prompts me to submit this letter, in the nature of a statement, for consideration by the members of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives, of which you are chairman, on the merits of S. 174, an act to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System for the permanent good of the whole people, and for other purposes, which bill passed the U.S. Senate on September 6, 1961.

This bill recognizes the existence of the same wilderness areas in our national forests which have already been created. Many of these wilderness areas adorn the State of Colorado, with the establishment of which you have had much to do over the years, and constitute nearly 1½ million acres of land in your congressional district, affording all of the people of America an opportunity to enjoy their beauties and their wonders.

Wilderness areas sought to be established hereafter should be under the close scrutiny of the Congress to avoid despoliation, and S. 174 provides such needed supervision and protection. It also sets up desired safeguards for wilderness areas in our national parks, and contains many other features of which you are entirely cognizant, hence I will not burden you with further recital of such features.

However, in view of the publicly announced position of the grazing and mining interests in Colorado and elsewhere, I realize consideration must be given to such industries, and the framers of the proposed act have carefully inserted the following language, under special provisions, which would permit relaxation of proposed restrictions in these areas if their uses will better serve the interests of our country and its people:

"(2) Within national forest and public domain areas included in the wilderness system, (a) the President may, within a specific area and in accordance with such regulations as he may deem desirable, authorize prospecting (including but not limited to exploration for oil and gas), mining (including but not limited to the production of oil and gas), and the establishment and maintenance of reservoirs, water-conservation works, transmission lines, and other facilities needed in the public interest, including the road construction and maintenance essential to development and use thereof, upon his determination that such use or uses in the specific area will better serve the interests of the United States and the people thereof than will its denial;"

In line with this language it is not conceivable that the enactment would prove disastrous or even harmful to the good people of Colorado or affect them adversely.

On the contrary, however, the preservation of these areas, unsullied, will continue to be the magnet which draws millions of people to the Centennial State every year.

It is hoped your committee will act favorably and all members work for the passage of the bill this coming session.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

RENAH F. CAMALIER.

SRP03463

NOVEMBER 1, 1961.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST:

God takes care of the wilderness. Man won't. Man will tear it down for roads, pollute the water, destroy wildlife habitat. Our wildlife is precious and needs to have a place to roam free from fear of cars and being shot out of season. Being chased by cattlemen's dogs, and shot at for target practice as I have seen around here.

Please put me on record as in favor of the wilderness act or bill (174).

Sincerely yours,

CLARA CASH.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST:

Put me on record as in favor of the wilderness act or bill (174).

(Signed) JAMES CASH.

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SANTA FE, N. MEX., *October 25, 1961.*

INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.:*

I am Don Clauser. This letter states my convictions regarding the wilderness bill, S. 174. Therefore, I request that it be made a part of the record.

Many statements and also misstatements have been made on S. 174 known as the wilderness bill. There are a few facts that I would like to point out to this committee in hopes that you will bring out a favorable report early in the next session of Congress.

We are talking about a very small part of the land that is owned by all of the people in our country. The rich man, poor man, beggarman, and so on, have an equal share in these lands. These people want a small part of their land kept as a true wilderness. They want it protected, as near as possible, as the Creator made it, by law rather than by a directive from a single man. As the representative of the people it is your duty to pass this important bill in the next session of Congress.

The only opposition to the bill, to my knowledge, has come from individuals, organizations who do, or may in the future, derive some financial benefits from these public lands. Most of these people are westerners living in the States where the wilderness areas are located. Why should they have any more rights to the control and use of these lands than the others who live in the eastern part of our country?

The hearings are all being held in Western States where most of the opposition is located. May I suggest you go into some of the urban areas of the Eastern States and inform the people there of the importance of S. 174 for it will protect about 8 percent of their lands from the lumbering and mining interests, from the roadmakers, and the dam builders. Find out their interest and concern in this matter of preserving their land.

I am sure that when the people of New York, Pennsylvania, and other States discover that they have the same share in the public lands of the 11 Western States as we who live out here, they will demand that you preserve these wilderness areas.

Webster's Dictionary defines the word "preserve"—to keep from injury; defend; uphold; save.

What can be wrong with passing a law that will do this for the last 1 percent—I say the very last 1 percent of wilderness which, less than 300 years ago covered every foot of this great land of ours.

Ladies and gentlemen, I implore you to act now before it is too late.

Thank you.

DONALD CLAUSER,
*Director of "A Way to the Wilderness," Past President of the New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association.*

THE COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB,
PIKES PEAK GROUP,
*Colorado Springs, October 30, 1961.*

Re wilderness bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
*Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Washington, D.C.*

(Attention: Representative Gracie Pfost, chairman of Subcommittee on Public Lands).

It is my extreme regret that I cannot be with you in Montrose on Wednesday, November 1, 1961, to submit my views on the wilderness bill. It is my sincere hope that you will give every consideration to those presented by Dr. E. H. Brunquist who will represent the views of the members of the Colorado Mountain Club in maintaining, insofar as possible, our wilderness heritage.

It is our conviction that, unless you give due weight to the views of those of us who love the primitive out of doors, and who have no interest except in its maintenance, the shrinking of the wild lands will be accelerated.

I am sure you will consider the national good in the years to come, and our views in reaching your decision.

CLAUDE S. THOMPSON, *Chairman.*

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THE COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB,
*Fort Collins, Colo., October 23, 1961.*

Representative WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Grand Junction, Colo.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE ASPINALL: The members of the Fort Collins group of the Colorado Mountain Club have been following the progress of the wilderness bill with considerable interest. Most of our activities take place within the U.S. Forest Service lands and therefore we feel concerned about the future of these lands.

We definitely wish to recognize the principle of multiple use for Forest Service lands. We realize that much commercial activity takes place on these lands and that this commercial activity is vitally important to the individuals involved and desirable for the entire country. However, the multiple-use principle is supposed to insure recreation values for all our people too. We feel that those who go to these areas looking for forest environment as relief from the strain of manmade civilization and find the area marred by commercial development will be very disappointed. Undeveloped forests have been an important part of mankind's environment throughout all recorded history. It is obvious that the small remaining undeveloped fragments are greatly needed now and will be needed even more in the future because of increasing populations. Therefore, we feel justified in asking that a small portion of Forest Service lands be preserved in their natural state.

Although wilderness area can be preserved in many ways we feel that it can best be accomplished through Federal legislation such as Senate bill 174. We are strongly in favor of House consideration and approval of a like bill in the near future.

Since we are not able to attend the field hearing at Montrose on November 1, we request that this statement be included in the record of the hearing.

Very truly yours,

JACK W. GOODRICH, *Chairman.*

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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY,
*Fort Collins, Colo., October 24, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Member of Congress,*
*Nampa, Idaho.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN PFOST: Since I am unable to appear in person to present my views before your November 1 hearing at Montrose, Colo., on S. 174, the Senate Wilderness Act of September 6, 1961, I hereby request the following statement be incorporated into the record in full:

I wish to register my full support of S. 174 without crippling amendments. As the testimony before the Senate over the past 5 years has made crystal clear, this legislation is designed to serve the public interest in its most fundamental

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sense, namely for the benefit of any and all people who wish to experience the inspiration of visiting the few remaining undeveloped areas as they find them.

The testimony also makes abundantly clear that every sincere effort has been made to meet valid objections or questions raised by commercial interests and others during the long discussions that preceded its adoption by the Senate.

I wish to comment only on three items which have been cited in objection to the bill. The first pertains to the effect on water supplies of retaining our existing wild, wilderness, and primitive areas in their present undeveloped condition. The best available scientific evidence, from the research both of the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Public Health Service, is that such undeveloped areas basically produce water of the highest quality. The less disturbance such lands suffer, as by manmade erosion associated with improper or destructive logging, industrial operations or the construction of roads or other structural works, the higher the usability of the waterflows, and the less the cost of treating these supplies to make them potable or otherwise fit for human, agricultural, or industrial use. Looking ahead a mere 25 years, when population pressures upon our limited water supplies will have greatly increased, it can readily be seen that watersheds which produce high quality flows will have values far in excess of those which prevail today. From that standpoint alone, the preservation of our still available wild, wilderness, and primitive portions of our national parks and monuments, wildlife refuges and ranges, and national forests will represent a farsighted move of great strategic importance to the national welfare.

A related factor is the effect of retaining such reservations in their essentially undisturbed condition upon the quantity and regularity of flow of streams, and the recharge of ground water reservoirs where geologic formations make such recharge possible. The intermixture of open and forest cover on the majority of these reservations commonly favors the optimum quantities and regularity of streamflow. Studies by the U.S. Forest Service and Agricultural Research Service of western highlands—where the great bulk of the wilderness and related lands are found—indicate that many natural processes operate to influence the yield of water, and that it definitely cannot be taken for granted that timber cutting, whether in strips, clear cuts, or selectively, will automatically result in increased flows, or that, on the other hand, soil and water conservation practices which thicken the vegetation will automatically reduce water yields. (More specific evidence on this aspect appears in my paper before the National Water Research Symposium, "The Effect of Upstream Headwater Treatment on Water Conservation," published in S. Doc. 35, 87th Cong., 1st sess., U.S. Government Printing Office, 1961.)

Actually, most of the national forest wildernesses, as in Colorado for example, consist largely of nonforest or noncommercial timber stands, and where so-called commercial stands do occur, they are usually too small, or scattered, or occupy too steep, rocky, or shallow soils, and exist in too harsh climates and short growing seasons to be suited either for sustained-yield forestry or manipulation for the purpose of trying to increase water yield.

The second objection relates to the purported high cost of visiting and traveling through wilderness areas, so that presumably only wealthy people can afford this luxury. So far as the relatively most expensive form of travel is concerned, namely by pack and riding animals, one can hardly call the top fees of $25 per day including also guides, lodging, and meals, excessive for wilderness travel. For example, the rides sponsored by the Wilderness Society in the summer of 1961 cost from less than $20 to less than $25 per person per day. Where people handle the horses themselves, where they walk and use burros as pack animals—as is done so successfully by whole families in the Sierra Nevada of California—costs will run well below that figure. Many hardy men and women of whom Colorado has a good share—as well as a goodly number of older people in Fort Collins and many other towns don't mind backpacking. Here the cost boils down to the minimum. Altogether, the evidence fails to bear out the well-born cliche that only the well-to-do can afford wilderness travel.

The third objection is that older people won't be able to make the strenuous effort to see these superlative remnants of our primitive heritage. As one who ranks as an oldster I would like to comment that as a youth I was privileged alone or with kindred spirits, to explore wild country afoot, ahorse, by canoe, snowshoes or skiis for the sheer adventure, feeling of aloneness, physical exhilaration or for any other reason that suited us. Now that we are aging, our capacities to undergo highly satisfying experiences, at least to the same degree as before, irrevocably are diminishing.

Are we then to deny the present generation of youth the same kind of opportunities afforded our generation to enjoy wilderness as we found it? Are we now to convert wilderness to readily accessible and comfortable playgrounds for the sake of our arthritic joints or hardening arteries?

And what about the kids not yet old enough to hike or ride or paddle who also have a right to anticipate such "experiments with life"? And their children as well?

Wilderness can take just so much disturbance, and then it's gone. If we must have all the modern comforts of transportation, food and lodging when we hie to the outdoors all of us—including the rich and the oldsters can choose from the nonwilderness parks, forests, wildlife, and recreational lands and waters spread over 98 percent of the continental United States. Surely our great and rich democracy can afford to leave intact for our youth and hardier oldsters the less than 1½ percent of our home territory in the simple wilderness areas involved in the bill recently passed by the U.S. Senate.

Several other objections have been raised, including the wholly unwarranted charge that livestock interests would suffer, or be entirely ruined throughout the 11 Western States or some such other absurd claim. As every informed stockman knows, existing grazing privileges on national forest wilderness ranges will in no way be affected merely because the wilderness bill is enacted into law.

It is my sincere hope that the people of Colorado and of the Nation as a whole will act in wholehearted support of this public-spirited legislation, and that it be adopted essentially in its present form.

Sincerely yours,

BERNARD FRANK,
*Professor of Watershed Management.*

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COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA, AFL–CIO, LOCAL 8627,
*Farmington, N. Mex., October 19, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearing.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee:*

We of local 8627 are strongly in favor of the wilderness bill, S. 174, and we believe our present wilderness should be preserved by law.

This letter represents 96 members.

Sincerely,

LUTHER C. REID, *President.*

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HOTCHKISS, COLO., *October 23, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIRS: Some two-thirds of the western slope of Colorado is Federal land, and many of us feel that insured nonuse will hurt an economy which depends on reasonable use of public domain. We are late in resource development and are now only beginning to see it come. We hate to see it hobbled.

At the same time, many of us have been concerned in recent years as we have seen jeep travel invade forest areas which have been and would otherwise continue wilderness to all intents and purposes, even with normal timber mining and grazing activities.

And, we understand the U.S. Forest Service has had no effective way of stopping that jeep travel—that one thing that has done most to destroy wilderness.

We feel that poorer people would not be in shape to use isolated wilderness, but more effective for them would be the broader number of acres of National Forest, prohibited to jeep travel and unnecessary roads and so kept primitive—but with the traditional American flavor of the occasional sound of a timber saw or miners pick or the sight of a bunch of cows and calves.

We sincerely believe in the principle of multiple use as now practiced by the U.S. Forest Service, and we believe it can dovetail with enjoyable primitive areas for the outdoor lover.

Sincerely,

MAX HOTCHKISS,
*Consolidated Wool Growers of Western Colorado.*

DENVER, COLO., *October 18, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Public Lands Subcommittee, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: This letter is concerned with the subject of the wilderness bill on which hearings are to be held in Montrose, Colo., on Nov. 1. I ask that this letter be entered into the records of the hearings, and that I also be sent a copy of the hearings when they are published.

I am writing in my official capacity as conservation chairman and immediate past president of the Colorado White Water Association. The CWWA has a membership of about 250 persons most of whom are residents of Colorado. The organization conducts classes in boating, conducts river trips, and conducts races throughout the State of Colorado. We have active boaters whose ages range from 6 to 70 years. The CWWA is affiliated with the American White Water Affiliation, which has over 30 member clubs throughout the United States and Canada.

We wish to express ourselves in complete support of the wilderness bill. We have studied the Senate hearings very carefully and approve the bill as passed by the Senate.

We have also studied the amendments offered by Senator Allott of Colorado, and are opposed to them. We should like to elaborate on two points of contention of Senator Aliott as we know them to be in error.

1. He states that wilderness areas are for the wealthy and deprive the ordinary man of their pleasures.

This is completely false. If one takes the cost of staying at one of the Colorado ski resorts, the total cost will be in excess of $20-plus per day per man, less transportation (e.g., Sun Valley Learn to Ski Week—$110 minimum for 6 days. Then if one goes into a wilderness area the total cost will be much less. Last summer my family canoed into a wilderness area. We took our 5-year-old and our 2-year-old at a total cost of less than $2.25 per person per day. Thus we see that it is far less expensive to vacation in a wilderness area than in other developed areas.

2. Senator Allott's second contention was that it is an experience for only the extremely rugged individuals.

Certainly our and 2- and 5-year-olds cannot be considered rugged. Other members of the CWWA who are retired have gone into these areas. What the Senator means is that these areas are denied to the lazy—we question why these areas should be ruined because of the lazy portion of our population.

Actually the wilderness is a most delicate and fragile area. It can be ruined by a prospector with a bulldozer * * * an engineer with a scraper and dynamite. These areas are unfortunately actually very small, as one sees if he flies over the area or even if he hikes or boats through. We have been losing great quantities of the areas that are now classified as "primitive," as when the Forest Service has been reclassifying them, they have been considering roads as ruining entire wilderness valleys. What we wish to urge you to do is to direct the Forest Service to consider abandoning all roads in "primitive" areas * * * and allow the area to return to wilderness, rather than elimination of those portions from the area because of the intruding road.

If the members of the committee have been keeping track of the data published on the physical health of American youth, you will recall that they fall far short in physical tests, as compared with the children of the rest of the world. This is in spite of being the best fed. This is largely because of our using cars to carry them everywhere. They have forgotten how to walk. Of course their legs are not the only part of their body to suffer. But, the point is, if we consider these wilderness areas worthless because we cannot motor or fly into them, we will be doing our youth a tremendous disservice. We have recently seen people complain because they might have to paddle a boat a couple of miles rather than take their huge powerboats into some area (Yellowstone).

I will not speak of the esthetic value of these areas, because a person has either experienced it, and enjoyed it, and wants to return to this experience, or else the person just isn't capable of experiencing the wilderness enjoyment. To me, when reading the Senate hearings it appeared as futile as trying to explain to a thief why he shouldn't steal, or to an atheist the why of religion. I am proud to say that our children so enjoy the wilderness areas that they are constantly asking to "go camping."

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I am very sorry that I could not be there in person to present this letter as I am sure you might have some questions and I would like very much to give you an opportunity to ask them, but unfortunately I must attend two scientific meetings in Washington, D.C., during the week you are holding these hearings.

I wish to thank all of the committee for taking the time to hold these hearings and their concern with the importance of the wilderness bill. I urge you, for myself for the Colorado White Water Association, and for all citizens of the United States to push this bill through the House with all speed.

Very truly yours,

CLYDE E. JONES,
*Conservation Chairman, Colorado White Water Association.*

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DENVER, COLO., *October 13, 1961.*

Representative GRACIE PFOST,
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PFOST: Would you please make this letter part of the records of the hearing on the wilderness bill to be held at Montrose, Colo., November 1? A copy is going to Representative Wayne Aspinall.

First, my position is for the wilderness bill. I hope fervently for its passage in the House. My reasons are a deep, personal enjoyment of wilderness and remoteness from centers of population, a keen sense of the social significance of wilderness in our American heritage as well as our American future, and an awareness of the economic and scientific values of wilderness, now and in the future.

I know southwestern Colorado. Several of my personal friends are cattlemen whose summer ranges look down on Montrose. While I did not end up in the cattle business, it is still my fondest and most distracting interest. To people who are not personally acquainted with cattlemen it may seem that they are a tightly organized industrial group firmly opposed to the wilderness preservation ideal. But I know that this is not true. There isn't a group in the country which is made up of a more independent bunch of individuals than the cattlemen. I have sat horseback on top of a mountain with them looking out over several thousand square miles of country and heard such remarks as, "Don't you wish we could still ride from here to the LaSalle Mountains without having to open a gate? As a business proposition, these men have fenced and cross-fenced pastures, but their hearts burn with love of wilderness and freedom of open spaces. If they weren't on fire with the ideal of independence and resourcefulness, in a natural environment, they would long ago have quit the rigors of being a cattleman.

Representatives of cattlemen organizations, the ones who communicate, give the impression that cattlemen "in total" are opposed to wilderness preservation, but I know that many of the individuals are not opposed. The ones who inwardly love wilderness are often less articulate, and rather than seem to be out of step with others in their group, do not express their sympathy with the ideal of wilderness preservation.

Writing the principles of wilderness preservation into law represents a transition period which to many of us seems perfectly understandable, as well as inevitable. It is quite normal that there should be some strife during this period. Isn't this characteristic of our United States? At not time has our country been unequivocally ready for the next step forward in our social-economic-political development. To me this is because seldom are any two people in exactly the same stage of development and growth at one instant of time. While this imbalance may retard our growth, at considerable cost to the Nation, it serves as a check to keep a trend from "going overboard" before it is fully developed. I firmly believe that the majority of cattlemen today recognize the adjustments which are underway or which lie ahead for their line of business; the more progressive ones are already seeking new ways to meet these changes—some with outstanding success. Providing wilderness protection and preservation is one of the immediate changes; it warrants cattleman support, not opposition.

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS A. CHERBENEAU.

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ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX., *October 31, 1961.*

Representative WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Lions Park Hearing, Montrose, Colo.:*

The public lands are more than 100 percent regulated, as is the wilderness bill only creates more useless Federal jobs and makes absolutely impossible the utilization of any resources. Have you tried to stake a claim lately? A more hopeless contest is to try a patent. I believe it is only Government hired hands advocating this bill.

HARRY E. COPPIN,
*Colorado Registered Engineer No. 1891.*

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STATEMENT OF THE CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI

Mr. Chairman, the Conservation Federation of Missouri is a private, nonprofit educational organization dedicated to the conservation of natural resources. The Conservation Federation of Missouri is composed of more than 140 local-level organizations and approximately 18,000 individuals.

The Conservation Federation of Missouri is 1 of 51 State affiliates of the National Wildlife Federation which earlier this year reaffirmed its support of the principle of establishing a National Wilderness Preservation System. The Conservation Federation of Missouri believes S. 174, passed by the Senate by an impressive margin during the 1st session of the 87th Congress, would accomplish this purpose. It is hoped that the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, after suitable hearings and discussion, may see fit to issue a favorable report upon this proposal early in 1962.

Procedures outlined in S. 174 have undergone 6 years of refinement. This proposal presently is quite different from the so-called wilderness bill originally submitted to Congress.

All Federal agencies concerned have endorsed the bill. Most private conservation organizations have indicated their support. The President, in his resources message of February 23 to the Congress, said: "To protect our remaining wilderness areas, I urge the Congress to enact a wilderness protection bill along the general lines of S. 174."

In summary, Mr. Chairman, opposition to S. 174 is now limited to commercial user groups. They obviously have future plans for these natural resources, which already are under Federal ownership and protection as wilderness. In fact, this opposition highlights the need for protection of wilderness in the best public interest.

Few recent resource proposals have been the subject of so much malignment as S. 174. Contrary to misinformation being distributed, unintentionally or otherwise, this proposal does not alter present jurisdictions or administrations of Federal lands to be included or create a new agency. Neither does it change purposes of the lands concerned—the bill provides that lands already so classified will remain as wilderness.

There is no real validity to the claim that a wilderness preservation system will lock up resources. No timber areas now being cut would be included. Grazing wherever now established would be continued. National forest areas now open to mining are subject to prospecting and could be fully exploited if the President determines it is in the public interest. The proposed act establishes a 10-year program for selection and designation of areas to be included, subject to review by the Congress. New areas would be added only by special act of the Congress. Such a procedure, involving public hearings and consideration in the Congress, offers ample protection for all interests.

Even though Missouri does not presently have any areas to be included in the system, we hope the proposed Ozark Rivers National Monument can be established and will qualify, at least in part, as wilderness. National wildlife refuges offer other possibilities. We do know that many residents of Missouri regularly enjoy wilderness areas in Colorado and New Mexico, Minnesota, Tennessee, Florida, and other points within a comparatively easy travel distance.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, wilderness areas offer real scenic enjoyment, recreations such as hunting and fishing, and scientific and educational opportunities for an important segment of the American public, as well as providing valuable watershed protection. We hope the committee may see fit to give early, favorable consideration to S. 174.

Thank you for the opportunity of making these observations.

SRP03470

CURRY COUNTY GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION,
*Taiban, N. Mex., October 23, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: We, the Curry County Game Protective Association, would like to go on record in supporting bill S. 174, and would like to wish a lot of luck for those who favor the bill in this battle.

Sincerely yours,

E. E. FISH, *President.*

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GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLO.,
*October 27, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: In regard to S. 174, the Senate's Wilderness Act, now to be considered by the House of Representatives, I wish to express my fervent approval.

If I might make any criticism of the Wilderness Act and of efforts in recent years to promote such legislation, it is simply that they have not gone far enough. In other words, I personally would like to see stronger safeguards for the preservation of wild and natural lands and the inclusion of additional areas, some already about to be destroyed, for which no present protection is provided for in the act.

In the past I have written lengthy letters in behalf of wilderness and nature conservation, but I shall not do so this time. I shall just say that I consider all arguments against wilderness conservation sophistries, motivated by personal pecuniary greed or an insensitive, materialistic mentality; that, if our Nation, in the final outcome, is to be anything better than a dreary ant hill of comfort-loving money grubbers, we must preserve what wilderness remains; and that passage of S. 174 or equally effective legislation is the decent, civilized thing for the House to do.

These are rather strong words, perhaps, but they express exactly what I think. S. 174 is the absolute minimum.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT DALLY.

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HOBBS, N. MEX.

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I would like to indicate by this letter that I favor the adoption of a wilderness bill as proposed by House bill S. 174. We need such a law as this to keep public lands open and free to all citizens for recreational purposes.

Yours very truly,

JACK T. DAY.

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DE BACA COUNTY GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION,
*Fort Sumner, N. Mex., October 20, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*U.S. Representative,*
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: Mr. Elliott S. Barker has advised us of the meeting in Montrose on November 1 and we wish to take this opportunity to express to you our views in the matter.

At our regular meeting this month the De Baca County Chapter of the Wildlife and Conservation Association voted 100 percent to write you and strongly urge the passage of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174. We not only feel that the reasons for the passage of this bill far surpass the objections but that it is our responsibility to do our best to help preserve these areas for both this and future generations.

Very truly yours,

DE BACA COUNTY W.C.A.,
JEWELLE H. BIXBY,
*Secretary.*

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DIAMOND DRILL CONTRACTING CO.,
*Spokane, Wash., October 24, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Grand Junction, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: We would like to go on record as being definitely opposed to the national wilderness bill, S. 174. We feel that this bill is particularly discriminatory toward the people of the West and the industry of the West.

First, many people who live in the West and are free to enjoy the wilderness areas, have far more appreciation than the eastern element which apparently is backing the national wilderness bill. There undoubtedly have been some abuses of our wilderness areas in the past, but with the very fine job which the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management are doing in maintaining these areas, I doubt that additional legislation is necessary.

Second, at present our unemployment is high in the inland empire area and economic conditions are depressed. The unemployment is largely due, in my opinion, to the large work force which would be employed in the mines and forests of our region. At present, unemployment situation is caused by economic conditions, i.e., poor timber market and low metal prices. If the wilderness bill is passed in its present form, I believe we would be legislating many of the same unemployed people into a future of permanent unemployment.

Third, I believe that it is time that our western legislators stood up for the West. So far as manufacturing goes, I believe all we can do here in the West is take over the fringes of manufactured products which the East does not want. As the ability to produce raw materials and forest products is taken away from us, as the wilderness bill would do, we would have very little left.

I hope that you and your committee will see your way clear to oppose wilderness bill S. 174.

Sincerely,

LEES J. BURROWS, *President.*

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DENVER, COLO., *October 29, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Representative from Idaho,*
*Room 1324, House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.:*

We are heartily in favor of the wilderness bill and request that this wire be incorporated into the record of the Montrose hearing.

LEO DAVEY.
MARY ROBINSON.

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STATEMENT OF WILLIAM J. DODD, DELTA, COLO.

I, William J. Dodd, a farmer and livestock feeder near Delta for 38 years and during all this time taking an active part in agricultural, water, and other resources developments here, respectfully submit, that I, we, do like what we see in this wilderness bill.

This bill does not seem to unscramble any of the overlapping, conflicting administrative authorities now existent in our public lands areas here, instead adds thereto. Also, it adds another notch to the gun, buckshoting our local economy.

The basic reasoning outlined in the title for the enactment of this wilderness bill seems to be inverted, sideline thinking, not in tune with the winds of progress.

This layaway plan entitled "Preservation" is granting or ignoring that we do not need these assets today, which is absurd, for an uncertain future value to posterity. We think this we can ill afford. To provide this haven for the recluse minded is too high a price to pay for the benefit or caprice of these few. Too preserve landmarks for enthusing our mental reminiscing is surely just pasttime stuff not justifiable of this act. It seems already without this proposed preservation act provision, adequate history is being uncovered, gathered, and cataloged, surely, sufficient to meet any reasonable ascetic taste or whim, and for future review and reference.

This act is not constructive to our local economy, national security, and welfare. As we see it, the special and general exception provisions of this bill, concerning the existing inroads of progress in these areas, which are in conflict with the declared purpose of wilderness preservation, will ever be an area of

controversy with the already acquired property rights, licenses, and privileges, and render these of an uncertain life and value.

This attempt to enlarge and to define more definitely wilderness areas, tighten administration of uses, limit uses, and stop the clock of development uses therein, is a scheme that will, at the same time, stifle local economic growth. It will have that effect.

As we see it, already existing legislation provides authorities to the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior are now full and ample to reasonably preserve these same national land areas for scientific, recreational, and economic uses and national safety and security; and for maximum value to the largest number of U.S. citizens and multiple use provisions adaptable to the best effect on the local economy. We do not go along with the thinking of subjecting of present necessity and convenience of a national resource to such regulations and limited uses, as to limit its advantages to a few, from its present status of availability to the many. We do not subscribe to the thinking, of tightening the cinches, and legislating these land areas resources into cold storage, for a future contingency, by a blanket order. Rather, legislation providing a liberalization and expansion of uses to benefit more people, if you please, an action preservation plan, instead of a "Sleepy Hollow" approach, would be in line with the progressive movements of these times. This act seems to be the answer to the few ascetic tastes in our midst of those who have a yen and a beam in their eye for the preservation of relics and images of the past for the angels of the future. We who have to make our living by day, with our feet on the ground, and be practical about the pressing problems of today, envision another approach, encompassing preservation principles with expanding uses, enmeshed in play, tempered with practical thinking, and actions in tune with the needs of the moment.

We take this viewpoint, that this bill is legislation narrowing and restrictive of the use of an extensive land resource, not conducive to a growing and expanding population and economy, in exchange for an uncertain, speculative, future appraisal.

Thus we object to this bill (1) it withdraws needed land resources from normal uses, (2) has tendency to shrink local economy, (3) restricts recreation to the rugged individual only, (4) impedes orderly development, and (5) enthrones negative-minded thinking, preserving status quo.

We believe in conservation of our natural resources to uses, but not in preservation of a needed resource as a monumental emblem of what has been, and most surely not on the grandiose scale as provided by this legislation. Our land resources are not this expendable.

What are we for? We subscribe to the principle of developing these areas, devoting them now to the uses affording the maximum values under appropriate controls, such as to maintain continuous yields in the economic, recreational, scientific, and other important spheres.

The administrative directives under existing legislation, having to do with these land areas, do not seem to be far afield in meeting this formula.

We surely oppose this layaway plan, more especially on this enlarged scope, as proposed in this S. 174 as it passed the Senate.

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FORT COLLINS, COLO., *October 30, 1961.*

U.S. Representative GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*State Capitol, Sacramento, Calif.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PFOST: Because of the time and location of hearings on the wilderness bill (S. 174) many of us who are vitally concerned with the legislation will be prevented from attending. I wish, however, to express my wholehearted approval of the measure and to urge your support of it. S. 174 not only protects an invaluable and endangered resource, but it adequately compromises the claims and needs of many agencies indirectly and directly involved in wilderness areas.

A lifelong resident of Colorado and a research biologist, I have spent various periods of time in 9 of the 16 wilderness-type areas in the State and have done research in 2 of them. During the past six summers my husband and I have lived and worked in Rocky Mountain National Park and done research in one of the remoter parts of the park. No other experiences of my life have been so completely satisfying. Wilderness to me means renewal of mind and spirit.

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Confronted with the vociferous claims of commercial interests who are opposed to effective protection of even the tiny fraction of the public domain involved in the wilderness system, it is easy to overlook values which are essentially noncommercial or to say that this aspect of public lands utilization affects so minor a fraction of the populace as to be unimportant. But the value cannot be overlooked, and the fraction is not unimportant; for, with increasing urbanization of our country, men of all types need more and more the sanity and beauty of areas where man himself is not dominant. Wilderness experience and recreation is constantly becoming not a mere whim but a need for increasing numbers of people. If we do not take measures now to secure the fulfillment of this need, not only the present generation of wilderness lovers but our children and generations still unborn, who will find this need ever more pressing, will be deprived of their heritage. We risk selling their birthright for a mess of poor quality economic pottage.

From the standpoint of a scientist the problem is equally urgent. The conservation of rare and dwindling species of animals and plants has been long accepted as necessary and desirable; for we know that once a living creature has gone we have lost something we cannot restore. But undisturbed communities of living things, wilderness areas, are even more important, not only for their spiritual values but for their scientific meaning. We biologists find in them the key to many perplexing relationships exhibited in areas disturbed by man and managed for his material benefit. Our true understanding of the principles involved in adequate resource management rests on the study of these type speciments of natural communities. They are our best laboratories and museums.

We sincerely hope you will support S. 174 for the good of the people of your own State and of the Nation. It puts into the guardianship of the President and of the Congress you represent one of our most valuable resources.

Sincerely yours,

MARGARET M. DOUGLASS
Mrs. John R. Douglass.

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WHITEWATER MESA RANCH,
*Glenwood, N. Mex., October 24, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*U.S. House of Representatives,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: Due to the season of shipping cattle and resettling cattle for the winter season most of the ranchers who might otherwise attend the hearings on the so-called Wilderness Preservation Act will be unable to attend, including myself. Therefore the time that I had requested to testify against this legislation can be used by others.

There are several pertinent facts that I would like to call to the attention of the members of the committee when consideration is being given to this legislation.

No. 1. Basic needs of an expanded population in the near future are food, clothing, and shelter. Excluding lands from agriculture for purposes other than wilderness is now going on at an alarming rate. Can we afford to remove all this acreage from grazing?

No. 2. The Forest Service without legislation has been, and continues to pursue a policy of curtailing grazing in these areas in favor of recreation though only a very, very few people will ever be able to use these vast forests because they are so inaccessible. Do we need to put legislation on the books to further this policy?

No. 3. We are resigned to the fact that this legislation will be passed by this Congress. Will the protection of the small rancher be spelled out in such a way that his already meager living not be further jeopardized by reduction or complete elimination of his grazing privilege?

No. 4. From personal observation of the Gila wilderness, not over 1 out of 1,000 persons agitating for this legislation ever go into these wilderness areas. Is the hue and cry for this thing stirred up for personal reasons?

No. 5. From personal knowledge the Gila wilderness is a huge mass of "dead nothing." Why should this remain so?

There are many other reasons but for the sake of brevity this is my plea for consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A. M. EAST.

THE FETCHER RANCH,
*Steamboat Springs, Colo., October 27, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: I wish the information given in the enclosed copy of letter to Senator Gordon Allott to be incorporated in the records of the hearing to be held at Montrose, Colo., November 1.

Very truly yours,

JOHN R. FETCHER.

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STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLO., *March 8, 1960.*

Hon. GORDON ALLOTT,
*U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR ALLOTT: Since our meeting last fall in Steamboat Springs, I have followed your statements concerning the wilderness bill. As you may remember, I am an engineer by profession and a cattleman who depends on a forest grazing permit for livelihood. I think I understand the so-called commercial interests point of view with regard to wilderness.

Several of my rancher friends have discussed your proposed amendments, and here is a summary of our thoughts. We rely on the Dome Peak-Mount Zirkel Wild Area north of Steamboat for our recreation. It seems to us that if a powerline were constructed, for example, from Steamboat to Walden across this area, it would spoil forever its character. This, we think, would also be true of a water project, requiring access roads, ditches, machinery, and construction. Powerlines, which might well become obsolete in our lifetime, can and should be diverted around these areas. Cannot 90 percent of a potential water development be accomplished at lower elevations outside the wilderness areas?

In the last 10 years we have seen a tremendous increase in the recreational use of the Routt Forest, particularly by those who want to get completely away from civilization. Therefore, do you not think even more people will use and need our wilderness in the future? Regardless of how small is the percentage who penetrate the remote areas, could you not liken a wilderness to a special museum which attracts a small but vital element of our population? We feel the article enclosed by Victor B. Scheffer expresses very well this idea of "quality in recreation," and ask you to take a few minutes to read it.

We feel so strongly about the preservation of these areas that in some cases we believe they should be extended and in every case surrounded by a buffer zone from which vehicles would be excluded.

For the sake of this generation and those to come, we hope you will present our thoughts when the amendments are finally considered.

Very truly yours,

JOHN R. FLETCHER.

This letter was also signed by Forrest Worm, rancher; Russell Whitmer, rancher; R. W. Baker, rancher; Chas. Lodwick, store owner; David Toogler, rancher; Orval Bedell, guide; Vaughn Powell, rancher; L. J. Connor, U.S.F.F., retired John Calkins, rancher; James W. Temple, resort owner; Hollis Tufly, rancher and guide.

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STATEMENT OF FLATHEAD WILDLIFE, INC., IN SUPPORT OF THE WILDERNESS PROVISION BILL

As president of Flathead Wildlife, Inc., of Kalispell, Mont., I, H. W. C. Newberry, hereby respectfully request favorable consideration by your committee of Senate bill 174.

We recognize that the shortage of time and the sessions of the Congress made it necessary for your committee to schedule hearings during the hunting season. This resulted in many of the conservationists and sportsmen being unable to attend the hearings unless they gave up their annual hunting trip.

It is respectfully submitted that the opponents of Senate bill 174 have not discussed the provisions of the bill, but rather are opposed to the preservation of any wilderness system that would prevent their exploitation and invasion. An examination of the bill, and more particularly the provision under section 6, clearly preserves existing grazing and mining interests in the wilderness. The bill does not create any new wilderness, but rather places the control of the existing wilderness system in the hands of the Congress of the United States,

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in conjunction with the Federal agencies administering such system. At the present time, the Congress of the United States would be powerless to prevent destruction of an established wilderness, as it would be powerless to prevent establishment of an additional wilderness. The bill will result in permitting some control of the wilderness by the people of the United States through their elected representatives. The bill gives legislative recognition to the desirable use and need of wilderness. At the present time, wilderness is recognized as one of the multiple uses of the public land.

The sportsmen in this area, which is surrounded by public lands, the great majority of which are being used for timber harvests, urgently solicit the preservation of a small percentage of the total public lands for wilderness use. Certainly 2 percent of the total public lands is a small percentage, indeed, for the future wilderness needs of our country.

We believe that wilderness is one of the multiple uses of our public lands, and if multiple use means national forest management as it relates to a forest as a whole, then portions of that forest primarily are managed for timber harvests, others for grazing use, others for mining, and others for the various facets of recreation. We believe that the following uses of forest lands should be considered in the multiple-use principle:

1. Timber.
2. Watershed conservation.
3. Mining.
4. Grazing.
5. Fish and game habitat protection.
6. Science, a control area for research.
7. Education, a natural museum.
8. Roadside recreation of all kinds.
9. Reservoirs and other water development structures.
10. Conservation reserve of commodity resources for future generations.
11. Wilderness recreation.

Certainly all of these cannot be applied to every foot or acre of land; however, wilderness preservation does, in itself, embrace at least five other uses—watershed protection, fish and game habitat, science, education, and conservation reserve.

Our group believes that this bill does not in any way affect our local economy, concerning timber, since there never have been any logging operations in the wilderness areas. I earnestly submit that the overwhelming majority of the people of the United States support wilderness preservation as desirable and necessary. We further submit that the opponents of this bill were just as active in opposing the creation of the national park system and the national forest system as they are today in opposing wilderness use and preservation.

My organization requests that you support this bill to prevent the exploitation by selfish interests of all of the public lands; and that this small percentage be preserved for the use and enjoyment of the people of the United States for all times.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 28, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: As a resident of the Rocky Mountain region, I would like to voice my support of the wilderness bill.

At the present time there is a very minute portion of the State of Colorado set aside in wilderness areas (0.3 percent). Businessmen and residents in the State expect and desire a considerable increase in population over the next 10 years. This increase in population will result in a proportionately decreasing number of wilderness acres remaining for each of us to enjoy over the coming years. For this reason I believe that if this State and this region is to continue to maintain its attractiveness to residents and tourists we must increase our wilderness areas.

I know that anything you as chairman of the Public Lands Subcommittee can do to strengthen and further the wilderness bill will be applauded by every thinking resident of the Rocky Mountain region.

I would also like to request that this letter be incorporated into the record of the public hearing on the wilderness bill in Montrose, Colo., on November 1.

Sincerely,

F. GUALDO FORD,
*President, Piedmont Development Co.*

GALLATIN SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION,
*Bozeman, Mont., November 1, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: The membership of the Gallatin Sportsmen's Association of Bozeman, Mont., wishes to go on record with your committee in favor of the early passage of the wilderness bill, sent to your committee from the Senate as outlined in S. 174.

We feel that the little that remains of America's once vast wilderness must be protected for scientific, recreational, scenic, and watershed values. If these public lands embraced by the wilderness bill are allowed to remain in as near the same condition as they are now, they will be a backlog of unspoiled resources which will add to the health and prosperity of our Nation in future years.

For complete and detailed support of the preservation of wilderness we wish to refer you to the documentary records as presented to the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs during the past two sessions of Congress. You will find several hundred organizations and thousands of individuals who unselfishly support this measure.

Therefore, we wish to solicit your support of S. 174, in the interest of posterity.

Respectfully yours,

FLORENCE W. BALDWIN, *Secretary.*

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STATEMENT BY GUNNISON COUNTY STOCKGROWERS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT, RALPH ALLEN, JR.

We are opposed to the wilderness bill, S. 174, as now passed by the Senate: Comments:

1. Present primitive, wild, or canoe areas are adequate for the small percentage of people interested in such use.
2. The multiple-use policy on Federal lands is threatened.
3. Congress should be able to initate wilderness legislation and take affirmative action instead of the negative approach.
4. The right of small groups of individuals to build and maintain small irrigation systems must be definitely established in any wilderness legislation: in the bill passed by the Senate, this right is not protected.
5. Before any areas are proposed for incorporation in a wilderness system, a land-use commission for each State should be appointed to review and determine if wilderness designation is to the best interests of their States.

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GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Grand Junction, Colo.:*

Mr. Chairman, my name is Mark B. Garman, I live in Grand Junction, Colo., and I am an independent oil operator.

Many of us in western Colorado find great pleasure in hunting and fishing and recognize that wilderness areas should be preserved. Many of us also feel that any proposed wilderness area should have a complete mineral and petroleum evaluation of the lands involved.

With the vast amount of Federal land in this area our tax base is limited. The Federal moneys returned to the individual counties from the sale and production of oil and gas leases is a major item in the support of our school and road systems. We cannot afford the loss of this revenue by the restriction of oil and mineral exploration in newly created wilderness areas without first having these areas determined worthless for oil or mining operations.

MARK B. GARMAN.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 16, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I will be unable to attend the scheduled hearings on the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, being held in Montrose, Colo., on November 1, 1961. I

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heartily endorse wilderness preservation and feel that it is not too much to ask to have some acreage set aside for wilderness areas. I have personally enjoyed our wilderness areas on many occasions and have become acquainted with many persons from all sections of our Nation relaxing and enjoying these areas.

In my opinion, wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, as passed by the Senate on September 8, 1961, is the means of preserving our wilderness areas and therefore I urge your committee to report this bill favorably.

Respectfully,

MRS. ERMA B. GINGERICH.

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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., *October 16, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter is to indicate my endorsement of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174. It has been my personal pleasure to enjoy recreationally several of these areas, but beyond that I strongly feel that areas such as these will in future years prove to be of inestimable value as a source of nature's materials.

At the present time, it may seem to some that we should be using all our resources toward production and industrial potentials.

I am sure, however, future generations will acknowledge the wisdom of such a wilderness preservation bill as S. 174.

Sincerely yours,

DOROTHY M. GOLLNAST.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 17, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I just want to add my voice to that of the many who favor the wilderness preservation bill (S. 174). I spent some time myself in one of these areas this year and was again impressed with their priceless value to the people of America. I think that it is urgent that action be taken now; for once the wilderness is gone, it is gone forever, an irreparable tragedy. If there is any other use that these areas might have that might in any way approximate their main value as wilderness areas unchanged by man it is that of watershed preservation, a use that is happily best served by the passage of this same bill.

I can hardly imagine anything other than favorable action from anyone who has visited these wilderness areas and know that you must be familiar with at least some of them. Please put me down as one more in favor of this bill.

Sincerely,

KENNETH A. HILL.

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THE WESTERN NEWS,
*Denver, Colo., October 27, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: It is my understanding that you are the chairman of the Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Committee, which is holding a public hearing on the wilderness bill in Montrose, Colo., on Wednesday, November 1.

Since I will not personally be able to attend this meeting, I would like to have this letter incorporated into the record of the hearing, as adding my voice to those urging the passing of the wilderness bill.

As a member of the Colorado Mountain Club, I have spent much time enjoying and exploring the beauties of our wonderful State, and in particular the mountain recreation areas. I know only too well how much such areas mean to lovers of the outdoors like myself, and I urge that every possible step be taken to preserve our dwindling wilderness areas from further encroachment and despoilation by those intent only on commercial values.

Population and other pressures are bound to make the recreational and spiritual values of our wilderness areas more and more essential to future generations. And since such areas, once gone, can never be restored, I feel that the time to act to preserve them is now.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

DON HOWE.

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STATEMENT OF EDWIN JACOBS, NORWOOD, COLO.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, S. 174 is a bill to establish a national wilderness preservation system for the permanent good of a whole people and for other purposes.

First I would like to point out that this is an emotional issue. Proponents of this bill have preyed on the emotions of people by continually bringing up such emotionally appealing aspects of this issue as conservation, preservation, education, scenic, scientific, etc.

Can there be any question that the type of legislation contained in S. 174 will benefit more than a small select group? It takes some doing to penetrate a wilderness area unless one considers a hike of an hour the fulfillment of a dream to reach peace and solitude. The rigors of such an excursion alone, are enough to limit the enjoyment of such an area to a very few hardy people.

As you are already aware there is an extensive wilderness system already established and being administered by the Forest Service. Does anyone question the sincerity or the ability of the Forest Service to properly administer public lands under their jurisdiction. There is very grave doubt that any need has been shown for arbitrarily changing the status of wilderness, wild, canoe, or primitive areas. In order to believe that such need exists we would have to believe that the Forest Service is very shortsighted and incompetent.

I protest the way in which Congress continues to try to delegate authority to the executive branch of our Government that rightfully belongs to the legislative. I refer to that part of this bill which allows recommendations to become law unless Congress shows positive disapproval.

I recognize that there has been an attempt to protect existing water rights as well as grazing and mining, however they will all be subjected to the rules by which the area is governed. This is no protection at all you see. Just imagine William O. Douglas in charge of such areas.

There can be no doubt that the issue could affect the entire economy of the State of Colorado and future development. Take the one item, water and its development. Water is vital to the development of these Western States. There is grave need to protect the right of these Western States as to present and future development of resources.

In view of the small group who will derive benefit from such an area and in view of the extensive wilderness system already established, I wonder how many of you really believe there is need to change the status of existing areas.

Is this going to be the biggest land grab in the history of the United States?

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COTTONWOOD GARDEN SHOP,
*Littleton, Colo., October 26, 1961.*

Representative WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Wilderness Bill Committee,*
*Grand Junction, Colo.:*

I will not be able to attend the hearing in Montrose, but want to add my bit in support of the wilderness bill. I feel that it is most important.

Wilderness is something that many of us that are forward looking feel is important for the future of our country. We must have these unspoiled areas to go to now for our inspiration and peace of mind, and they will be even more important in future years when more of our country is settled and changed. We are a big enough and rich enough country that we can afford this surely—and I can't see that we can afford to do otherwise. I feel that we cannot risk destroying these primitive areas just for a little immediate personal gain. China and India did this and now they lack the inspiration of these areas, which surely contributed to their downfall as much as any economic depression.

After all, remember that this bill is not setting aside any more land than has been designated as wilderness previously. All the commercial interests

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that are hollering about restricting their privilege of making a dollar are just considering their personal interests, while those who advocate this bill are thinking of the welfare of the country in general—not just today, but tomorrow.

All we ask in this bill is a recognition of the value of wilderness along with all the other values. In most cases the land set aside for wilderness has been land of no better or other immediate value. The urgency of this bill is because "wilderness" different from all other values cannot be restored once it is destroyed—it must be kept that way. The time is now here that any area in our United States which remains wilderness must be carefully recognized and protected now from encroachment by other interests when they think that they may make a personal dollar by using it.

This act is not really hurting anyone (as you would think by the hollering) but is a measure of protection that our descendants will thank us for.

Please do anything that you can to help this bill get through the House, and your grandchildren will thank you. After all, the big majority it got in the Senate should indicate that it has value.

Thank you.

GEORGE W. KELLY.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 28, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Representative from Idaho, and Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: Re the wilderness bill, concerning which a meeting is scheduled in Montrose, Colo., on November 1, I request that this expression be incorporated into the record of the hearing:

Inasmuch as none of the areas under consideration in the State of Colorado now contains any inhabited or developed regions; and

Inasmuch as no mining, lumbering, or grazing operations now being conducted would be affected; and

Inasmuch as these areas can be opened to development if needed in a national emergency—but only in such emergency; and

Inasmuch as much of our wildlife depends almost entirely on the preservation of the wilderness for survival,

I strongly urge that the areas in this and other Western States now set aside and the areas under consideration in the present wilderness bill be preserved inviolate as wilderness areas.

Not only do the wildlife need these areas, but human beings, too, if they are to withstand the pressures on their nervous systems exerted by "civilization," must have true wilderness areas accessible to them for physical, mental, and spiritual renewal and re-creation.

Thank you for whatever you can do to have wilderness areas preserved and extended.

Respectfully,

MYRA J. KEPLINGER.

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SILVER CITY, N. MEX., *October 24, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I have heard that you will hold hearings on the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, on November 1, at Montrose, Colo.

As I will not be able to attend these hearings, I am writing you this letter for inclusion in the record of these hearings as follows:

While living at Mogollon, N. Mex., in past years, I have made many trips into the Gila Wilderness Area; and I count these trips among the greatest pleasures of my life. This, and all other wilderness areas, if retained and suitably protected will become of increasing value and importance to our Nation in the years to come. For there are many uses which these areas serve, of which watershed protection, recreation, education, science, and historical uses, as well as furnishing stability of habitat for plant and animal life, are a few.

The Gila Wilderness Area was the first national forest wilderness area established. For some years it was also the largest such area. However, this wilderness has been reduced intermittently over the years, until it is now little over

half its original size. This, as the result of pressures for its modification having been brought to bear from time to time, by special interests.

Thus, under the present system of management it is evident that other wilderness areas, especially national forest wilderness areas, as well as this Gila Wilderness Area, are all in imminent danger of reductions, or other modifications, or even abolishment, since at present they can be changed in any manner conforming to the whim of the Secretary of Agriculture or Interior according to whichever domain they are situated.

All wilderness areas now extant should henceforth be administered in accordance with the wilderness concept in order to conserve such areas for posterity. To this end it is imperative that suitable wilderness legislation now be enacted whereby adequate wilderness will be established, and at the same time giving appropriate protection and stability to such areas. The wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, would accomplish these purposes and, therefore, it should be passed by Congress and enacted into law.

For the highest benefit to our Nation I therefore urge that you give fullest support in securing passage of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

Respectfully yours,

MRS. EDITH H. LAWRENCE.

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CASPER, WYO., *October 31, 1961.*

GEORGE REITEMEIR,
*Care of Western Union Telegraph Co.,*
*Montrose, Colo.:*

The hearings being conducted in Montrose, Colo., tomorrow concerning S. 174 are of considerable concern to the people of Wyoming. We respectfully request that a similar hearing be held in Wyoming at a time and place convenient to the committee so that our citizens may have the benefit of attending and perhaps participating in this important legislative function.

GULF OIL CORP.
B. W. MILLER,
*Area Exploration Manager.*

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KANSAS CITY, MO., *October 25, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I wish to add my name to the list of the many who feel a vital interest in the preservation of our wilderness areas and the passage of bill S. 174.

I firmly believe that the physical and spiritual refreshment to be gained from hiking or packing into the unspoiled wilderness can contribute significantly to the health of the people of this country.

Sincerely,

KATHLEEN HARRINGTON.

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HOLBROOK LAKE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB,
*Swink, Colo., October 17, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*
Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior Committee,*
*Grand Junction, Colo.*
Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Nampa, Idaho:*

The Holbrook Lake Sportsmen's Club of Otero County, Colo., comprising 900 members from every walk of life, desires to go on record as endorsing S. 174 as passed by the Senate and especially without attempted crippling amendments.

We do not fear placing certain controls in the hands of one man, our President.

We believe passage is necessary now while we have something to preserve. If we are in dire need of these areas now for further exploitation, I ask our Representatives in Congress what our condition is likely to be 25 or 50 years hence.

Very truly yours,

G. E. KIMBLE,
*Executive Vice President.*

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LAKE CITY, COLO.,
*October 19, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIRS: I would like to take this opportunity to request submitting a statement regarding the wilderness bill at your hearing in Montrose, Colo., on November 1, 1961.

It appears that our representatives from Colorado are representing the cattle, mining and lumber groups rather than the people as a whole. The following is the statement I would like to present:

Colorado has a large quantity of recreational areas but quality recreational areas are becoming scarce and are being exploited continually. I believe such areas as remain and which fall into the classification of wilderness areas as defined in the wilderness bill should be protected and preserved for future generations' use.

It is obvious from the bill's support in the East that our people who are deprived of high quality outdoor recreation wish to take steps to preserve some areas of wilderness in our country. I wish to make known the fact that there are also people in the West (e.g., Colorado) who favor passage of the wilderness bill.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES D. HOUSTON.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 26, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN: It occurs to me that the wilderness bill, soon to be considered by the House of Representatives, offers one of those opportunities—often not recognized until too late—for our legislators and today's generation of Americans to rise to what history will record as "their finest hour." Long before Winston Churchill made this phrase famous, other individuals and groups in the past had met their finest hours in a worthy manner. The Yellowstone explorers of the 1870's passed the test successfully when they gave up their rights to personally exploit that remarkable territory in favor of public ownership for the benefit of the American people. John Muir met his finest hour when he chose to be, not John Muir the rich land speculator or timber baron, but John Muir the conservationist and father of Yosemite National Park.

Our generation will shortly write a record by which future Americans can judge what breed of men we were: Whether our philosophy was "Live it up since it's there, and to hell with anybody a hundred years from now," or whether we were willing to look beyond our own immediate gain and make the sacrifices necessary to pass a great country on to our descendants. The recent vote of the Senate on this bill indicates that our Senators feel the majority of their constituents belong in the latter category of public-spirited citizens. I am confident that our Congressmen have an equally high opinion of the caliber of the American people and will vote for passage of this bill.

Finally, I would like to submit to our legislators as a whole that the finest memorials they can leave to themselves or to their constituents are those already standing—the unspoiled wilderness areas, raised not by the hand of man but of God.

Since I will be personally unable to attend the hearings on this legislation, to be held for this section in Montrose, Colo., next month, I would appreciate your having this expression of my sentiments incorporated in the official record of the hearing.

Very respectfully,

CATHERINE A. HURLBUTT.

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CIRCLE S RANCH, CORA, WYO.

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: I would like to give my views in favor of the wilderness bill as passed by the U.S. Senate, and to urge the passage of this bill by the House.

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For the past 17 years I have lived adjacent to the Bridger Wilderness Area. During that time I have seen many changes in our national forests and not all of them for the good. In the forest outside of the wilderness areas, roads have made almost all places accessible to jeeps. Much of our forest has become a trash heap. Timbering methods allowed outside of the wilderness areas on the upper Green River drainage has made the forest area, outside the wilderness area, completely worthless for recreation, and an eyesore. Timbering this high mountain country of the Continental Divide has resulted in the removal of the topsoil to the point where there is no reproduction of timber, and bare hillsides are washing away.

I believe that the basic question is: Are we willing to protect this little bit of our vast country for the enjoyment of present and future generations, or must we mine, timber, overgraze, and otherwise use up this small remaining heritage of wilderness. Must we in the rich country work every mine, cut down every forest, extract every bit of oil, just because they exist, and even though we have a glut of all of these things, or may we preserve the wilderness we have left and let our children make this decision and decide which is the greater value of mankind.

Anyone who represents that our wilderness areas are not being used by the general public is not acquainted with or misuses the facts. In the Bridger Wilderness in 1952, less than 10 years ago there were 6,400 visits. In 1960 this same area had 23,400 visits and 1,800 horse months of use. Today parts of this area are congested to the point where they are losing wilderness values. Land management experts in and out of the Forest Service can forsee the day when it will be necessary to ration the use by man of our wilderness if we are to protect the character of the land itself. Our present wilderness areas in a few years will not furnish as much wilderness recreation as there is a public demand for. Whole families walk in to the Bridger, and groups as large as 150 and more. Some are packed in and left. Others take week and longer pack trips. Some are rich, some poor. Some fish, some climb mountains, some just soak in the scenery. Some are old, some young. We have seen youngsters 5 years old and senior citizens of nearly 80 in the Bridger which is one of the more rugged wilderness areas. Every year more people are going to the wilderness for the recreation and spiritual values they find there. These areas are certainly worthy of protection and preservation by our Congress.

Sincerely,

LOUIS W. ISAACS.

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LAS VEGAS, N. MEX., CHAPTER.
ISAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA,
*Las Vegas, N. Mex., October 28, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*U.S. Representative in Congress, Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Montrose, Colo.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL: The Las Vegas, N. Mex., chapter of the Isaak Walton League of America, Las Vegas, N. Mex., with a membership of 102 wishes to have on file its action of unanimous support for the passage of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT G. LINDEBORG, *Secretary.*

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STATEMENT OF WYOMING DIVISION, ISAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

The members of the Wyoming division of the Isaak Walton League of America, through its nine chapters in the State, strongly urge the passage of legislation to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System as embodied in S. 174 recently passed by the U.S. Senate and now under consideration by the House of Representatives. As members of the oldest national organization long dedicated to the preservation and wise use of our natural resources including outdoor recreation, and because of the fast increasing population accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, we believe it is extremely important and urgent that this legislation be passed at this time. We believe that many of the areas now set aside in our national parks and forests, some of which comprise the most beautiful and awe inspiring areas of our continent,

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should either now or in the near future be set aside in a Wilderness Presentation System which would insure their protection and preservation in near primite form for enjoyment of present and future generations of our citizens.

The Wyoming division has closely followed the progress of the wilderness bill since its introduction nearly 6 years ago, has passed numerous resolutions and recommendations supporting it. The bill has gone through several years of study, public hearings, revisions, modifications and refinements. The wilderness bill, now known as S. 174, recently passed by the U.S. Senate on recommendation of its Interior and Insular Affairs Committee represents, we believe, the sober judgment of not only a majority of the members of the Senate committee, many of whom are from the Western States, but of many other persons who have helped in shaping the bill. The fact that the bill passed the Senate by an overwhelming majority of 78 to 8 is in itself, we believe, a significant achievement.

As one who has spent his boyhood years on a stock ranch in the heart of the wilderness country of northwestern Wyoming, and, a later lifetime of residence in the State, has roamed through much of the presently designated wilderness and primitive areas of its national parks and forests, the undersigned shares with many other Wyomingites a deep appreciation and pride in these beautiful mountain areas. They are, we feel, a valued part of our national heritage and as such, are worthy of our earnest and sincere efforts to maintain and hold in their present primitive state.

There has been much opposition to the various wilderness bills introduced and considered over the past 5 or 6 years. Much of this has occurred because of misunderstandings, uninformed opinion and a groundless fear that the purpose of the bill was to stifle economic development of the public land States. These misunderstandings have also been encouraged by its relatively few but determined opponents. Language of the bill as now reported is clear and to the point, direct and unequivocal.

Opposition in Wyoming over the wilderness bill has centered mainly in two lines. One involves the national forests, in which the public declarations of those opposed in that the legislation would bring about increased Federal control over the economy of the State, would lock up vast resources essential to the economic welfare of the State. The other point that has had much stress by the opposition is that the present bill, as well as earlier bills would take from Congress the prerogatives it has of designating any additional areas which may be proposed as a part of the wilderness system. The facts of the matter are, we believe, quite different. Provisions in earlier versions of the bill which caused some major concerns have been eliminated.

Here are the facts: The wilderness bill deals only with certain lands within the national park system, national forests and national wildlife refuges and ranges. It does not apply to the public domain. It does not apply to Indian reservation lands. It does not transfer lands from one jurisdiction to another. National forest lands remain under the Forest Service. National park lands stay in the National Park Service and under their direct administrative authority. Refuges and ranges stay with the Fish and Wildlife Service. It does not interfere with the purposes these lands now serve. It simply provides that these purposes shall be realized in such a way that these particular lands will remain wilderness.

It does not create any new agency or administrative body. Fears that a wilderness council might unduly interfere with national forest administration have been quieted.

It provides clearly that in any change of boundary or area use, or any additions to the wilderness system, Congress itself has the final decision. Congress by this bill designates certain lands from which the areas of the wilderness system are to be determined, and section 3(h) says that the addition or elimination of any other area not specifically provided for in this act shall be made only after specific affirmative authorization by law for such addition or elimination.

It does not blanket in the areas to comprise the wilderness system. Only 6,773,080 acres in 44 areas of national forest lands that already have been carefully studied and subjected to public notice and the hearing process, are established in the system by this bill on a permanent basis. All other national forest areas and all the areas in wildlife refuges and ranges and in the national park system are subject to further study in 10-year review programs.

Should the wilderness bill be enacted it will affect Wyoming hardly at all, except to strengthen the Forest Service and the Park Service in carrying out the same programs which they now have responsibility for in this State.

The wilderness bill controversy in Wyoming has involved the national parks system very little, if at all. Wyoming people are proud of their national park areas—Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and Devil's Tower and Fort Laramie National Monuments. They are extensive recreation areas for the people of Wyoming, and they bring vase numbers of tourists to the State each year.

The wilderness bill would affect in no way the present operations of these areas. It would simply require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior, each within the next 10 years, to study each presently designated wild or primitive area in the national forests, or each similar area in each national park or monument and recommend what portions of each should be left undeveloped for wilderness recreation and which portions should be reserved for roads, buildings, visitor accommodations and facilities, and administrative installations. Such recommendations are subject to review and disapproval by either House of Congress.

It has been argued by some in the past that vast areas of public domain (mostly Taylor Grazing Act lands in Wyoming) would be declared wilderness under the bill. Public domain lands are not subject to S. 174 in any way—they are excluded, except that any proposal for adding any public domain lands to the wilderness system would require a specific, affirmative act of Congress.

Provisions of S. 174 relating to Federal wildlife refuges affect Wyoming not at all. Wyoming has but four such refuges—the Little Bamforth and Hutton Lake Waterfowl Refuges, totaling about 3,000 acres, the Pathfinder Waterfowl Refuge superimposed on the Pathfinder Reclamation Reservoir (46,341 acres), and the world famous National Elk Refuge in Jackson Hole (23,790 acres). It might be mentioned that the Izaak Walton League of America raised the money, purchased the first 2,000 acres added to the original refuge and donated this to the Federal Government. None of the refuges in Wyoming come within the meaning and intent of the wilderness bill.

In the Wyoming national forests there are only four areas which would become full-fledged parts of the Wilderness Preservation System at the time the wilderness bill is enacted. These are the Bridger on the Bridger National Forest, the North and South Absoraka areas of the Shoshone, and the Teton on the Teton National Forest. These four are now designated as national forest wilderness areas and total 1,812,012 acres, or about 20 percent of the total national forest acreage in Wyoming, which is 9,141,954.

In addition, there are in Wyoming four national forest primitive areas which total about 542,880 acres. These may go into the permanent wilderness system at a later date, if the Secretary of Agriculture, after review and study, so recommends, and if the President concurs with that recommendation and in turn recommends it to Congress, and if the Congress thereupon accepts the recommendation and does not object by resolution of either the House or the Senate.

The Secretary of Agriculture is given 10 years in which to complete his review of each of these primitive areas to determine proper boundaries and to submit recommendations to the President as to whether or not each should remain in the wilderness system or be returned to general national forest use. In this connection, his recommendation may not, under the bill, call for enlargement of an area beyond its present acreage. In making his recommendations, the Secretary takes into consideration such features as existing logging and mining operations, roads, water development, recreation development and other national forest values and uses.

The four wilderness areas mentioned above have already been subject to such study, review, and reclassification from primitive to wilderness during the past 10 years, as have all the present national forest wilderness and wild areas. There is practically unanimous agreement, even among those who oppose wilderness legislation of any kind, that the Forest Service has carried out this review and reclassification process in a sane, sound, and responsible way. There is every reason to believe it will continue to do the same in processing the remaining promitive areas.

The four wilderness areas and the four primitive areas in Wyoming total 2,354,892 acres, or about 25 percent of the total national forest acreage in Wyoming. Offhand this looks like a pretty high percentage to be in wilderness and not available for timber production. But, a closer look shows that better than half of this total acreage is in alpine meadow and rocky crag. Best inventory

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figures we can locate indicate that only 443,500 acres, or less than one-fifth, can be classified as merchantable timber, and a majority of it is nonoperable or must be preserved for its watershed protection values.

The total operable commercial timber in this wilderness and primitive areas is about 6 percent of the commercial timber in Wyoming national forests and less than 5 percent of the total commercial timber in Wyoming. None of it is currently available for logging. There is no compelling need to harvest this small fraction of the national forest timber as is demonstrated by the fact that the national forests can nearly double their annual cut without exceeding the allowable cut under sustained yield management principles.

It has also been claimed that the wilderness bill would eliminate domestic livestock grazing from these areas. This is not so. There has never been any such intention on the part of the sponsors, and the language of S. 174 is clear on this point as is the Senate committee report. Livestock grazing will be affected in no way whatsoever as a result of enactment of the wilderness bill.

The wilderness bill does not close areas to miners, but mining presents a more difficult problem. Under present mining laws the Forest Service has no control over mining location, development, or access to mining operations, and but little control over surface resources affected by mining operations. The mining laws supersede the responsibilities of the Forest Service to manage the resources of the national forests, even under the Multiple-Use and Sustained Yield Act, passed by Congress last year. The Forest Service has been helpless, consequently, to protect existing wilderness, wild and primitive areas from encroachment by mining claims, operations and access roads.

The wilderness bill would not interfere with existing mining rights, but it would prohibit any new mining operations in Wyoming wilderness and primitive areas, unless the President should rule that opening an area to mining would best serve the interests of the public. Prospecting and other activities performed to secure information about mineral and water resources would continue to be permitted if not incompatible with the wilderness environment.

These limitations would apply to less than 4 percent of Wyoming land in total. It can hardly be said that S. 174 would "lock up" Wyoming's mineral resources and stifle the industry.

It has been claimed that the wilderness bill would obstruct necessary water development. This is hardly the case. For one thing, S. 174 provides that the President may open any wilderness area to water development when he determines that to be in the best interests of the public. Beyond this, in any Federal water development project coming before Congress for authorization, the Congress itself would always have the full and ultimate authority to determine whether or not the project might be constructed within or otherwise affect a wilderness area.

The language of S. 174 exempts entirely from the provisions of the bill the Federal Power Commission and its licensing authorities over public and private water development. Frankly, we believe this is wrong and that the Presidential order should be required before FPC can license a project in a designated wilderness area. FPC has shown in the Deschutes River case (Oregon) and the Cowlitz River case (Washington) that it is capable of disregarding the will of the people of a State, the adverse decision of the responsible State water agency, the adverse decision of a Governor of a State and the act of a State legislature itself. One Federal agency should not be in a position to override other Federal agencies and established public programs without reference to a higher authority.

The wilderness bill would not make it more easy to develop water projects. That is not its purpose. On the other hand, it would not offer the great barrier which some have claimed.

Perhaps the most ridiculous and baseless claims made by opponents of S. 174 is illustrated by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in its August 18 "Washington Report." The chamber declares without qualification that there will be "no services, no campsites, no hunting, no fishing, no nothing" in wilderness areas. A more irresponsible claim is hard to imagine.

S. 174 states that commercial services essential for realizing the recreation purposes of the areas are permitted. Campsites and essential facilities of the type now permitted by the Forest Service in wilderness areas will continue to be permitted.

Hunting and fishing, and the wilderness and primitive areas of Wyoming provide some of the highest quality to be found anywhere, will continue to be available to all who seek it under the hunting and fishing laws of the State of Wyoming.

A perennial claim has been made that the wilderness bill would open the way for establishment of a vast new wilderness area. Let's bury that figment of the imagination once and for all. S. 174 has no open ends. The areas that would be included in the wilderness system enactment of the bill are known, their boundaries are precise and delineated on the maps. Primitive areas, after full study and exact delineation of boundaries determined, will even then not remain in the wilderness system until Congress has had a chance to review them and disapprove them, if it so decides. No other areas can come in except by specific act of Congress.

Outdoor recreation is one of Wyoming's top industries. Our scenic and recreation resources are second to those of no other State, they serve not only to bring us millions of visitors every year, but they provide an environment that makes Wyoming "tops" as a place to live, work, and raise a family.

In supporting S. 174, on behalf of the Wyoming division, Izaak Walton League, I am helping to assure that Wyoming will not permit those resources to be lost by default. I am emphasizing that Wyoming can afford to preserve some of its land area in national parks and national forest wilderness areas for the enjoyment and benefit of present and future generations. We urge the support of your committee to the passage of S. 174. Without any crippling amendments, in its present form.

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STATEMENT OF EDWIN JACOBS, PRESIDENT OF SAN MIGUEL WOOL GROWERS, NORWOOD, COLO.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, this type of legislation cannot possibly be for the good of all or there would have been no need for this hearing. Therefore we must recognize that there is a conflict of the administration of public lands. Only by such administration can they be administered for the good of all.

The type of legislation contained in Senate bill 174 can only benefit a small select group because it takes some doing to penetrate a wilderness area. The rigors of such an excursion alone are enough to limit the enjoyment of such an area to a small select group.

There is already an extensive wilderness system established and being administered by the Forest Service. I do not believe anyone can question the sincerity or ability of the Forest Service to properly administer public lands under their jurisdiction. There is a very grave doubt that any need has been shown for arbitrarily changing the status of wilderness areas. In order to believe that such a need exists we would have to believe that the Forest Service is very shortsighted and incompetent.

I protest the way in which Congress continues to try to delegate authority to the executive branch of our Government that rightfully belongs to the legislative. I refer to that part of this bill which allows recommendations to become law unless there is positive disapproval expressed by Congress.

It is probable that those States containing land concerned in the wilderness bill should have more to say as to what is to be done with land within their borders.

There can be no question that this issue could affect the entire economy of the State of Colorado and future development. Take the one item, water and its development. Water is vital to the development of these Western States. There is grave need to protect the rights of the Western States as to further development of water resources.

It is probable that proponents of the wilderness bill have preyed on the emotions of people by continually bringing up such emotionally appealing aspects of this issue as conservation, preservation, education, etc.

In view of the extensive wilderness system already established, and in view of the small group who will derive benefit from such a wilderness system as provided for in Senate bill 174, I am against passage of this bill.

I may or may not be able to present this statement at the hearing November 1, in Montrose.

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NOVEMBER 1, 1961.

To the Honorable GRACIE PFOST:

Please put me on record as in favor of the wilderness bill (S. 174). We want to support it with all our heart. All across our great country people are paying out big money trying to clean up water, air, building up places for ducks and geese, putting out shelters for squirrels and in short trying to build up what man

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has torn down. Our buffalo are gone along with many more things such as wild turkeys. Are we so selfish and greedy we have to ruin what little wild life and free land there is left that a nature lover can enjoy.

We cannot afford to go to the meetings you had and realize you were trying to be fair to both sides. We know you are working yourself on this as hard or harder than some of the men. If anyone else could be trusted to listen to our side we would write them but you we respect and admire and so you we write to.

Respectfully,

MRS. VIOLET JONES.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 5, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Head of Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: Please consider this letter to be in lieu of my personal appearance at, and a part of the field hearing on the wilderness bill scheduled for November 1, 1961, in Montrose, Colo.

I am strongly in favor of passage of the wilderness bill in order to assure the preservation of at least some areas of this country in their original wilderness condition as nearly as possible.

Elimination of roads, resorts, organization camps, summer homes and commercial developments from the proposed small portions of our public lands seems a very low price to pay for the recreational, educational, ecological, and scientific advantages that will be derived by this generation and by all generations to come.

Exclusion of mechanized boats and vehicles is necessary not only to preserve the wilderness character of these areas but will stimulate the development of physical fitness and self reliance of the many people who will enter the areas on foot, by horse, or by canoe.

Sincerely,

ARTHUR W. KIDDER.

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DENVER COLO., *October 29, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I am writing to request that my support of the wilderness bill be inserted in the record of your hearing, to be held at Montrose, Colo., on November 1.

The preservation of these wilderness areas by an ironclad law is vital to America. Their functions, to serve as places where we can escape from the pressures of civilization, to protect wildlife from the same pressures, and to pass on to Americans of the next century a real wilderness, are not measurable in dollars and cents. Nonetheless they are important. It seems unfortunate that our term "wise use" translates to "wise economic use." Must we place a dollar sign next to everything in America?

I want my children—and their friends and children—to have the thrill of rounding the corner to the unexpected beauty of Slate Lake in the Gore wilderness, or the thrill of attaining the summit of Pigeon Peak in the Needle Mountains wilderness, and to have this thrill by virtue of their own hard work to get there.

At the same time, others not so ambitious can see the unspoiled development of Rocky Mountain National Park; or drive to the edge of the spectacular Maroon Bells wild area, and see it and enjoy it not messed up with commercialism.

Once the wilderness is lost, we cannot bring it back. Plase pass this bill to preserve this very small area in its natural state.

Sincerely,

HUGH E. KINGERY.

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MR. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I am writing to add my support to the wilderness bill now before your committee. It seems ever more important in these stressful days to preserve opportunities for renewal of human perspectives through a wilderness experience.

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Please include this letter in the record of the hearing of your committee.

Respectfully,

GEORGE G. LARIMORE, JR.

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ASPEN, COLO., *October 27, 1961.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I am a supporter of yours and also am interested in conservation. I am very much in favor of the wilderness bill and do hope that you will do all you can to get it passed by the House of Representatives.

Since I cannot attend one of the hearings I am writing to you as my Representative.

Thank you for any effort you make.

Sincerely yours,

MRS. JANE G. LEDDY.

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LINN COUNTY FISH & GAME CLUB, INC.,
*Cedar Rapids, Iowa, October 25, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

HONORABLE SIR: As secretary of the Linn County Fish & Game Club, a local club of some 500 members, affiliated with the All Iowa Conservation Council and through them with the National Wildlife Federation of Washington, D.C., do earnestly urge your strong support in the passage of the wilderness bill and urge that it be presented on the floor of the House at the earliest opportunity for passage.

It is our opinion that the usurping of our natural wildlife resources and nature areas by a grasping few must be stopped now and for all time. We feel that the passage of this bill will be for the vast majority as it so rightly should be.

Sincerely yours,

ED. CLARK, *Secretary.*

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CEDAREDGE, COLO., *October 23, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIRS: The wilderness bill is just what the name implies, a bill to protect and produce wilderness areas regardless of the need and practicability of such areas.

It is my judgment that such a bill is a slap in the face to those pioneer men and women who through courage, hardship, and sheer determination settled the West and have helped make it what it is today.

Inasmuch as most all if not all such areas would be in the West it would seem that someone is pitting or attempting to place the East against the West and that should be discouraged because we must seek and have unity in this land of ours.

This bill would go against nature, because it provides for fire control, pest control, and disease and speaks of no provision or consideration of maintaining a balance in nature which is a must if we are to survive. We must strive to make good use of what we have and this bill obviously shows no consideration of that angle.

It would restrict proper maintenance of our watersheds. Speaking of watersheds we in Colorado or in a better position to see and study watershed management because some of the large rivers have their headwaters in Colorado.

It seems that we have been willing to take too many of our necessities of life for granted and water is the most important.

Watershed test and experiments at Fraiser, Colo., have indicated that by removing the brush and timber from an area, the water production would be increased by 50 percent. Would it not seem logical that by growing brush and timber such as the wilderness bill provides for that the water production would be reduced 50 percent?

Can the Congress justify the expenditure and appropriation of the millions of dollars for storage dams in the West and turn right around and OK a wilderness bill that would restrict and nullify the benefits that such a storage program would create?

The benefits to be derived from this bill are questionable. The harmful effects on our economy is unquestionable. I would council the Members of the House of Representatives to defeat this bill.

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We must judge workmen by their tools and those Senators who voted for this bill discredited themselves as men qualified to sit in the Senate of the United States.

Sincerely yours,

ARTHUR LEWIS.

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PREFERRED RISK MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,
*Des Moines, Iowa, November 1, 1961.*

Representative WAYNE ASPINALL,
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE ASPINALL: I am not able to be at the meeting in Montrose today but I wish to express my feelings with respect to the wilderness bill now before your committee. I would, however, request that this letter be incorporated into the record of that meeting.

I will not belabor you with the various reasons why the wilderness bill should be enacted. We of the West, particularly, should preserve not merely a part of the heritage of the past for the future but a very living and real part of today. This the bill does because it does protect adequately and fairly the various business interests whose rights should be protected and at the same time it does preserve for the entire American people areas which once damaged will forever be damaged.

Very truly yours,

J. J. MALLON, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

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ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX., *October 92, 1961.*

MR. ELLIOTT S. BARKER,
*Santa Fe, N. Mex.*

DEAR ELLIOTT: I've been following your progress on the so-called wilderness bill through our local paper, and I am writing to commend you wholeheartedly on the stand you have taken.

As a lover of the outdoors myself, and the author of many books for red-blooded youngsters, I certainly want to see our present setup safeguarded for the future.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

WILFRED MCCORMICK.

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DENVER, COLO., *November 1, 1961.*

Representative GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: I am very much in favor and interested in the proposed wilderness bill. I would appreciate and request that this letter be incorporated into the record of the hearing on the bill which is being held in Montrose, Colo., on Wednesday, November 1.

I truly believe that the conservation of our few surviving wilderness areas is most necessary to the survival of the fast-declining animal population. Since these lands are not being inhabited at all at the present, then there is really no loss to any groups or the Government.

It is a benefit to life as far as science is concerned to keep our wildlife, which is being driven back by civilization, in existence. As man's greed destroyed the carrier pigeon and the dodo bird, his same greed is going to destroy our wild creatures unless this wilderness bill is passed.

As do many teachers and friends agree, so do I that we must establish a place where the wildlife can survive without interference.

Sincerely,

ROBERT LEON MCGEE.

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LOS ALAMOS, N. MEX., *October 26, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I respectfully request that this letter be made a part of the record as strongly favoring the passage of the wilderness bill (S. 174).

I am employed in the restricted area at Los Alamos, N. Mex. I have a wife and five children from first grade to first year college. We have a summer home only a very few miles from the south boundary of the Pecos Wilderness Area.

It is my delight to go often with my family or friends back into the wilderness solitude. I consider it a very great asset to have an unspoiled area so near where my family, our friends, and I can go to get away from the hustle and bustle of the roaded areas. My wife and children all ride horseback and throughout the summer make frequent trips back into the wilderness.

The children's grandmother, a trained nurse, frequently takes her grandchildren on horseback trips away back into the high wilderness country. They all enjoy it and the kids get a great deal out of it by way of wholesome training. If only all youngsters could ride and camp like that in the wilderness occasionally it would give them a better sense of values and curb juvenile delinquency. They can never do it if we fail to keep the wilderness areas available.

There is nothing that my wife and children and I like more than to get back into the remote wilderness areas. Many of our friends feel the same way. Wilderness areas are one of America's greatest assets. We must be farsighted and save them for future generations.

Honorable sir, my family joins me in sincerely urging you and your committee to act favorably at the earliest possible date on S. 174. That bill is a carefully thought out and finely revised piece of legislation that should be passed without any further amendments. It is necessary, if the wilderness areas are to be saved from the wiles of selfish commercial interests who have no thought for the needs of the future. We beg of you to act favorably on this bill.

On the day of the hearing I, with a friend, will be deep in the Pecos Wilderness Area on a deer hunt where our sport may be pursued under primitive conditions in a primeval environment. Honestly now, don't you envy us?

Respectfully yours,

WILBUR D. MCNEESE.

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GALLUP, N. MEX., *October 20, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: The McKinley County Wildlife Association firmly endorses S. 174, the wilderness preservation bill.

It is time that the primitive areas of the Nation be protected against the whims of the few who would use said areas for their selfish interest.

The children of the future look to us to preserve these undeveloped lands, retaining the character and primitive contributions to our recreational facilities which are being gradually absorbed for commercial interests more and more each year.

There is nothing more conducive to the building of good character and healthy and normal activities than to be able to get away from the stress and strain and the tension of city life and tramp around in the solitude of these areas we have left to us in this beautiful country, still unspoiled by civilization.

We sincerely believe more natural and simple ways of living will contribute to the strength this country needs if we are going to continue to be a great nation.

Sincerely,

MCKINLEY COUNTY WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION,
By PETE CRESTO, *President.*

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MELROSE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB,
*Melrose, N. Mex., October 7, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*U.S. Representative in Congress, Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: Our group would like you to know that we fully endorse the preservation of wilderness and the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174. Also we endorse the statements being submitted by the New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association and Mr. Elliott S. Barker at the hearing.

Sincerely yours,

MACK HENDERSHOT, *President.*
DAN YOUNGER, *Secretary.*

SRP03491

OFFICE OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
MESA COUNTY,
*Grand Junction, Colo., October 30, 1961.*

Re. S. 174, wilderness bill.

Hon. MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman of the Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN PFOST: We, the undersigned, do hereby concur in the stand which Senator Gordon Allott took on Senate bill 174. We do not take issue with the desirability of setting aside some areas so they will be guarded against intrusion and exploitation to the disadvantage of future generations.

We do, however, express strong feelings against the attempt to take away the rights and controls that properly belong to the Members of the Congress of the United States.

We feel that Senate bill 174 does exactly this and as presently written will greatly interfere with the development of the State of Colorado in the future.

We strongly urge the adoption of the Allott amendments which require that no area can be created as a congressionally established wilderness area without a specific act of Congress. We further support the amendment which would require the independent views of other affected agencies of the Federal Government on proposals to establish wilderness areas.

Very truly yours,

ARTHUR J. JENS,
*Chairman, Board of County Commissioners.*
R. F. SAUNDERS,
*Member, Board of County Commissioners.*
HENRY J. TUPPER,
*Member, Board of County Commissioners.*
M. R. DOUGLASS,
*Member, Colorado House of Representatives.*

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ANTONITO, COLO., *October 26, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Building, Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: I am writing to oppose Senate bill 174 and wilderness legislation, unless some amendments are made for the following:

I am a sheep and cattle operator and depend entirely on this for a living; if I were deprived of this occupation by being forced out of business because a few people wanted my forest preference that I have for my sheep, so that they can enjoy the scenery, I do not know what I would do for a living for myself and family, as I am not trained for anything else, and I am middle aged, too old to be hired as a common laborer and too young for a pension.

I know that there are thousands of people who will be affected as I am, whether they be in the livestock, lumber, recreational, or mining business, if Senate bill 174 is passed without sufficient amendments to protect our rights. And who is more entitled to the use of these Federal lands both legally and morally—the pioneer who risked his life and everything he owned to settle in this country and by his efforts built the West to what it is and now it contributes to the livelihood of millions, or a mere handful of people who want to enjoy the scenery from a distance through binoculars?

I do not fully understand the bill, but it should not be turned over for administration to irresponsible persons who are not answerable to the people.

It seems that Senate bill 174 gives itself priority to everything and can take what it wants without respect to the rights of others; it even goes as far as to take over private land for its own use. It does not clarify itself on the number of acres it needs; it simply wants to take over what it wants.

Before the bill is passed as law, representatives of all Government agencies and private users of Federal lands should be consulted and permitted to make amendments for the good of all concerned.

Yours truly,

FRANK MESTAS.

DENVER, COLO., *November 1, 1961.*

Hon. Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Land Subcommittee, Room 1234, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.:*

Our group heartily endorses the passage of the wilderness bill. It will provide innumerable areas for summer range for our big game herds and unpolluted waters for fishing that so many people enjoy. Uncontrolled management of these areas will benefit only a few. The wilderness bill will protect these areas for us and posterity in Colorado. Wilderness areas will only compromise three-tenths of 1 percent of the entire area of the State.

ROBERT A. MERRICK,
*President, Metropolitan Wild Life Association.*

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SILVER CITY, N. MEX., *October 23, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I am advised that hearings will be held at Montrose, Colo., on November 1, 1961, regarding the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174. Being unable to attend the hearings in person, I therefore request that my letter be included as follows in the record of such hearings:

As an ecologist and conservationist I am deeply interested in the establishment, protection, and preservation of suitable representative natural areas, especially extensive wilderness areas which thus include unspoiled natural scenery and esthetic values in addition to primordial plant and animal life. These areas, if maintained in their pristine condition, will be of continuing and increasing benefit and value to present and future generations for recreational, educational, and scientific uses.

Of greatest importance in this respect is the National Forest Wilderness System, comprising 83 units of wilderness, wild, and primitive areas, which embrace only 14 million acres or only 8 percent out of the total national forest area of 180 million acres. Yet this small fraction, consisting only 8 percent of the national forest area, is all that remains as it comprises the last of our wilderness type. These national forest wilderness, wild, and primitive areas, as well as similar areas within national parks, wildlife refuges, and the public domain should ever be protected and preserved in their natural state, since all such natural areas will be of increasing value and importance in the future.

To this end, suitable wilderness legislation should now be enacted whereby adequate wilderness will be established and giving full protection and stability to all such areas. This is not satisfactorily accomplished under the present system, as all wilderness areas now extant are in continuing jeopardy of revision or even abolishment under respective arbitrary powers of the Secretary of Agriculture or Secretary of the Interior.

The wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, if enacted into law, will eradicate the existing dangers and bring about a better planned and protected system of wilderness.

With the rapid encroachments of civilization, there are ever those self-seeking individuals and groups who continually exert concerted influence and effort to devastate the last vestige of wilderness for the immediate monetary gain of the few at the expense of the many. These are not satisfied with having the 92 percent available for commercialization, but will seek to obtain all that remains, the final 8 percent. The wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, would forestall such attempt. It is a good bill and should be enacted into law, as these remaining wilderness, wild, and primitive areas as such, now, and increasingly so in future, will constitute a far greater resource than these limited areas could ever otherwise produce through any process of commercial exploitation.

I therefore urge that the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, be passed by the Congress and enacted into law.

Respectfully yours,

BYRON MILLER.

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INDIANAPOLIS, IND., *October 23, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: We are very much interested in the support and passage of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, and would like to go on record to that effect.

Yours truly,

RUTH and PAUL MILLER.

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WESTERN LIFE INSURANCE CO.,
*Denver, Colo., October 30, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: We have just today been informed of the hearing on the wilderness bill being held by the Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee in Montrose, Colo., on Wednesday, November 1. We will not be able to attend this meeting, but wish to have our feelings incorporated into the record of the hearing.

We feel that setting aside wilderness areas is of the utmost importance, not only for the present generation, but for those to come. Civilization has encroached upon the undeveloped areas until even now there is very little left, and unless some action is taken soon there will be no true wilderness.

Those private interests who claim that the setting aside of these areas will work a hardship on them are only being greedy, because the territory involved is infinitesimal in proportion to the remainder of the country. We further believe that the children and grandchildren of those now clamoring for the defeat of this bill will deeply regret it if they find that no place has been reserved where nature can live without interference.

Yours truly,

WILBERT J. MOEHRKE.
Mrs. WILBERT J. MOEHRKE.

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MONTANA PROPANE UNIGAS SERVICE,
*Twin Bridges, Mont., October 25, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: I am writing in the interest of the business on whose letterhead this is being written and in the interest of the Twin Bridges Wildlife Association, of which I am president. The subject on which I am writing is Senate bill 174, preservation of our national wilderness system. I live in the area, and all the others, in whose interest I am writing, in which we see the wilderness areas surrounding us. In the last 3 or 4 years we have seen how vital the wilderness areas really are. With the dry years, the water supply has been very short, even in the area directly affected and near the watersheds. Without the water in this area, there is little to flow on down the rivers to other areas where they may need water. If we are to allow this wilderness to be destroyed by large industries the future of our water supply is in danger of being destroyed.

We had some studies last winter on one particular industry. This was the lumber industry, of which Montana has quite an amount. They are trying very hard to have the lumber in the wilderness areas. Yet the facts show the waste they have now at the plants where the milling is done, is a very high percentage. The exact amount I do not at this time remember, but I know it was very high. We are of the opinion that before wasting more of our wonderful resources that something should be done on the saving of part of the percentage now wasted. That remains true with a great deal of the other industries. When it becomes a matter of life and death for the Nation, then we should use all our resources, but at present this Nation is quite wasteful in many industries. I am a firm believer in correcting this wastefulness before giving the industries more to waste.

I trust this committee will consider all sides and points very carefully before any action on this bill. This opinion herein is expressed in the voice of 5 company employees and the Wildlife Association with a membership of 52.

Yours very truly,

ANDRE MORRIS.

MONTANA STOCKGROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.,
*Helena, Mont., October 31, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: The Montana Stockgrowers Association, representing over 5,000 active beef cattle producers in all of the counties of our State, has followed the various proposals for wilderness legislation with interest.

It has always been difficult to understand why such legislation should be considered necessary. The present agencies, such as the Forest Service, National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management, that administer our public lands that comprise a third of Montana have authority to include wilderness areas where appropriate. This they are doing and there is little question but that they are supported in these matters by all segments of public interest.

The wilderness bill that passed the Senate (S. 174) contains many deletions and amendments from the original proposal, but the obligation as far as administration is concerned to preserve the wilderness still remains. Many of these amendments and the purpose of the bill are contradictory. For example, the appropriate Secretary is charged with the duty to preserve natural conditions and at the same time instructed to permit uses already recognized by existing law.

Of course, all of these are subject to such restrictions and regulations as are deemed necessary by the Secretary having jurisdiction over the area. In other words, if the Secretary (a single administrator) does his job or wants to, he will use regulations to defeat the exceptions that have been made to remove objections to the legislation.

If such legislation is deemed necessary, and it doesn't appear to be in our State, then lines 12 and 13 on page 5 should be amended to read "subject to present laws and regulations." Then the amendments permitting certain established uses might have some meaning.

It is very surprising to see the Congress abdicate its constitutional power to act in the affirmative in the matter of public lands and to just assume the veto power intended to be in the administration. Surely, if Congress is to represent the people of this country, it should exercise its constitutional authority to do so.

We hope that your committee will give serious consideration in regard to the need for a law which moves the rights and interests of the people who live where wildernesses exist further away from them just to satisfy the demands of a small minority who must feel they cannot trust present administration by existing agencies or the Congress of the United States to protect and provide sufficient natural wilderness for their enjoyment and pleasure.

Sincerely,

RALPH MIRACLE, *Secretary.*

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STATEMENT OF HOWARD BJELLAND, REPRESENTING MONTROSE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

My name is Howard Bjelland. My address is Montrose, Colo. I am a past president and present board member of the Montrose County Chamber of Commerce, and I appear here today as a representative of this organization. There are about 250 to 300 members in the Montrose Chamber, representing over 95 percent of the businesses in this area.

We are opposed to the wilderness bill in its present form. It is only fair to state that our opposition is based on simple economic self-interest. Montrose is a retail and service center for a trade area extending perhaps 75 to 90 miles to the east, 75 miles to the south, 150 miles to the west, and to the north until we impinge on the trade area of our neighboring city, Delta, which is located approximately 20 miles away. We serve the agricultural, timbering, and mining industries in this area. We rely upon such enterprises for our very existence. Occasionally, we have been accused of failing to recognize this simple fact, because of perhaps misplaced emphasis on the importance of tourist business. Let it be said now, for the record, that the city of Montrose is completely and totally dependent for its economic existence on the farmers, ranchers, livestock people, lumbermen, and miners utilizing the services and facilities of the city. The businessmen of Montrose are certainly aware of this fact.

Our economy is precarious. The effective buying income per capita in Montrose County in the year of 1960 was less than $1,500 as compared to a national average of almost $1,900 (1960 issue of Sales Management). The only States

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in the country with a lower effective buying income per capita than that of Montrose County are found in the Deep South. If Montrose County were located in a thriving industrial State, we would probably be designated as a distressed area, and unlimited amounts of Federal funds would be made available for our rehabilitation. This, however, we can do without. We have gotten along in the past, and will continue to do so in the future. The per capita income feature is mentioned only to emphasize that a further decrease in per capita income, which might be considered slight in other areas, could be of major importance in this area, and could have a drastic effect on our economy.

The committee may well be curious as to why we feel the economic interests of our city will be adversely affected by the wilderness bill. At the present moment, a total of almost 600,000 acres of land in Colorado has been designated as "primitive," as the word is used in the wilderness bill. Over 400,000 acres of such land are either within or on the fringe of the Montrose trade area. I refer to the following named primitive areas: LaGarita-Sheep Mountain, San Juan, Uncompahgre, Upper Rio Grande, and Wilson Mountains. A total of almost 800,000 acres of land in the State of Colorado is affected by the wilderness bill—a small percentage of the public lands in the State—but over 50 percent of this total is in this general area. Under present law, multiple use of the 400,000 acres of "primitive" land has been permitted. With the passage of the wilderness bill in its present form, use of this land for lumbering and mining purposes will cease immediately. Technically, use of this land for grazing purposes will be permitted to continue. In actual practice, it is our opinion that within a short period of time after the passage of the act, it is quite likely that special grazing regulations will be promulgated by the administrative agencies having jurisdiction which will effectively curtail such grazing rights and eventually eliminate them completely. If sufficient political pressures can be brought on Congress to obtain the passage of the act, it would certainly seem that the focusing of such pressures on an administrative official thereafter would insure the elimination of grazing rights. It is the opinion of the chamber of commerce that the passage of the wilderness bill in its present form will be detrimental to the interests of livestockmen, miners, and lumbermen, in this area, and therefore, detrimental to the general economy of Montrose.

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CASPER, WYO., *October 31, 1961.*

GEORGE REITEMEIER,
*Montrose, Colo.:*

Since Wyoming is a State of great prominence from standpoint of public lands and natural resources, these are very good reasons to underscore desirability of a hearing of the Public Lands Subcommittee in Wyoming on the wilderness bill similar to hearing being held at Montrose and in other areas.

MOBILE OIL CO.,
J. R. PUCKETT.

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NAVAJO TRAIL ASSOCIATION,
*Walsenburg, Colo., October 28, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee of House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: We who are decidedly against wilderness, especially as it stands, and there is information as to largess and evil in the assumption that anything the Secretary of Interior wishes to pick up in kinds of land and the bill as it stands in the House, going from the Senate, with no reference back to the Congress when taking land as to its acceptance, as indicated in the amendments by Senator Allott, is an evil situation.

Western and Southwestern States do not wish for added Federal lands. The national parks and forest reserves have wise use and justice but are sufficient without foray upon any kind of land that might be siezed without adequate sponsorship.

The least that could save the situation, as many good citizens and associations soberly think, is that final action in the Congress show the public, and especially those of the West, that a stop has been made against willful assault on increased Federal lands and a raid on what seems the growing overintent to take back the land and areas that might affect economy and commonsense judgment if left alone.

Organizations like Colorado Water Congress, Colorado State Chamber of Commerce, associations like this one, chambers of commerce and service clubs and the forestry association itself have stirred the thought of this West contra to heedless, thoughtless, and idle clamor of certain classes that should fail, in final congressional action. Enough damage has been done already and by the Senate's rejection of honest amendment and fear as to what might well find refuge in the House without protest and appeal. Organizations like the Mountain States Association and those mentioned above should not be subjected to a whim or unfinished thought and action as the time approaches for an evil to be accomplished.

Respectfully submitted.

RALPH H. FAXON, *Secretary.*

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STATEMENT OF NATIONAL RECLAMATION ASSOCIATION

Whereas there is widespread desire for the creation, within the public domain, of wilderness areas; and

Whereas some proponents of "wilderness" legislation advocate an immediate wholesale legislative commitment of vast areas to a state of backwardness, devoid of protection against disease, fire, vandalism or criminal activity because of an enforced inaccessibility which would render such areas unavailable and unsuitable for recreational uses by the average American family and useful only for that restricted minority whose gratification requires vast areas of untended primeval domain; and

Whereas unwise creation of wilderness areas is contrary to principles of true conservation which are dedicated to the goal of administering the public domain so as to create conditions which will produce a sustained yield of products and services (including recreation) for the greatest good of the greatest number: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That:

(1) In every case where the public domain is capable of a variety of consistent uses, it should be made available for all such uses.

(2) Where potential uses are inconsistent, those most essential should have preference over those less essential.

(3) The following order of preference should prevail:

(*a*) National defense and uses in support thereof.

(*b*) Production of the necessities of life, especially food, fiber, timber, minerals, power, and the means of transportation and communication.

(*c*) Recreation for all.

(*d*) Specialized recreation for the few.

Constant recognition should be given to the fact that protection, preservation, and development of the available water supply is essential to every use of the public domain and is, therefore, primary and of first importance.

(4) Protection of the wise principle of multiple use of the public domain from the pressure of those who seek only the limited wilderness use requires the adoption of legislation establishing the principle that wilderness areas may be created only by act of Congress after adequate investigation and affirmative recommendation by appropriate Federal agencies, together with an adequate opportunity for comment by affected States and local agencies.

The above resolution was passed at the fall meeting, October 1961, of the National Reclamation Association at Billings, Mont.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 53D ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL SKI ASSOCIATION HELD IN WASHINGTON, D.C., MAY 26–28, 1961

We propose action to insure that the potential ski areas are available for development when they are required, be it 10 years or a hundred years. Therefore, we recommend that the association pass a resolution commending the U.S. Forest Service for its multiple-use management of the national forest and opposing transfer of Forest Service lands to other public agencies if there are recreational values of these lands. We also recommend a resolution opposing action on the wilderness bill, S. 174, until study has been made by the Outdoor Recreational Resources Review Commission.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN SKI ASSOCIATION HELD AT GREAT FALLS, MONT., OCTOBER 7–8, 1961

RESOLUTION

Whereas skiing is becoming the fastest growing sport in the United States; and

Whereas the potential ski areas are being jeopardized for future development; and

Whereas the report of the Outdoor Recreational Resources Review Commission has not been made to Congress: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That—

1. The Northern Rocky Mountain Ski Association is unalterably opposed to Senate bill 174 in its present form.
2. That Congress defer action on Senate bill 174 until the report of the Outdoor Recreational Resources Review Commission is in the hands of Congress.
3. That the 9 million skiers of the United States be given consideration in this coming legislature.

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LAKEWOOD, COLO., *November 1, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Land Subcommittee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.:*

I consider wilderness as being a natural resource. The land area involved in Colorado is very small. Once thriving towns in remote areas are present-day ghost towns. The mineral and timber resource having been depleted. Some remain only because of outdoor recreation. In my opinion the Forest Service has not been able to stop the use of motorized vehicles from making new roads and trails into once roadless areas with the aid of the wilderness bill the Forest Service would be able to control such unauthorized travel.

Kindly insert in the record.

CHARLES H. NELSON.

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STATEMENT OF DOUGLAS E. NELSON ON BEHALF OF THE INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

My name is Douglas E. Nelson. I am employed as division exploration manager for the Rocky Mountain area by the Argo Oil Corp., in Denver, Colo. I am also a member of the Public Lands Committee of the Independent Petroleum Association of America, and am appearing here on behalf of the association.

The Independent Petroleum Association of America is a national trade association of independent producers of crude oil and natural gas, including land and royalty owners. The principal interest of the members of the association is in the domestic production of oil and gas. Every oil-producing area of the Nation is represented in the association membership.

The wilderness bill, as passed by the Senate, does not adequately recognize the congressional policy of multiple-use development of the public lands. Experience has shown that operations of the oil industry, as well as activities of other industries operating on public lands, with proper Government regulations, do not conflict with recreational, wildlife, or other multiple-use purposes. We can carry on exploration and production operations without in any way destroying the wilderness aspect of any wilderness-type area. We cannot believe that the provisions for exceptions to the ban on development in these areas have any value. Because of the restrictions on obtaining this information initially, it would be almost impossible to develop the facts necessary to secure Presidential permission to carry on nonwilderness activities.

The Senate bill, in its present form, fails to provide for a determination of the value of the natural resources of a proposed wilderness area. It seems only logical to evaluate any proposed withdrawal before putting it into a system in which the lands could lie fallow permanently.

Many of the questions on wilderness which have gone unanswered up to now should, hopefully, be answered to everyone's satisfaction when the report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission is completed. If Congress will evaluate the report before passing a wilderness bill, the 3 years, and $2½ million expended for this review will have been a better investment than if final action is taken prior to receipt of this study, which is due this year.

Finally, the present version of S. 174 fails to provide for a concurrent resolution by the Congress favoring any recommendation of the President for inclusion of lands into the wilderness system.

In summary, our association is opposed to the bill in its present form. In the event legislation is passed, we strongly urge that any wilderness legislation contain provisions for—

1. A continuation of the multiple-use concept, as established by Congress.
2. Provision for a resources review or inventory before withdrawal.
3. Provision for affirmative action by Congress on any recommended withdrawal of lands into a wilderness system.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our views on this proposed legislation.

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NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION, INC.,
*Albuquerque, N. Mex., October 24, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: In regard to the wilderness bill, S. 174, I strongly urge getting this out of committee and getting it on the floor for a vote by Congress as soon as possible.

As you no doubt know, we have been about 6 years trying to get this bill this far in the Senate, so I certainly hope that you, as a public spirited citizen, will help to get it out of the committee as soon as Congress reconvenes. Any help you can give will certainly be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

DOC H. BURNETT.

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INDIANA, PA., *October 18, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: I understand that there will be hearings held on the wilderness preservation bill No. S. 174 in the near future.

I would like to express my objection to this bill, as I feel if passed it would tend to destroy much of the wilderness area in the West, and I feel that this area should be preserved as it now is, and I feel that I speak for all outdoors people in that it would tend to destroy the existing reservations for wildlife. I have made several trips hunting in the Rockies and have some knowledge of the present existing conditions.

Any consideration given this letter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

J. K. NICELY.

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ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX., *October 30, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: The New Mexico State AFL–CIO and all its affiliated organizations wish to go on record as being in favor of passage of S. 174, the wilderness area preservation bill, and strongly endorse the remarks of Elliott Barker, executive secretary, New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association in regard to said bill S. 174.

We humbly ask your support of said measure.

Respectfully yours,

TOM ROBLES,
*Executive Secretary and Treasurer, New Mexico AFL–CIO.*

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SANTA FE, N. MEX., *October 30, 1961.*

INTERIOR INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE,
*Montrose, Colo.:*

New Mexico State Game Commission meeting today unanimously supports wilderness bill. Best wishes for success.

FRANK C. HIBBEN,
*Chairman, New Mexico State Game Commission.*

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LOS ALAMOS LION'S CLUB,
*Los Alamos, N. Mex., October 25, 1961.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: The Los Alamos Lion's Club wishes to go on record in favor of the provisions of S. 174. The preservation of wilderness areas for future generations is a sacred trust which should be carried out by those of us with the courage to think of others. Yet there are currently pressure groups trying to do away with this possibility for gain in the form of cut timber or mined ore or the establishment of commercial enterprises of one sort or another. Wildlife species have entirely disappeared from this continent during our lifetime and it would seem that this example will stand us in good stead if strenuous efforts are made to see that the provisions of S. 174 are supported in good faith and forever.

Thank you for your interest.

CLIFFORD E. NILSSON, *Secretary.*

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NOBLE'S ANGUS RANCH,
*Cora, Wyo., October 25, 1961.*

*To the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs:*

I am a rancher from Cora, Wyo. I raise cattle and sheep and I am interested in conservation matters. I would like my statement made part of the record on the wilderness hearings now being conducted by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

There has already been extensive hearings conducted by the Senate on wilderness legislation. The result has been a weak and watered-down wilderness bill. Special interest groups will continue to seek further weakening amendments.

I support passage of S. 174. It is a very fair bill, recognizing all interests, including grazing, mining, etc.

Very truly yours,

CARROLL R. NOBLE.

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STATEMENT OF L. O. NOSSAMAN, GREAT BEND, KANS., VICE PRESIDENT, KANSAS ASSOCIATION FOR WILDLIFE, INC.

I am L. O. Nossaman, Great Bend, Kans., vice president of the Kansas Association for Wildlife, Inc. My association sent me here to hear these people testify at this hearing at Montrose, Colo., to learn why these people oppose this bill, S. 174. After hearing this testimony, the following is my statement for the consideration of this committee:

The cattlemen attack all control of public land and openly brag they have the money to defeat any Congressman in their district who does not obey their orders and wishes and stated so in oral testimony. They want Congress to control wilderness area so they may nibble away at it as they wish. They do not care for the future, only want to get all the profit in their pockets now.

The miners wished no regulation to prevent them from exploring with heavy equipment regardless of damage to public property. They considered it their right to enter even if they do not own the land. One miner testified orally that he just ignored the Forest Service orders and plowed up the forest, felled trees, and did as he wished under present regulations because he had enough influence that no forester dared interfere. He did not want Federal law to hinder his operation.

Sawmill and lumber operators want no lines that they cannot cross or restrictions on roadbuilding or lumber operations. They wish Congress to control because they can influence election of Congressmen.

The Colorado Water Board wants to be able to grab all water from high elevations to keep in Colorado to raise more crops despite the fact we have more feed grains now than we know what to do with.

The chamber of commerce at Aspen wants unrestricted mining in their area because they think the wilderness is rich in iron ore. They do not consider that this beautiful town grew from tourist business which is good from now on for centuries if the wilderness is protected, or that mining destroys forests and only lasts until ore runs out.

Of all these people who testified not one gave the tourist credit for any of the prosperity of Colorado. Not one considered that if these forests are depleted the next 100 years as fast as the last 50 years there will be no tourist trade. I know of destruction of the past, for 40 years ago I trapped in forests here where there is now only barren rock hills.

I know not what the dollar-take in Colorado is from the tourist, but I do know that I, a poor man who works for a living, spent $125 in 5 days this trip to Montrose. I saved every way I could, so the traveler leaves no small sum with the local people even though the cattlemen and miners seem to be the king of the walk here. They make their money from the land we the public own and would willingly destroy the beauty of the forests that we come to enjoy.

These cattlemen and miners said repeatedly in their testimony that no one was rugged enough to go on foot to see these forests so they must be permitted to open them up so people could ride in. If opened as they wish and civilization moved in, there will be no forest as everyone who is familiar with the past knows.

As to the fallacy that no one is tough enough to walk in, consider me for an example. I came here to hear this testimony and arrived 1 day ahead of time so I could enjoy a small portion of this land of which I own a small interest. I stayed all day Tuesday, October 31, the day before the hearing, in the Black Canyon Monument. Driving to the end of the road I walked several miles beyond and descended about 2,400 feet down to the bottom of the canyon and back up without any assistance and I am going on 60 years of age. If a man of my age can do this, surely many, many younger people can enjoy the wilderness where it is not so rugged as this Black Canyon of the Gunnison. This trip down the side of this canyon by me was not in the most favorable weather as there was about 3 inches of snow at the top.

The only logical opinion that anyone who wishes to retain some of our forests for the future would have after hearing these people testify, is to pass S. 174 as written and leave control in the power of the President so local exploiters cannot erode wilderness areas away piecemeal.

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ORGANIC GARDENING CLUB OF DENVER,
*Denver, Colo., October 26, 1961.*

A PETITION FOR A NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM KNOWN AS THE WILDERNESS ACT (S. 174)

A. The Wilderness Act does not transfer lands from one jurisdiction to another. National forest lands remain under the Forest Service. Refuges and ranges stay with the Fish and Wildlife Service.

B. It does not interfere with the purposes these lands now serve. It simply provides that these purposes shall be realized in such a way that these particular lands will remain wilderness. (This is a central feature of the act's proposal. It is repeated here for emphasis.)

C. It does not create any new agency.

D. It does not "blanket in" the areas to comprise the wilderness system. Only 6,773,080 acres in 44 areas of national forest lands that already have been carefully studied and subjected to public notice and the hearing process, are established in the system by this bill on a permanent basis. All other national forest areas and all the areas in wildlife refuges and ranges and in the national park system are subject to further study in 10-year review programs.

E. It does not surrender the congressional prerogative of saying what shall be done with our Federal lands. Congress by the act (in sec. 3) designates the lands from which the areas of the wilderness system are to be determined. Section 3(h) says that the addition of any other area not specifically provided for in this act shall be made only by another act of Congress.

F. It does not damage any lumber enterprise. No area now subject to timber cutting is included.

G. It does not interfere with livestock grazing. A special provision provides for the continuation of grazing wherever it is now established.

H. It does not close areas to miners. The national forest areas now open to mining that are included will still be subject to prospecting and may be opened to mining if the President determines that this is in the public interest.

I. It does not "lock up" without making sure that for every lock there is also a key. See especially section 6(c) (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8).

*Wayne Aspinall, Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, and Members:*

We (I) the undersigned, feel there has been too much misrepresentation by the opposition to S. 174 and too little understanding by the public. Since the present

 SRP03501

bill, S. 174, fills the demands of the opposition and yet is progress for conservationists, we (I) urge the hearing to recommend to committee to promptly and favorably report out S. 174 so Congress can vote on it in the January 1962 session of Congress.

ROBERT BOSTON.
BERNICE LANG.
RICHARD BROOK.
FREDA WARD.

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OTERO COUNTY WILD LIFE ASSOCIATION,
*Alamagordo, N. Mex., October 22, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: The board of directors of the Otero County Wildlife Association is strongly in favor of Senate bill 174, the wilderness preservation bill.

We feel that these great United States with their wealth of natural resources and beauty are undergoing a developmental change. Unless legislation is passed to prevent it, there will soon be no undeveloped land in our country where one can see and feel nature as it was, and we feel should remain forever. Our forests have been traversed with roads, transmission lines, and airlanes. Our prairies have felt the plow and post-hole digger. Scarcely is there a corner left where one may see only natural beauty unscarred by man.

We strongly urge that legislation be passed to preserve for future generations some part of our vast country in the natural state which has existed since the trees grew and the birds first sang.

We are a young nation with high goals. Must one of them be the absolute destruction of all our natural wilderness?

Wouldn't it be far better to go back and redevelop and reclaim some of the land that has been abused in the past and discarded, than to advance into our remaining few acres of true wilderness?

Wouldn't it be a finer legacy for future generations?

Wouldn't you appreciate this legislation if you were reborn 200 years hence?

Yours for conservation,

MAURICE NEWSOME,
*Secretary-Treasurer.*

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CASPER, WYO., *October 31, 1961.*

GEORGE REITEMEIER,
*Care Western Union, Montrose, Colo.:*

The effect of S. 174 upon the State of Wyoming will be as serious as its effect upon any other State. The multiple-use principle should be adequately protected in any legislation. We believe that no action should be taken upon this bill until after a committee hearing has been had in Wyoming and its citizens given an opportunity to express their views.

C. L. LARSON, Jr.,
*Vice President, Pan American Petroleum Corp.*

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NOVEMBER 1, 1961.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST.

DEAR GRACIE: The three P's of progress—pavements, pesticides, and pollution—will transmute man into a hothouse, goldfish bowl, zoo-cage creature with far lessoned capacity for his own enjoyment. Is this progress?

Put me on record please as in favor of the bill for wilderness (S. 174).

Sincerely,

GERALDINE PEINTNER.

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STATEMENT OF KEITH PFEIFFER, POSTMASTER, REDLANDS MESA GRANGE NO. 487, HOTCHKISS, COLO.

We of the Redlands Mesa Grange No. 487, Hotchkiss, Colo., are in accord with the Colorado State Grange in opposing the wilderness bill (S. 174).

1. No area should be created as a wilderness area without a specific act of Congress. To set aside a possible 54 million acres of public lands by authority

of administrators not answerable to the people of the United States is contrary to the Constitution which provides Congress with this power.

2. This bill should require the independent views of other affected agencies of the Federal Government on proposals to establish areas.

3. The amendment to S. 174 (sec. 9) for Alaska should be broadened to include all the States. This provides for a State commission to investigate and advise Federal agencies as to how federally owned land within the State can best be utilized, developed, protected, and preserved.

4. Without the above provisions, this bill is a threat to utilization of resources on public lands for water storage. In our part of the country, water is life. Because of population growth, more and more water is needed every day in towns and cities just for family use, not to mention water for irrigation, industry, and power. Future water development is essential to the growth and progress of the State of Colorado and the entire West. There are many small reservoirs now located on public lands. If these areas are set aside as wilderness, with no roads, how will these be maintained? There is a pipeline across Grand Mesa carrying natural gas to several towns. Without roads, how will this be maintained? The bill does not say that this area will become a wilderness, but neither does it say that it cannot. This bill is also a threat to development of timber, mining, and grazing which are and have been a part of the economy of the West. We are not opposed to proper grazing management, and feel the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are doing an adequate job. Grazing on public lands is not free as some are led to believe. Stockmen pay for this privilege. Also, controlled grazing is a safeguard against forest fires.

To risk the future use of any resources on public lands with only an appeal to the President, which is time consuming and costly, as the only safeguard, is dangerous to the future economy of the West and is certainly not in the public interest.

5. Setting aside lands as wilderness without roads, campsites, etc., is not in the interest of the average American who cannot afford to hire guides and pack into such areas. Only a chosen few could really benefit from areas as such and we feel there are adequate areas in the United States for the people who prefer to travel by horseback or on foot. Proper and controlled utilization of resourses would benefit a great many more people.

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### Statement of George Reitemeier, Manager for the Casper Chamber of Commerce

I am George Reitemeier, manager of the Casper, Wyo., Chamber of Commerce, which in many respects serves as a State chamber of commerce, since we have no statewide organization. Our membership of over 1,000 includes a cross section of the businesses and industries in Wyoming that will be affected by any wilderness legislation. Casper is the second largest city in the State, located near the center of the State, and its economy is affected by any measure which affects our State. It is the consensus of the Casper Chamber of Commerce that S. 174, the wilderness bill in its present form will have a serious and detrimental effect upon the economy of the State of Wyoming and the welfare of its citizens.

During the time that our predecessors were carving a great Nation out of the wilderness, the policy of the Federal Government with respect to the public domain was one which was designed to place the lands in the hands of those citizens ready, willing, and able to develop them, and ready also to assume all of the obligations of citizenship and of the ownership of the lands. This policy helped make our Nation great. Unfortunately for Wyoming, its location, its climate, and a failure on the part of the rest of the country to understand the problems that these first two handicaps posed, have combined to prevent the State of Wyoming from achieving economic maturity before the apparent policy of the Federal Government was changed.

The reason usually given for this changed policy is aptly expressed in the preamble to S. 174, "To establish a National Wilderness Preservation System for the permanent good of the whole people, and for other purposes." These are high sounding words, but the legislation and regulations with which the Federal Government in recent years has sought to accomplish this noble purpose have put into effect an apparent policy which cannot fairly be called anything but colonialism. By colonialism, we mean the exploitation of the resources of

an area, and of the labor of its citizens, not primarily for the benefit of those citizens, but for the benefit of absentee landlords, and remote and often unsympathetic rulers. The absentee landlords in this case are the citizens of those States fortunate enough to have achieved maturity before this change took effect. The remote ruler is the Federal Government, not King George III, but the effect is about the same.

As a result of this policy, 47.9 percent of Wyoming's land area is still owned by the Federal Government. Instead of encouraging private or State ownership and development of these lands, the present policy is one of increasingly restricting the possibility of such development. S. 174 is only the most recent of a long list of legislative measures and Federal regulations designed to restrict the rights of the individual States and their citizens to use and develop the lands within their borders. You can argue at length as to what its actual effect will be. No one can be sure what it will be. We are simply opposed to the principles which this legislation puts into effect.

Wyoming's economy depends upon proper utilization of its natural resources. In spite of the handicaps of geographical location, climate and colonialism, the citizens of our State have shown that on the same lands it is possible to utilize the mineral resources under the lands, the resources of its soil, grass, and timber, and the fish, wild game, and scenic beauty, all at the same time, harmoniously, without material interference by any one use with any of the others. In fact, one use often materially benefits other uses. To give just one example, the miner's road may be used by the rancher, may assist in protecting the range or the forest from fires, and at the same time make possible better fishing, hunting, or other recreational use of the area through which it passes.

We who live in Wyoming are proud of our State. We have not, and do not intend to waste its resources, nor destroy its natural beauty. We think we who live here are better able to decide how our resources shall be used and our beauty enjoyed. We consider that S. 174 is being unfairly imposed upon us by citizens of other States, most of whom seem to have acquired all their information about Wyoming and the West from TV westerns. We resent being held in colonial status. We believe that the present laws adequately accomplish the purpose given for S. 174. We believe S. 174 in its present form will defeat its declared purpose. If any change in the present laws is to be made, that change should be one which gives each State, and its citizens, the final voice in making the decision as to how the lands and resources within its borders shall be used and preserved. This is the policy that helped make our Nation great. We should return to it before it is too late. We must return to it if Wyoming and other States with similar problems are ever to achieve the fact of statehood and not just the empty form.

This matter is of such importance to the State of Wyoming that we respectfully request this committee to hold hearings on this bill in our State before it takes any action on the bill itself. Many of our citizens who are affected by this legislation simply could not be present either at this hearing, or at the hearing in McCall, Idaho.

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CORVALLIS, OREG., *November 11, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*House of Representatives,*
*Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR GRACIE PFOST: Although this letter is late for the October 30, 1961, meeting on the wilderness bill, I hope it is not too late to voice my approval for the bill. I have recently come to Oregon from California, where I followed the Point Reyes National Park proposal with great interest, which I also favor. It is evident in California that land is becoming a commodity of extreme value. With the ever-increasing bludge of tract homes and people, less and less land is left to nature and its natural condition of beauty. To get off the cement is always a pleasure. To see greenery instead of white slabs, modern architecture, and tension-ridden people, is a comfort. Man has yet to match the beauty of nature. Therefore man should preserve such beauty while he still has an opportunity. Yet there is still a marked difference between the preservation of this beauty and the aims involved. Comparing Yosemite National Park to Kings Canyon National Park, there is a difference in the way the wilderness has been protected. To me the Kings Canyon area is much more desirable. Whenever man changes an environment (or nature) he changes it in such a way that best suits his needs or interests. This applies to the commercial

interests who oppose the wilderness bill. Obviously there is a conflict between what man should do and what nature can do. Man exploits nature and man has the ability to adjust to nature. But nature has yet to adjust to man. Preserve nature while we can.

Sincerely yours,

R. WARD RENSHAW.

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SANTA FE, N. MEX., *October 28, 1961.*

CHAIRMAN, INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE,
*Montrose, Colo.*

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I wish to submit this for the record in favor of wilderness preservation and S. 174 upon which you are holding hearings.

I use a wilderness area a great deal and have done so for many years. I am not well to do financially. I am a trained nurse and make my living nursing. But I make enough so I can make trips into the wilderness. In fact, that is the cheapest vacation I can take.

I have five grandchildren from 6 years old to 18. Since they were little tots I have been taking them on horseback trips into the wilderness areas near here. Five or six years old is time to start with them.

It is not only my great pleasure to take these children on wilderness trips but they are simply crazy about going. It is the best training I know of for youngsters. Kids that do that sort of thing do not get into trouble. I wish more young folks could have the wilderness experience that my grandchildren and I have each summer—not once but many times.

We must save our wilderness areas. They are priceless. Once destroyed they can never be re-created. Let's act now before it is too late.

I most urgently and respectfully urge you and the committee to act favorably on S. 174 and get it passed as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

ROSE ROBERTS.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 31, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: Although I couldn't take off from work to attend the public hearing on the wilderness bill in Montrose on November 1, I would like to go on record as favoring the bill.

Would you please make it a matter of the record of the hearing that this one citizen of the State of Colorado, at least, is in favor of the wilderness bill.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

ELSA ROCKELEIN.

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION,
*Casper, Wyo., November 16, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: At its meeting on October 20, 1961, the executive committee of the Rocky Mountain Oil & Gas Association adopted the following resolution setting forth the position of the association on the proposed wilderness legislation:

"*Be it resolved by the executive committee of the Rocky Montain Oil & Gas Association that:*

"1. The association oppose those provisions of the wilderness bill which depart from the policy of multiple use of the lands and the incorporation of approximately 54 million acres of lands into the wilderness system without proper evaluation and approval of the Congress, and

"2. The association make known its opposition to said provisions by its officers and representatives and others testifying against said provisions at committee hearings and other places and by any and all other appropriate means."

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT B. LAUGHLIN.

 RP03505

DENVER, COLO., *October 31, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: In regard to the wilderness bill I wish to make known my sincere support for this bill. I will not be able to make it to the meeting at Montrose, Colo., to personally seek its support. I feel this is a most important issue and the preservation of the wilderness in Colorado and other Western States is in danger of being lost through the efforts of organized parties who are only concerned with personal achievement and gain, with no respect to the future of our Nation.

I would like to request that my letter become incorporated into the record of the hearing.

This bill seems to be extremely fair in all regards and has been worked over carefully to provide every feature possible for all concerned.

Sincerely,

ARDIS ROHWER.

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DURANGO, COLO., *October 25, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIRS: The subcommittee of the Committees on Agriculture and Legislation for the San Juan Basin Granges wishes to go on record as opposing the wilderness bill as it now appears in the Senate bill 174. We think that the public lands are being better administrated under the present laws.

WALTER W. JEFFERIES,
*Chairman.*
ROBERT BARR.
RAYMOND JONES.

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SAN JUAN WILDLIFE FEDERATION,
*Farmington, N. Mex., October 25, 1961.*

HON. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: The San Juan Wildlife Federation is unanimously in favor of S. 174 and hope that the members see the wisdom of such a bill.

If you sincerely want to use the national forest land for multiple use, reserving the wilderness areas would fall into that category, for the plan includes many uses, both now and future.

We emphatically agree that the authority of administering these last frontiers of America should belong to the Congress and the President. Lets save some of our resources for that rainy day.

The President and Senate have showed you the way. Please do not fail the people.

Sincerely,

LOIS FRIEL, *Secretary.*

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SANTA FE ARCHERY CLUB.

Re S. 174 hearings.

HON. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House of Representatives,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: This statement is made on behalf of the Santa Fe Chapter of the New Mexico Archers' Association, which most strongly endorses the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174. We urge you and your committee to take speedy favorable action on this bill. The impressive vote of 78 to 8 by which it passed the Senate is certainly indicative of its soundness and popularity throughout the country.

We feel that it is entirely reasonable to set aside an adequate wilderness system in the national forests. Certainly 8 percent of the national forest area is not at all unreasonable. Commercial interests have the other 92 percent available to commercialize under Forest Service regulations. Why should they be so selfish as to want it all?

Wilderness areas provide archers ideal areas for their hunting activities with primitive weapons in primeval settings found nowhere else. But that is not the

principal reason for endorsing wilderness preservation and S. 174. We archers are conservationists and feel strongly that wilderness is one of the multiple uses of the national forests which should be recognized.

The wilderness bill does not interfere with livestock grazing and there is no valid reason why the livestock industry should oppose it. Provision is made for water storage reservoirs with access roads, etc., for prospecting and mining and other operations where the President shall determine such uses will be more advantageous to the public interest than would its denial. Why should anyone want to commercialize wilderness areas under any other conditions?

Water is the most valuable product of the wilderness areas, and wilderness preservation provides the optimum watershed protection. It also provides a badly needed, distinct kind of recreation to escape the stress and tension of modern civilization and restore one's soul and refresh one's body and mind in God-given pristine environments. The preservation of a system of wilderness areas is imperative for the good of present and future generations. We respectfully urge you and your committee to act promptly and favorably on S. 174.

HARVEY MAY, *President.*

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SANTA FE WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION,
*Santa Fe, N. Mex., October 27, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

MY DEAR MR. ASPINALL: We have given subject S. 174, Wilderness Act, thoughtful and careful consideration. In a regular meeting assembled we voted overwhelmingly to support S. 174 as passed by the Senate.

We are reasonably well informed on the views, statements, and stand taken by many prominent individuals and organizations for and against S. 174. We support the multiple use of land policy presently being practiced, also the provision of withdrawal or addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System. We suggest that possibly individuals who have not personally experienced the pleasure and value of wilderness museums, and who are opposed to such museums, may have been misinformed as to the growing use of such museums by ever-increasing numbers of people. A rehash of extreme pros and cons in this letter would serve no useful purpose, it will undoubtedly be done by others, so suffice to say we suggest an expeditious "do pass" recommendation from this honorable committee.

Very truly yours,

CLARENCE VIA, *President.*

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WEST COAST LIFE INSURANCE CO.,
*San Francisco, Calif., October 18, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

MY DEAR SIR: As a member of the Sierra Club, and also a participant in many of the trail rides sponsored by the American Forestry Association, it will be easy to understand my reasons for the support of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174. It is vital to the interests of the people of the United States that our wilderness areas be preserved while they are intact. After the comforts of civilization have entered into such a region, its wilderness aspect is gone forever.

With the pressure of civilization becoming more and more severe, one needs the retreat to a wilderness in order to maintain a balanced way of life.

A visit to a wilderness is not financially beyond the means of the average person. The price compares favorably with that of any kind of a vacation, otherwise I, myself, would not have become such an ardent trial rider, because I am only a middle-class working girl.

So I hereby register my support of wilderness bill, S. 174. Your assistance in the passage of this bill will be appreciated by all trail riders.

Respectfully yours,

JESSIE SAUNDERS.

SRP03507


LAS VEGAS, N. MEX., *November 17, 1961.*

Re S. 174, wilderness preservation bill hearings.

Chairman WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: Our organization has been in existence for over 40 years in this area and was incorporated on April 25, 1941. We are approximately 85 strong at this time in membership and consider that we represent truly the hunting and fishing and conservation interests of the majority of the citizens in this area.

We also shake hands daily with many ranchers and sawmill operators and the employees of each. We find no one in this area who is interested in the exploitation of our last earthly frontier, the wilderness, for private purposes. We do not know if the deliberations of your committee are more affected by the prestige of private interests or by the sheer numbers of common people (the public) on this subject. One of our members expressed it very nicely when he said: "It is just good horsesense for the Government to preserve as much of what Mother Nature gave us as is possible." His speech was neither long nor eloquent but he did express the sentiments of the 14,000 people living in and dependent upon resources in this area.

We are confident that this bill will finally become law and will feel extremely disappointed and let down if it does not pass. We do not hear the points which the opponents to the bill make in this area because there are none here.

Yours very truly,

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY GPA,
R. C. MOORE, *Secretary.*

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DENVER, COLO., *October 27, 1961.*

Hon. GRACY PFOST,
*Chairman of the Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR MRS. PFOST: For your forthcoming hearing on the wilderness bill in Montrose, Colo., I as a member of the Colorado Mountain Club would like to inform you that I am wholeheartedly for the enactment of the wilderness bill and would appreciate your having this letter incorporated into the records of the hearing.

We appreciate your supporting of the bill and wish you every success for its enactment.

Very sincerely yours,

ERIKA H. SCHRAMM.

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MONTROSE, COLO., *October 26, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Grand Junction, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: The supervisors of the Shavano, Uncompahgre, and Cimarron Soil Conservation Districts met on the evening of October 20 to discuss the wilderness bill.

At this meeting they unanimously endorsed the resolution passed at the annual meeting of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts in January 1961, which is:

"The National Association of Soil Conservation Districts, in view of the rapidly expanding population of the Nation, recognizes the need for allocating additional areas of public lands to parks, defense, recreational, wilderness, and other noncommercial purposes. At the same time, we take the position that each and every allocation of public land to such specialized single-purpose use be made only after thorough study and justification; that any allocation of public lands transferred from multiple to restricted use be made only after a complete inventory of all the resources of the area involved (which sets forth their essential uses); that these uses be cataloged in accordance with the present and potential needs; and, further, that we oppose vigorously all indiscriminate, unselective, and excessive allocations beyond the demonstrated, justified needs for the purposes indicated. Moreover, we strongly urge adequate provision for access roads, fire protection, watershed protection, and water production on all lands retired from multiple to restricted use."

Yours very truly,

SHAVANO, UNCOMPAHGRE, AND CIMARRON SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS,
W. T. ANDERSON, *Acting Secretary.*

NOVEMBER 1, 1961.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN PFOST: Please put me down as in favor of the wilderness bill (S. 174):

1. So our children can see some land as God made it, not manmade imitations.
2. It does not shut off any timber or grazing land being used or needed.
3. With our increasing populations we need more recreation places.
4. Our fish and wildlife need a free place to live in peace.
5. If it is opened up, the poor folks won't benefit; only the ones who already have plenty.

These are the five main reasons.

Sincerely,

JOANNA SHULTZ.

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OCTOBER 25, 1961.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I wish to urge the passage of the wilderness preservation bill (S. 174) now before the House.

We need a wilderness policy.

Just remember, Mr. Aspinall, once a wilderness is destroyed it is gone, not for your and my lifetime, but for the lifetime of our children's children and then their grandchildren. Surely, this country of ours is large enough, wealthy enough, with natural resources sufficient to set aside a small portion to keep as wilderness for all posterity to use and enjoy.

Respectfully,

CHANCIE L. SNYDER.

P.S.—Please have this statement made a part of the hearing.

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SOCORRO COUNTY WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION,
*Socorro, N. Mex., October 22, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE ASPINALL: It has been brought to our attention that the wilderness bill (S. 174) is up for hearing at Montrose, Colo., in the near future. We wish to make the following part of the record.

Much of the great heritage of this country is based on the vast wilderness of this continent. We believe it is most important that present and future generations of Americans should have the last few acres of wilderness preserved for them by passage of the wilderness bill (S. 174).

If we do not now protect this wonderful resource from destruction, it will be lost forever as it cannot be restored.

We of the Socorro County Wildlife & Conservation Association strongly urge that this legislation be passed without further delay.

Yours very truly,

ALFRED A. COULLOUDON, *Secretary.*

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STATEMENT OF SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

The Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District respectfully submits for the committee's consideration several points which we believe to be of paramount importance in the consideration of any wilderness legislation.

We, of course, are vitally interested in the preservation of our primitive and wild areas of our beloved West for future generations. Perhaps we are more aware of the importance of this viewpoint than our good neighbors in the East because we are privileged to be close enough to these areas to enjoy them personally and to be inspired by their grandeur.

The remote areas near and above timberline are of great value, not only because of recreational potentials, but also because these areas, including all primitive and wild areas, are the great producers of water. Colorado is the rooftop of the Nation. Not only Colorado but many of our sister States depend

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to a large extent on the runoff developed from the melting snows. Good management of these watersheds is vital to the future water supply of the West.

The several agencies now charged with the responsibility for good management are, in our opinion, doing an excellent job of coordinating their efforts. They should be encouraged to continue this effort and, where needed, should have legislation enacted to strengthen their efforts.

We feel that three points should be considered in any legislation for creation of wilderness areas in order to strengthen the position of those who must be responsible for such effort.

1. Certainly, affirmative action by Congress must be the first consideration for any legislation creating such areas. Any other course seems to us to be at least a violation of the spirit of the Constitution.

2. The independent views of the other interested agencies of the Federal Government should be sought before any new wilderness or primitive areas are created.

3. If there is merit in the theory that a State such as Alaska should have the benefit of a land use committee to pass approval upon creation of new wilderness or primitive areas because Alaska is 90 percent federally owned land, then certainly there is justification for the same consideration to be given to other States with 35 to 50 percent federally owned land.

Let us take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the members of the committee who are taking their time to visit our State and to hear the views of the people who reside on the scene of the vast areas. We are humbly aware of our heritage and of our responsibility for its preservation for future generations. We ask only that the wisest approaches be made in determining the best methods to achieve these ends while keeping whole the existing economies of the area.

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STATEMENT OF WILLIAM A. WADLOW, SECRETARY-TREASURER OF SOUTHERN MESA COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, WHITEWATER, COLO., OCTOBER 25, 1961

I represent the Southern Mesa County Cattlemen's Association. We are opposed to the wilderness bill (S. 174) for the following reasons:

1. Setting aside land in Western States for wilderness areas is unnecessary because it would duplicate the park service, except for access roads, and would replace the Forest Service which is doing an excellent job of improvement and preservation, trying to increase production with an eye to the future expanding population. The Forest Service operates under a multiple-use law which would not apply in wilderness areas.

2. Few people would benefit. Last year less than 1 percent of the population used any wilderness areas. This is a privileged few who can afford to buy supplies and have the time to spend for recreation. The ordinary workingman has neither the money nor the time. In this modern day of transportation and diversified recreation, how many people will go if they can afford it?

3. The Forest Service can accomplish the same wilderness effect if they will discontinue roadbuilding in selected areas and control jeep and tote-goat travel.

4. This Wilderness Act would set up another administrative bureau to be supported by the taxpayers and controlled by the pressure groups who are pushing this act.

5. The Wilderness Act as written appears to allow areas to be brought back into production if the need should arise. But an act of Congress or of the President, or both, would be required to get it done. That would be about as feasible as reducing taxes today.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 31, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: As a member of the Colorado Mountain Club who is sincerely interested in the preservation of our natural resources and beauty, I wish my letter to be incorporated into the record of the hearing. I believe the wilderness bill should be supported so that these natural resources and spots of beauty will not be lost to our children and children's children. As long as

our society is to be dominated by an "everyone should get his" philosophy I am afraid that our resources will be endangered unless there is protection on a national scale. I do not believe such protection is undemocratic and many nations abroad have taken steps to preserve historical and natural sites. Considering what one herd of sheep passing through a beautiful alpine meadow can do, and the unsightly rubbish of unscrupulous mining and lumbering operations, of which I am afraid there are some remaining outfits, it would be a major crime to leave the areas unprotected.

Sincerely,

LOUISE B. SPECK
Mrs. Frank S. Speck.

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SPORTSMEN ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO,
*October 25, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: The Sportsmen Association of Southwestern New Mexico an affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association wish to urge favorable action by your committee on the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

This bill will preserve the great wilderness area for our lifetime and future generations for scientific study, recreation, and watersheds protection.

The Sportsmen Association of Southwest New Mexico have a further interest in your favorable action on this wilderness preservation bill, in that one of our charter members, Aldo Leopold, was instrumental in having the Gila wilderness set aside as a wilderness area, and we feel in memory of his great work this bill, S. 174, should be favorably acted upon.

A. L. CONNER, *President.*

P.S.—Please have this statement made a part of the hearing.

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GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLO., *October 11, 1961.*

Representative GRACIE PFOST,
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: Since I will be unable to attend the hearings on the proposed wilderness area legislation to be held at Montrose, Colo., on November 1, I would like to make my thoughts available to you by letter.

First, I should like to refer to the Congressional Record of Friday, September 22, 1961, page A7614, which contains a letter expressing my views in general.

In addition I should like to state that, in my opinion, many of the proponents of this legislation are being misled by speakers and writers who present a Utopia where, if all the manmade structures are kept out, the elements of nature will dwell in harmony. This is not true and can never be true. Wilderness areas can no more be isolated than can the United States from the remainder of the world. Any number of cases can be cited where the creation of large wilderness areas has backfired. One, in your own State, is the large elk herd on the Bitterroot-Selway area. Because of lack of ingress and egress by hunters the herd cannot be properly managed with the result that the winter range has been very badly damaged. Another case is on the White River National Forest in Colorado where, chiefly because of lack of roads, bark beetles grew to epidemic proportions, all of the mature spruce was killed and now forms a serious fire hazard. There should be enough leeway in the management policy of any wilderness area to provide commonsense protection.

I am not opposed to the creation of wilderness areas where sufficient study is made to justify such creation. I am opposed to the creation of wilderness areas under Federal laws which will require amendatory laws to allow any adjustments in the future, no matter how minor they may be. This is what the proposed legislation will do. The proponents of the bill refer to such adjustments as encroachments but I want to say that if the hands of local administrators are tied by a Federal law which will not allow any adjustments, there will be created dire situations causing much damage to the wilderness areas themselves.

The national forests were created under the slogan of "The greatest good to the largest number in the long run." They have been managed for over half a century under the principle of multiple use. I see no reason to change such a

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policy by the enactment of legislation which will designate large areas to be "frozen" to all development or cultural practices.

In my opinion the setting aside of large areas for the use and enjoyment of a very small number of people is not consistent with the slogan "The greatest good * * *." Further I do not think it necessary to have millions of acres of roadless areas to maintain a wilderness aspect. One can get a few miles off the main traveled roads in Yellowstone and be in a wilderness area. And just think of the thousands of people who can enjoy Yellowstone by travel in a car. I hope the House will kill this bill.

Yours very truly,

FRED STELL.

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CHICAGO, ILL., *October 16, 1961.*

Re. S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

MY DEAR MR. ASPINALL: Last April I wrote my Congressman, the Honorable Edward R. Finnegan, asking his support of the wilderness preservation bill. I understand this bill will come before the House of Representatives in January. Meanwhile, the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee has scheduled three hearings on the bill including one at Montrose, Colo.

For your records, this letter is my endorsement of the wilderness preservation bill. It is my hope the bill will be passed by as great a margin in the House as it was in the Senate.

Sincerely yours,

MARION B. STIENS.

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STATEMENT OF WILLIAM F. STEVENS, OF GYPSUM, COLO.

Gentlemen, having resided in Michigan, having been educated in Connecticut, and having been an avid camper long before moving to Colorado and becoming a rancher, I feel competent to make valid observations on the Wilderness Act.

1. The average nature lover will not benefit from the present bill since the more remote sections of any wilderness area will be inaccessible except by means of expensive pack trips, and the fringes will lose the wilderness characteristics because too many people will frequent them.

2. The general public will get far greater benefit from extending the multiple-use principle in the use of Federal lands rather than limiting it. Controlled lumbering, prospecting for minerals, grazing, outdoor recreation, and water conservation can use the same areas, and those of us experienced in such matters know that such controls already exist.

3. The present bill gives too much power to too few people in determining the best use of Federal lands. The Congress should insist that it determine which areas are to have limited use. Mere veto power for Congress is not sufficient to protect the public interest and it is an unfortunate extension of bureaucratic power to place an appointed official in a position to tie up land for limited use for as much as 5 years on his own volition.

4. The Gruening amendment should be extended to include all the States since it is ludicrous to think that nonresidents of a State know as much about the local economy, use of lands, etc., as do those who are exposed to the problem daily and can easily make on-the-spot inspections.

My request to this committee in considering and rewriting this bill is as follows:

1. Recognize how few people benefit from the creation of extensive wilderness areas.

2. Keep control of the selection of sites within the Congress and require positive rather than negative action on the part of Congress.

3. Shy away from increasing bureaucratic power.

4. Require that the States concerned with a given area be parties to the selection of specific wilderness sites.

5. Most important of all: Require that the multiple-use principle be extended and permit exceptions only for compelling national reasons and not to satisfy the selfish interests of pressure groups to limit the use to their own individual purpose.

BOULDER, COLO., *October 7, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST.
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I am writing in support of the wilderness bill which I sincerely hope will be passed by the House at this coming session without crippling amendments.

For years my husband and I have been interested in conservation and the preservation of wilderness areas. For years we have been distressed by the unnecessary inroads of ugliness and devastation made by men in their eagerness to make money.

Human beings, of course, need money and need room for expansion, but in a country as large as ours we have no excuse for not keeping inviolate certain wilderness areas. Once trespassed upon they can never be returned to their natural state.

As the United States becomes more and more populated, there will be a correspondingly greater necessity for wilderness to be preserved to meet man's intangible and unmeasurable needs "for saving wild beauty whole for future ages and for keeping unmarred the earth's great gestures for our spiritual use."

We who are living now have no right to deprive future generations of wilder-new areas that can never be spoiled or interfered with.

If we are to be responsible, the time to act is now. Anyone who has recently traveled across this country and seen what is happening realizes "It is later than you think."

Sincerely yours,

MARIE H. TALBOTT.
Mrs. Addison M. Talbott.

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CASPER, WYO., *October 31, 1961.*

GEORGE REITEMEIER,
*Care of Western Union, Montrose, Colo.:*

We regret remoteness of hearings of insular affairs committee in Montrose, Colo., makes our attendance impossible. Since Wyoming Lands and Welfare are so initimately involved we urge that the committee come to no conclusion reference Senate bill 174 until Wyoming citizens have opportunity to express themselves at another committee hearing to be held within Wyoming. Please express this suggestion for us at tomorrow's hearings.

TRUE OIL CO.
By J. E. DOBOS, *Attorney.*

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UNION COUNTY WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION, INC.,
*Clayton, N. Mex., October 23, 1961.*

S. 174 HEARINGS, MONTROSE, COLO.
*Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.*
*To Whom It May Concern:*

We the undersigned, favor wilderness preservation and we would appreciate the committee to act favorably on bill S. 174. We think this is a very good bill and should be passed now.

All 42 members of our organization are in favor of bill S. 174 and would like to go on record as such.

Thanking you in advance,

WAYNE DAVIS,
*Secretary-Treasurer, Union County Wildlife and Conservation Association, Inc.*

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STATEMENT OF THE UTAH STATE LAND BOARD

The Utah State Land Board is opposed to the enactment of the wilderness bill, S. 174, for two reasons:

1. The various land grants to the State should be satisfied before additional areas of public domain are locked up whether by putting lands in a wilderness system, in national parks or in any other Federal withdrawal.

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The Utah school land grant and the floating grants to State institutions are deficient by almost 600,000 acres. Withdrawals, national parks, Indian reservations, and the like created by the Federal Government before the State's title attached have accounted for these deficiencies. These deficiencies have undoubtedly resulted in the loss of undetermined income to the district schools and to these other State institutions.

The land board being aware of its responsibilities to the schools and to the State institutions is deligently and at considerable expense attempting to make selections of "available" and "suitable" and "vacant" public domain lands to satisfy these deficient land grants. Admittedly the wilderness bill has a worthwhile objective but it will permit the locking up of additional areas of public lands and making them unavailable for State selection. Even without the wilderness bill, under present conditions, it is very difficult to find worthwhile public domain lands which are "available" or which are "vacant" or which are "suitable" for State selection. Enactment of the wilderness bill cannot help further reducing the quantity of worthwhile lands which will be available to satisfy the deficient land grants.

2. The provisions giving States rights of access to State-owned lands in a wilderness area or the right to select vacant, unappropriated land not exceeding the value of surrendered land do not provide sufficient flexibility.

Any wilderness area would include many State-owned lands. This is particularly true in Utah. From the State's standpoint and from the standpoint of the Federal Government, it would probably be undesirable for a State to retain ownership of lands which were included in a wilderness area. The burden would therefore rest upon the State to make exchanges or indemnity selections. This burden would be of considerable magnitude due to the expense and the administrative red tape involved in making exchange or lieu land selections. For example, under current conditions, it sometimes requires several years for the State of Utah to complete a single simple lieu selection.

A still more significant problem concerns the interpretation of the exchange provisions in S. 174. For example, would the State be permitted to select mineral lands in lieu of State lands which are within a wilderness area. If so, how would the mineral character of the wilderness lands be established? Presumably no mineral development would be permitted in a wilderness area, and therefore shouldn't it be presumed that all State lands in a wilderness area are mineral in character? Shouldn't the State also be permitted to select lieu lands on an acreage basis rather than on equal value basis? Doesn't the mere inclusion of State lands in a wilderness area reduce their value? Doesn't it also make it difficult to determine their true value?

In any wilderness bill or in any other statute which effects a withdrawal of Federal public domain lands, it is the position of the Utah State Land Board that complete flexibility should be given to the State to make indemnity or lieu selections or exchanges. If for no other reason, this would be to compensate the State for the additional expense and the administrative burden which are required in making exchanges, indemnity or lieu selections.

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SEATTLE, WASH., *October 30, 1961.*

WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*House Public Land Subcommittee, McCall, Idaho:*

Following previous vigorous opposition because of its certain prevention of exploration and development of mineral deposits in western States the West Coast Mineral Association today voted that Senate bill 174 should be amended to provide prospecting, location, and entry under presently existing mineral laws and regulations.

H. F. YANCEY,
*President, West Coast Mineral Association.*

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ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX., *October 25, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman of the House Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I would like to take this opportunity to express my views on the wilderness bill introduced by Senator Clinton P. Anderson and passed by the Senate.

I feel that this bill is a great step toward reserving the multiple use of these wilderness areas for present and future generations. Any changes made to this bill will defeat its main purpose which, is the establishment by law the preservation of outdoor receration for this ever-increasing population of ours.

Our Senators have used sound judgment in passing this bill and their decision is unquestionable. I respectfully request that you use all the power of your office as chairman of this important committee to expedite the approval of the wilderness bill as passed by the U.S. Senate.

Respectfully yours,

ORLANDO ULIVARRI,
*Board of Directors, Wildlife Conservation Association.*

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STATEMENT OF R. W. BEAMER, WYOMING MINING ASSOCIATION

I am R. W. Beamer, executive secretary of the Wyoming Mining Association, with an office in Riverton, Wyo. This organization is composed of most of the major mining companies in the State, 32 in all, including producers of bentonite, coal, iron ore, cement and expanded shales, trona, and uranium. The gross product of these operations is approximately $100 million annually.

Our mining industry does not favor wilderness legislation which will create single-use areas on the public domain of the Western States. Such legislation would abrogate the multiple-use concept which has been the accepted method of utilizing the public domain. It would deny economic opportunities which, historically, have been afforded to those who have helped to develop the West. We refer to the miner, who was permitted to explore for and mine any valuable ore which he located. The stockman has utilized this area for many years. A timber industry has developed near the wooded areas. In other words, the economy of many individuals and many communities is intimately tied to the public domain. To remove any sizable portion of that domain from its present use will have serious economic effects. It can prevent the miner from developing a mineral deposit. It may reduce the ranch operation to the point where it is no longer an economic unit. It may eliminate the lumberman and sawmill operator.

Wilderness areas may preclude the discovery and the development of important minerals essential to the Nation's defense and to its economy. As examples, may we point to the trona and uranium industries in Wyoming.

About 20 years ago, substantial deposits of trona were discovered in southwestern Wyoming. These were 1,500 feet below the surface. Much of it was on the public domain. In 1946, the FMC Corp. began the development of a mine and the construction of surface facilities to produce soda ash. Today, this operation produces over 600,000 tons of soda ash annually, pays substantial royalties to the Federal Government and other owners, adds to the Wyoming tax base and employs over 400 people.

At present, in the same area, the Stauffer Chemical Co. is developing another trona mine which will be in operation by next summer. Additional companies which have been doing extensive exploration work in the Green River Basin are Allied Chemical Co., Diamond Alkali, Kern County Land Co., Utah Construction & Mining Co., and others.

A similar development took place in the Wyoming uranium industry. Uranium was discovered in the Gas Hills in 1953. Discoveries were made in Shirley Basin in 1956. Both areas are in central Wyoming and contain the major portion of the large reserves which rank our State second in the Nation. A substantial industry has grown from these discoveries and today it employs over 1,000 men. The yellow cake produced from the ore in these areas now grosses over $40 million annually.

Had these areas been classed as wilderness, no one would have known of the existence of these minerals because of the extensive exploration work required to discover them. Such exploration would not have been permitted in a wilderness area.

It is our firm belief that the interests of the Nation may be served best by continuing the present policy of multiple use. We oppose the creation of vast wilderness areas.

We are not unmindful of the efforts being made to have the Federal Government set aside many and very large wilderness areas. There is a demand for recreation areas. In many cases, we believe this can be handled through present

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policies of multiple use, as has been demonstrated by the U.S. Forest Service. We doubt if the public has visualized the vast withdrawals proposed by the wilderness enthusiasts. These vast areas will mean little to the average person seeking recreation. They will be reserved for the few who can afford to fish and hunt in such inaccessible places.

If it becomes advisable to give serious consideration to preserving certain wilderness areas, we recommend that the Congress give consideration to the following:

1. There should be a clear understanding of the different concepts of recreational areas and wilderness areas.
2. There should be opportunity for careful study and review of the forthcoming report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission prior to any action.
3. Before any wilderness is created, there should be a thorough economic survey of the resources of the area, and public hearings held to gain full information on the economic effects on the area.
4. Wilderness areas should be developed in the more populous States. National forest areas in such States would eventually provide wilderness conditions.
5. Wilderness areas should be of limited size, sufficient to preserve certain scenic and primitive vegetative conditions for future generations. Vast areas are not needed for this purpose.
6. Wherever possible, the resources of a wilderness area should be utilized for the economic well-being of the communities concerned. The timber may be harvested, cattle grazing permitted, and minerals produced without seriously detracting from wilderness purposes.
7. Where the creation of a wilderness area will cause economic loss to those historically entitled to utilize such areas, financial reimbursement should be made to those who suffer loss.

We believe that our recommendations are reasonable and fair. We urge that this subcommittee and the Congress give very careful study to all aspects of wilderness proposals and the economic consequences to those directly concerned before adopting any legislation leading to the creation of wilderness areas.

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WYOMING FARM BUREAU FEDERATION,
*Laramie, Wyo., October 25, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: I would like to offer this statement in behalf of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation for the hearing on the wilderness legislation to be held November 1, 1961, in Montrose, Colo.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

CRAIG L. THOMAS,
*Executive Secretary.*

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STATEMENT OF WYOMING FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

We appreciate very much the opportunity to present this statement concerning Senate bill 174. We hope that it can be made a part of the proceedings.

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation has historically favored the multiple-use concept with regard to public lands. We recognize that this use must also include recreational activities.

There are, however, several features of the bill in question which we find objectionable.

The inclusion into a wilderness system of lands currently classified as wild, wilderness, and canoe has considerable merit. We feel the addition of lands presently classified as wilderness is unjustified. Placement of these uninventoried lands into the system would undoubtedly slow down the development of areas which do not necessarily retain wilderness characteristics.

We have found particular objection to the portion of the law which limits congressional action to a "negative approval." Certainly any additions to the system proposed should be a result of positive action on the part of our elected representatives.

There is no doubt that areas set aside as wilderness will serve only a very small portion of the general public. Inasmuch as wilderness areas have thrived during the last several decades, we do not at all share the feeling of urgency that has been expressed by proponents of the bill.

The State of Wyoming has a great deal of interest in this legislation and would be affected to a large degree. Therefore, we would urge the scheduling of hearings such as this one in the State.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to present our views and we hope they will be given consideration by the committee.

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ODESSA TEX., *October 12, 1961.*

HON. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I am writing this hoping that it can, as a personal favor to me, be made a part of the record of the hearing on S. 174 at Montrose on November 1. I write not only for myself but for many of my friends and others in this area who are strong supporters of wilderness preservation.

I have taken 11-day wilderness trail rides in New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah. Some were with Mr. Elliott S. Barker. He and other guides know so many wonderful and beautiful places to show us.

These wilderness areas must be preserved. Not just for ourselves but for our children and our grandchildren. Wilderness is one of America's most precious possessions. The total area in the system is so small that there should be no objection from miners, stockmen, and lumbermen. We surely can afford to save these few pieces of undeveloped country.

I, for myself and friends ask you and your committee to act soon and favorable on S. 174. It is very necessary to preserve the wilderness system. Please get it out of committee so the House can vote on it.

Very truly yours,

MRS. BESSYE COWDAN WARD.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 8, 1961.*

HON. GRACIE PFOST,
*Member of Congress From Idaho,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: As one who has delighted in the untouched wilderness I do wish my grandchildren and their grandchildren can also enjoy, not only what I have seen, but much more.

I earnestly ask that your action will be favorable to the wilderness bill in the forthcoming session of Congress.

Yours very truly,

IVAN M. WAY.

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MIDVALE, UTAH, *October 31, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*Montrose, Colo.:*

I would like this statement in favor of the wilderness bill included in the Montrose hearings. Many organizations which favor wilderness, such as the Wasatch Mountain Club have no travel funds to attend distant hearings. The opponents of wilderness legislation, largely those with vested interest, generally have no such problem and are consequently overrepresented. The wilderness bill is a great protective measure for the land that many of us treasure. But which we are unable to defend in person at the hearings.

J. CALVIN GETTINGS,
*President, Wasatch Mountain Club.*

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SPOKANE, WASH., *October 24, 1961.*

Congresswoman GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, House Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*McCall, Idaho.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN PFOST: I had hoped to be in McCall to work strongly for the passing of the wilderness bill at the hearings being held there October 30 and 31. It looks impossible at this time, however. I am writing down those things

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which I had planned to use to support this bill in the hope that you will enter my letter and place it on file.

It is very necessary to all of us that this wilderness bill pass. We need the wilderness area and if we don't get it now, we will never get it. Other interests are very strong and refusing to consider the fact that there are many, many people who want wilderness areas. People now have much more time and money to spend than in years past and are looking for places to get away from "it all." Where else, but to the wilderness?

As I toured the Olympic Peninsula and the Oregon coast this summer, people were camping in every available spot. The roadsides or any little cranny or nook that could be found were being used. Everything in the campgrounds proper was filled. The trails were crowded with people walking in Olympic National Park. I met with some of them and talked with them about their feelings on the camping and wilderness spots. Their answers were: "Why can't we have more of this? Why don't we have more camping places available for us? It is getting so crowded here that we have nowhere to revive our souls." If more of our Representatives would get out and do a little walking and communing with nature, could be they would hear a little of the common folk instead of the demands of big business and the handouts offered for voting the way big interests wish.

We must get more wilderness areas set aside now so that people can enjoy it now as well as in the future. Southern Idaho will grow and will also need tremendous areas for recreation.

This heritage must not be taken away from the people by greedy interests. I feel very strongly about this as I do not want to see our West become an area such as we have in New York or even in the Los Angeles area now. We are a growing nation. Let our wilderness grow with us.

Sincerely,

ELIZABETH B. WHITE, M.D.

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GOLDEN, COLO., *October 28, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: Concerning the hearings on the wilderness bill in Montrose, Colo., beginning November 1, we wish to have these statements included in the record of the hearings.

Every reasonable concession has been made to the special interest groups (reclamation, lumber, cattlemen, mining) concerned by the wilderness bill. Is wilderness and the enjoyment of wilderness an inferior value simply because it does not result in revenue, create jobs, develop and exploit country for economic purposes? Actually along with the superior human and scientific values of wilderness it will reap, if protected, dollars for Colorado as the need and desire for wilderness type vacations continue to grow among people. The future may well judge us as nearsighted for not setting aside more wilderness areas. Please hasten favorable action on the wilderness bill.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES WORTH.
MRS. CHARLES WORTH.

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WYOMING CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION,
*Rock Springs, Wyo., October 24, 1961.*

*To the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs:*

The Wyoming Conservation Association, formerly known as the Wyoming Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, would like to have this written statement become a part of the records on the wilderness bill hearings.

Our State conservation organization has long advocated wilderness legislation. There has already been many hearings on wilderness legislation with the present bill S. 174 resulting from these hearings. This bill has been watered down to meet most objections presented at these past hearings. Many special interest groups seek to continue to amend the present bill to a point that it will be useful to no one. We urgently request your support of S. 174 with no further weakening amendments.

Sincerely,

JOHN C. BORZEA, *Secretary.*

WYOMING MINING ASSOCIATION,
*Riverton, Wyo., November 3, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*U.S. House of Representatives,*
*Federal Building, Grand Junction, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: I am sorry that I was unable to be present at the hearing on wilderness legislation in Montrose on November 1. We planned to fly to Montrose on that morning, but reports on weather conditions at Grand Junction and Montrose were not favorable and our pilot recommended against attempting the trip.

Enclosed, you will find a copy of the statement which I planned to present on behalf of the Wyoming Mining Association. Also, there is a copy of the letter which Mr. Marlin T. Kurtz, president of the Wyoming Development Association, had requested me to read into the record.

Please make certain that both statements appear in the record.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

R. W. BEAMER, *Executive Secretary.*

STATEMENT BY R. W. BEAMER FOR THE WYOMING MINING ASSOCIATION

I am R. W. Beamer, executive secretary of the Wyoming Mining Association, with an office in Riverton, Wyo. This organization is composed of most of the major mining companies in the State, 32 in all, including producers of bentonite, coal, iron ore, cement and expanded shales, trona and uranium. The gross product of these operations is approximately $100 million annually.

Our mining industry does not favor wilderness legislation which will create single-use areas in the public domain of the Western States. Such legislation would abrogate the multiple-use concept which has been the accepted method of utilizing the public domain. It would deny economic opportunities which, historically, have been afforded to those who have helped to develop the West. We refer to the miner, who was permitted to explore for and mine any valuable ore which he located. The stockman has utilized this area for many years. A timber industry has developed near the wooded areas. In other words, the economy of many individuals and many communities is intimately tied to the public domain. To remove any sizable portion of that domain from its present use will have serious economic effects. It can prevent the miner from developing a mineral deposit. It may reduce the ranch operation to the point where it is no longer an economic unit. It may eliminate the lumberman and sawmill operator.

Wilderness areas may preclude the discovery and the development of important minerals essential to the Nation's defense and to its economy. As examples, may we point to the trona and uranium industries in Wyoming.

About 20 years ago, substantial deposits of trona were discovered in southwestern Wyoming. These were 1,500 feet below the surface. Much of it was on the public domain. In 1946, the FMC Corp. began the development of a mine and the construction of surface facilities to produce soda ash. Today, this operation produces over 600,000 tons of soda ash annually, pays substantial royalties to the Federal Government and other owners, adds to the Wyoming tax base and employs over 400 people.

At present, in the same area, the Stauffer Chemical Co. is developing another trona mine which will be in operation by next summer. Additional companies which have been doing extensive exploration work in the Green River Basin are Allied Chemical Co., Diamond Alkali, Kern County Land Co., Utah Construction & Mining Co., and others.

A similar development took place in the Wyoming uranium industry. Uranium was discovered in the Gas Hills in 1953. Discoveries were made in Shirley Basin in 1956. Both areas are in central Wyoming and contain the major portion of the large reserves which rank our State second in the Nation. A substantial industry has grown from these discoveries and today it employs over 1,000 men. The yellow cake produced from the ore in these areas now grosses over $40 million annually.

Had these areas been classed as wilderness, no one would have known of the existence of these minerals because of the extensive exploration work required to discover them. Such exploration would not have been permitted in a wilderness area.

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It is our firm belief that the interests of the Nation may be served best by continuing the present policy of multiple use. We oppose the creation of vast wilderness areas.

We are not unmindful of the efforts being made to have the Federal Government set aside many and very large wilderness areas. There is a demand for recreation areas. In many cases, we believe this can be handled through present policies of multiple use, as has been demonstrated by the U.S. Forest Service. We doubt if the public has visualized the vast withdrawals proposed by the wilderness enthusiasts. These vast areas will mean little to the average person seeking recreation. They will be reserved for the few who can afford to fish and hunt in such inaccessible places.

If it becomes advisable to give serious consideration to preserving certain wilderness areas, we recommend that the Congress give consideration to the following:

1. There should be a clear understanding of the different concepts of recreational areas and wilderness areas.
2. There should be opportunity for careful study and review of the forthcoming report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission prior to any action.
3. Before any wilderness is created, there should be a thorough economic survey of the resources of the area, and public hearings held to gain full information on the economic effects on the area.
4. Wilderness areas should be developed in the more populous States. National forest areas in such States would eventually provide wilderness conditions.
5. Wilderness areas should be of limited size, sufficient to preserve certain scenic and primitive vegetative conditions for future generations. Vast areas are not needed for this purpose.
6. Wherever possible, the resources of a wilderness area should be utilized for the economic well-being of the communities concerned. The timber may be harvested, cattle grazing permitted, and minerals produced without seriously detracting from wilderness purposes.
7. Where the creation of a wilderness area will cause economic loss to those historically entitled to utilize such areas, financial reimbursement should be made to those who suffer loss.

We believe that our recommendations are reasonable and fair. We urge that this subcommittee and the Congress give very careful study to all aspects of wilderness proposals and the economic consequences to those directly concerned before adopting any legislation leading to the creation of wilderness areas.

OCTOBER 23, 1961.

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: I would like to put on file with you the following resolution passed by the Wyoming Development Association in their annual meeting at Worland, Wyo., on Monday and Tuesday, October 9 and 10:

"WILDERNESS AREAS

"Whereas the creation of wilderness areas will interfere with the development of Wyoming's water resources and will jeopardize the multiple-use concept of the areas for the projection of water, forage, timber, minerals, and recreational opportunities, which multiple-use concept policy has been in effect for over 50 years and has shaped the economy of the West: Therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That the Wyoming Development Association goes on record reiterating its previously taken stand opposing the creation or extension of the wilderness areas in Wyoming."

Some proponents of wilderness legislation are advocating an immediate wholesale legislative commitment of vast areas to a state of backwardness, devoid of protection against disease, fire, vandalism, or criminal activity because of an enforced inaccessibility which would render such areas unavailable and unsuitable for recreational uses by the average American family and useful only for that restricted minority whose gratification requires vast areas of untended primeval domain.

In my mind such unwise creation of wilderness areas is contrary to principles of true conservation. These are dedicated to the goal of administering the

public domain so as to create conditions which will produce a sustained yield of products and services (including recreation) for the greatest good of the greatest number.

It is my belief that—

A. In every case where the public domain is capable of a variety of consistent uses, it should be made available for all such uses.

B. Where potential uses are inconsistent, those most essential should have preference over those less essential.

C. The following order of preference should prevail:

(a) National defense.

(b) Production of the necessities of life, especially food, fiber, timber, minerals, power, and the means of transportation and communication.

(c) Recreation for all.

(d) Specialized recreation for the few.

It is my further belief that constant recognition should be given to the fact that protection, preservation, and development of the available water supply is essential to every use of the public domain and is, therefore, primary and of first importance.

The wise principle of multiple use of the public domain from the pressure of those who seek only the limited wilderness use requires the adoption of legislation establishing the principle that wilderness areas may be created only by act of Congress after adequate investigation and affirmative recommendation by appropriate Federal agencies together with an adequate opportunity for comment by affected States and local agencies.

Mr. R. W. Beamer, executive secretary of the Wyoming Mining Association with offices in Riverton, Wyo., is to appear before your committee in Montrose, Colo., on November 1. He will also read into the record the resolution as adopted by the Wyoming Development Association. I trust that this procedure is correct and that the committee will give our views the consideration which we believe are representative not only of our State, but of the entire West.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) MARLIN T. KURTZ,
*President, Wyoming Development Association, Cody, Wyo.*

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LARAMIE, WYO., *October 31, 1961.*

Re public hearing on wilderness bill.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Montrose, Colo.:*

Wyoming division, Izaak Walton League, feels extremely important our wilderness areas be given adequate protection by inclusion in wilderness system. S. 174 represents tremendous amount effort compromise. Clear statement is fair, workable. Strongly urges your unqualified support its passage House next session Congress. Statement outlining our analysis airmailed yesterday.

BURTON W. MARSTON,
*President, Wyoming Division, IWLA.*

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CASPER, WYO., *October 31, 1961.*

GEORGE RETTEMEIER,
*Montrose, Colo.:*

In view of the fact that provisions in S. 174 can materially affect the economy of Wyoming and can affect the lives of its citizens both now and in the future, and since the distance and time involved makes it extremely difficult if not impossible for many of Wyoming's citizens to attend the hearing in Montrose or any of the hearings presently scheduled, we hereby urgently request that a hearing be held in Wyoming prior to further congressional action on this bill.

H. A. TRUE, Jr.,
*President, Wyoming Oil Industry Committee.*

GOLDEN, COLO., *November 1, 1961.*

Representative GRACIE PFOST,
*House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: As a member of the Colorado Mountain Club, I wish to express my full support of the wilderness bill on which a public hearing was held in Montrose, Colo., November 1, 1961. Unable to attend the meeting, I am submitting this letter to you with the request that it be made a part of the record of the hearing.

I suppose my abhorrence of waste comes from an earlier, less fortunate period when we made do with what we had. It was further strengthened by travel in Europe where I saw people carefully cultivating, protecting, preserving their natural resources.

I do not believe that mere prosperity entitles us to waste those precious commodities which, once gone, can never be replaced. We were given this continent with the unwritten understanding that we were to use it, yes, cultivate it, yes, but wantonly destroy it for personal gain, no. In this rapidly changing age, I believe it is imperative that these areas be set aside both for the preservation of the animal and plant life and for the preservation of mankind that he may go and see, listen, and learn from whence he came.

Thank you.

Yours very truly,

PATRICIA YINGST.

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ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX., *October 27, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

MY DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I feel very strongly that the wilderness bill introduced by Senator Anderson and passed by the Senate should be expeditiously brought before the House with the recommendation that it be passed without change.

This bill protects the public interests and guarantees preservation of the present wilderness areas for our grandchildren and for future generations. It favors no special interests but recognizes multiple use and protects the future recreational rights of all to commune with nature away from the strain and strife of everyday life.

I sincerely urge you to use the powers invested in you as chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee to expedite the approval of the wilderness bill as passed by the U.S. Senate.

Respectfully yours,

WM. E. YOUNG.

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STATEMENT OF HOWARD ZAHNISER, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND EDITOR OF THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY, WASHINGTON, D.C.

It is a pleasure and an inspiration to be in western Colorado, at Montrose, in the district distinguished in our National Capital by the esteemed representation of the Honorable Wayne Aspinall, whose friendship and regard I deeply cherish, and to be here at a public hearing on wilderness legislation as an observer for the Wilderness Society.

Not wishing to take any of the time so precious at such a hearing for receiving the testimony of those who live in the region of the hearing, I am happy indeed simply to file this statement and express thus my appreciation at being here and my eagerness to be of any possible help.

Through many years I have enjoyed and (I believe) profited by the counsel and criticism of Wayne Aspinall in my earnest efforts to help see wilderness preservation established as a sound national policy truly in the public interest.

It has been my faith that we in America can, if we will, see established an enduring policy and program for wilderness preservation that will not damage any interests or sacrifice any of our benefits. Through the years criticism of successive proposals has shown how modifications or revisions could help us reach this ideal—by removing objections not realized, by clarifying proposals not understood, by taking advantage of suggestions from those with newly aroused or newly provoked interest. It is my earnest conviction now that in the Wilderness Act (S. 174), which has been developed through this our

great democratic process, we do have such a measure, one with which we may all associate ourselves in confidence that our efforts will be valued through a long future by our fellow citizens and our successors.

It was my great privilege to grow up in the Allegheny Valley of western Pennsylvania, but it has likewise been my privilege to serve the Wilderness Society in all the States of our Nation except Hawaii and especially to have been welcomed again and again by my fellow Americans here in the West—and to be in a sense commissioned by many westerners as their own representative.

This has been a source of deep satisfaction. Especially has it been in recent years a satisfaction to work with westerners and others for wilderness preservation policies that would be sound from a western viewpoint as well as from any other.

This Wilderness Act (S. 174), I am convinced is a measure that well meets our standards of good for all and ill for none. It was, I confess, a surprise to have Senator Spessard L. Holland, of Florida, tell me on September 5, 1961, in the corridors of the Capitol, during the Senate's recent debate on S. 174, that this was too much a westerner's measure, but at the same time it was a pleasure to defend it against this charge. I shall hope to be able better to meet such opportunities after today's hearing here in Montrose.

I look forward to further opportunities for working with the gracious chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Lands, the Honorable Gracie Pfost, in whose district in Idaho I had the privilege of observing a similar hearing yesterday and the day before. I anticipate also the pleasures that I know come to a cooperator with the honorable chairman of the full committee and with all the members of the committee—in our common effort to see the enactment of wilderness preservation legislation in a form truly appropriate to the national interest.

It is good to be in the West, in western Colorado, and here in Montrose to hear the testimony at this hearing.

As to my own testimony in any detail in behalf of the Wilderness Society or other organizations I look forward to the opportunity of appearing at the hearing later to be held in Washington, D.C.

EVERETT, WASH., *October 31, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*Wilderness Hearing, Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIRS: As much as I would like to make the hearings in McCall, Idaho or in Montrose, Colo., I find that it is not possible for a schoolteacher. I am one who finds great enjoyment and peace of mind in our wilderness areas. I hope you can pass the Wilderness bill in this next session. It is one of the soundest investments we can make for our future.

PHILLIP H. ZALESKY.

FARMINGTON, N. MEX., *October 20, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.,*

DEAR SIR: Although not members of any wildlife clubs, we would like to go on record as being in full agreement with the wilderness preservation bill, and to give our support to Elliott S. Barker who is championing the cause of bill S. 174.

Very truly yours,

MRS. SARA TONKINSON.
JOHN H. WARD.
RUDOLPH C. BAIER, JR.
RICHARD B. KROHL.
JIM S. HINDS.
P. T. MCGRATH.
PATRICIA MOSS.
FRED MOSS.

Mrs. PFOST. I, too, would like to compliment you people upon your fine attendance this afternoon, your presentations, and your attention.

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You people in Colorado are most fortunate to have three very able legislators on this important subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee protecting your legislative interests. Even though each of them would have liked to have been in his own district, they took time out to come over here to hear grassroot statements in order to make a better determination of what this legislation will mean to the people of Colorado.

Mr. Aspinall—I am sure you will agree—has been a very devoted legislator over the years, because you have been returning him to Congress for the past 13 years. Back in Washington our House Interior Committee is considered one of the most active, one of the most efficient, and I would say this: Under the leadership of Mr. Aspinall we adhere to the rules of the House probably as closely as any committee on Capitol Hill, if not more so.

I can also assure you that under the leadership of our able chairman, this legislation will be gone into very thoroughly, and with your other Representatives, Judge Chenoweth and Mr. Dominick, helping us to write a good bill, your interests are going to be taken into consideration, whether it be mining, timber cutting, or whether it is water, which we all in the West realize is so very very important.

Thank you so much for your contribution with your statements, and for complying with the rules of the committee. We wanted to have as many of you people express yourselves as we could. We wish we could have had more time in your beautiful area.

Thanks again.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Madam Chairman.

Mrs. PFOST. Judge Chenoweth.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Madam Chairman, I want to commend you on the very fair way you have conducted these hearings. I know all of the people here agree with me. I know it has been most helpful to me and the members of the committee. I appreciate having had the opportunity to be here in the district of my good friend, Congressman Aspinall.

Mrs. PFOST. Thank you, Judge Chenoweth. The committee stands adjourned.

(At 5:45 p.m., the subcommittee adjourned.)

(Subsequent to the hearing the committee received numerous communications. Those that were submitted for the record and qualified for inclusion in the record under committee rules and policy are included at this point, in alphabetical order; other communications, clippings, etc., are in the committee file.)

NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY CO.,
*East Ely, Nev., November 15, 1961.*

HON. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: Regarding the wilderness bill, S. 174, I am opposed to this bill. There should be a more moderate way of protecting our natural resources than to fence them off and deny access to all but a few. Our great West was settled and developed by people whose freedom of movement was not impinged in any such manner.

Yours very truly,

F. E. AGAN.

SANTA FE, N. MEX., *October 18, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I understand that there will be a very important hearing on November 1 at Montrose dealing with preservation of wilderness areas and I would very much like to add my voice to the testimony in favor of this bill (S. 174).

I cannot see one valid reason for opposing it. The reasons for supporting it are many, in my opinion.

I would like to offer one particularly strong argument in support of any measure favoring preservation of all remaining wilderness areas and one which could and should be used to counter the arguments of influential persons who have not traveled in other countries, as it has been my good fortune to be able to do.

I lived in England for almost 6 years. As you know, it is only as large as the State of Georgia yet has over 50 million inhabitants. Even so, when traveling through England, one most certainly does not have any feeling of chaotic congestion but only of orderly and controlled arrangements and use of the land. And there are many forest areas.

Therefore, U.S. lands, if properly managed and if we base our assumption on merely England's experience alone, could maintain a population of hundreds of millions of people. The wilderness areas are vital as watersheds, recreation areas, habitat for wildlife, and to maintain a large reserve of topsoil. Those who think that these areas should be made available to well meaning but uninformed small landowners or to greedy and selfish exploiters of our dwindling natural resources should consider themselves active sabotage agents working for the destruction of this country's vital reserves.

I am definitely opposed to any bill which turns over any of the remaining wilderness lands to private interests and I am sure that every truly patriotic American who knows what this bill would put into effect, would agree with me.

Your very sincerly,

Miss ROSEMARY AMES.

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AZTEC, N. MEX., *October 31, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: Please accept this letter as an indication of my wholehearted support for S. 174, the wilderness preservation bill, on which you are holding hearings on November 1.

These wilderness areas, which actually occupy such a minute part of the total area of our country, provide a particular and wonderful kind of recreational activity which cannot be duplicated. To allow easy access and exploitation of these areas is to destroy them, and once destroyed they can never be restored in their primeval state. I believe that we owe it to future generations not to allow this to happen. I also believe that this view is held by an overwhelming majority of the American people.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. EMERY C. ARNOLD.

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A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO ENACTMENT OF AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM (WILDERNESS ACT, S. 174)

*Be it resolved by the board of directors of the Badlands Cooperative State Grazing District, Glasgow, Mont.:*

Whereas all the members of the Badlands Cooperative State Grazing District are actively engaged in the livestock industry as a means of livelihood, and each of them is vitally interested in, and will be adversely affected by the enactment of Wilderness Act, S. 174; and

Whereas the economy and foundation for future growth and development of our area is largely dependent upon livestock grazing upon public lands; and

Whereas the designation of 4,196,007 acres within the State of Montana for the single purpose of establishing areas untrammeled by man, without permanent improvements or human habitation, would constitute the exchange of vitally essential and economically sound industries upon which our State is dependent, for an unproven need of vast sanctuaries in which a very few vigorous and wealthy individuals may partake of solitude and meditation; and

 SRP03525

Whereas our Nation's growing population and economy demand intelligent utilization of natural resources on both public and private lands; competition for use of public lands demands their multiple use to serve the best interests of the United States and all its inhabitants; and

Whereas good conservation practices coupled with best utilization of all natural resources on public lands is being accomplished under existing Federal laws which permit joint use by sportsmen, oilmen, lumbermen, and livestockmen, each of whom can and do work in harmony. Each of these activities share in the benefits of public lands to produce harvests and extractions without destroying or reducing the lands; and

Whereas the procedures set forth in the Wilderness Act constitute reversal of constitutional legislative process by a delegation of power to the executive branch of our Government subject only to a veto in reverse by the legislative branch; the people of our State are called upon to risk surrender of their livelihood to the theories of career bureaucrats who are totally unfamiliar with the specific lands subject to their control; and

Whereas it is beyond dispute that certain selected areas are best suited for recreational wilderness, and such areas should be preserved in their primitive state for the benefit of present and future inhabitants of the United States, it ought likewise to be beyond dispute that individual selection and designation of such areas remain with our Congress where under the light of public hearing, debate, and established rules of procedure, all of the people would enjoy the safeguards of democratic process; and

Whereas the Wilderness Act contains contradictions within itself when it purports to preserve the established grazing use but at the same time is dedicated to preserving public lands in their primeval condition. If the act is intended to preserve only virgin areas, let it stop there, define virginal boundaries, and leave other public lands under existing administrations:

Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Badlands Cooperative State Grazing District express its opposition to enactment of the "Wilderness Act," S. 174; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this resolution be distributed to such individuals and agencies as may be effective in defeating enactment of the Wilderness Act.

Passed and unanimously adopted this 2d day of November 1961.

BADLANDS COOPERATIVE STATE GRAZING DISTRICT.
By MYRON HAMMOND, *President*.

Attest:

R. H. CHAMBERS, *Secretary*.

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GRAND JUNCTION, COLO., *November 2, 1961*.

Re wilderness bill.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: I am a mining engineer 52 years old, very much against the wilderness bill.

The acreage is excessive and there is sufficient land in national parks and monuments to take care of the few nature lovers and do-gooders for generations to come.

Why deprive the real men, that is, the producers: ranchers, miners, lumbermen of a living, besides locking up of natural resources? The Reds would like that, while they produce and we starve. Typical of present-day politicians anything to hurt Americans and help foreigners.

What is the use of fighting socialism when every move of the Government is one step closer to complete control of everything? Perhaps one should go to Australia or Canada and no doubt some of us will.

For a bureaucrat-free America.

J. C. BALDWIN.

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MAGNA, UTAH, *November 17, 1961*.

HON. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: To come to the point, I'm against the wilderness bill for several reasons.

First, I make my living from mining operations.

Second, mining rights in land included should be continued, the right to locate claims and protection to the prospector should not be taken away from him.

Third, the inclusion of land into these areas of wilderness system should have a majority vote of both the House and the Senate.

These are the most pertinent points why I'm against the wilderness bill.

Sincerely,

L. BALDEE.

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STATE COLLEGE, N. MEX., *November 1, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: We are students at the New Mexico State College. We have lived in this State all our lives. Since we were just little kids we have been going into the Pecos wilderness country with our father, grandfather, and grandmother. In recent years we have been going with other boys our age on backpack trips for a day or several days. We hike with backpacks as much as 50 miles on a single trip.

We go to fish and hunt there and just to get out into the solitude of the wilderness area to relax and enjoy the scenery, the forests and its many attractions. For us there is nothing quite like or to equal a wilderness trip whether it is made horseback with pack outfit or on foot with backpacks with congenial companions. It is fine training for Boy Scouts, and many of them go into the wilderness.

If every boy went to the wilderness for trips once in a while we believe there would be less juvenile delinquency. They should be encouraged to do so.

We believe that the wilderness bill, S. 174, is needed to preserve our wilderness system against commercialization. We urge you to act promptly in favor of this bill. We want the wilderness saved so others can enjoy and benefit by them as we do.

Very truly yours,

EDWIN S. BARKER.
TOM BARKER.

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KREMMLING TIMBER CO.,
*Kremmling, Colo., November 9, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I attended the hearing in Montrose, Colo., but did not get up to speak my thoughts. It was very obvious that 90 percent of the people were against S. 174 as passed by the Senate. As a forester and timber operator I am opposed to this bill. It would lock up 2,386,000 acres of commercial forests in the primitive areas alone.

It looked to me like you people wanted this legislation regardless of the peoples' wishes.

Best regards.

JULIAN A. BENBU, Jr., *Manager.*

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WEST ROXBURY, MASS., *October 24, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL.

DEAR SIR: It was with great pleasure that I learned that the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, has passed the Senate, and with such a majority. I heartily endorse this bill.

It would be such a pity to spoil such wonderful wilderness country. In the past 4 years I have been in all three areas, with a repeat of one of them, and I should hate to think of any changes made there. It must be kept sacred, for the enjoyment of all those who love nature in all its beauty and starkness, unspoiled by man.

I hope that the bill, S. 174, will pass the House of Representatives with a good majority, and that the wilderness areas be preserved for future trail riders.

Yours truly,

Mrs. ELSIE H. BILLINGS.

 RP03527

BANNER MINING CO.,
*Lordsburg, N. Mex., November 16, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN PFOST: We should like to go on record as opposing the wilderness bill, Senate bill 174, in its entirety. If such a bill has to be passed, then it should incorporate the changes or amendments listed below in order to protect not only the mining industry but others interested in developing these areas:

1. First of all we do not feel that any action should be taken on this bill by the House until a thorough study is made of the needs and desires of the people for such a wilderness bill.

2. Secondly, we feel that there are no safeguards in the bill covering the right to locate claims and protection of such mineral discoveries; and also we feel other mining rights should be sustained and continued.

3. We also feel that there are many other uses that would and should override wilderness uses; and that any land included in the bill should be approved by a majority of both congressional bodies.

We sincerely hope you will weigh all sides of the question before any action is taken on this bill.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

F. M. BOWMAN, *Superintendent.*

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ROSWELL, N. MEX., *November 9, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: I wish to add my name to the list of the many who feel a vital interest in the preservation of our wilderness areas and the passage of bill S. 174.

Very truly yours,

E. H. BANTA,
*Director Area No. 7, New Mexico Wildlife & Conservation Association.*

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BATES LUMBER CO.,
*Albuquerque, N. Mex., November 9, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: We would like to go on record as being opposed to passage of the wilderness system bill (S. 174), and request that this letter be included in the record of the field hearings on S. 174.

It is our firm belief that passage of this bill, withdrawing millions of acres of commercial forest land, will result in greater unemployment in already depressed areas, and that the benefits derived would be infinitesimal as compared to the adverse effect the withdrawal of these lands would have on the Nation's economy.

Very truly yours,

W. C. BATES, *President.*

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RUTH, NEV., *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: This letter is to express my sincere opposition to the wilderness bill as passed by the Senate last summer.

In my estimation this bill sets aside public land that will be utilized by only a privilege few—those who are relatively wealthy and hearty. Families, the aged, the average sportsman and average tourist, for all practical purposes, will be denied the use of these lands.

I do believe some areas should remain in a primitive state, but certainly not a vast 65 million acres.

Please take into consideration how many of your friends and relatives would be able to enjoy wilderness areas without modern access.

Most sincerely,

H. L. BAUER, Jr.

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO., *November 13, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Room 304, Post Office Building, Grand Junction, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I am writing because of what I feel has been an unfair news and editorial coverage in this area, and therefore I want to be sure that my voice is heard in favor of Senate bill 174.

All that I have read in the newspaper has been against the bill, and thus the people have not had a chance to know both sides of this issue. (My information in favor of the bill comes from Idaho, for I have seen nothing written in Grand Junction that would give me any reason for supporting the bill.) From the Grand Junction newspaper has come the expressed "desire to keep control of wilderness in Congress where the people still have a voice." My other information says that the control is in Congress (sec. 3 and 3h).

Our paper says: "they shut hunters out of the wilderness-type areas, and they pay little attention to the need for roads to protect the areas from fire, insect infestations, and other enemies." I understand that the act does make provision for such things, if needed. Opponents say that resources will be locked up in the wilderness. I understand that the President can provide for the harvest of these resources, if needed, but people reading these articles would get the wrong impression.

It seems that many objections are not against a real issue, but they are used to influence the uninformed people who can read only one side and thus conclude that the act is a detriment to everyone except the hiker. The only detriment that I can see is to the vested interests who might want to use the wilderness to fill their own pockets. Therefore they are using more money to fight the bill because they have more money to lose if the bill passes.

Having been raised in Idaho, in a somewhat primitive area, I know how it ruined the looks of the country to run a dredge up the Clearwater River and destroy its natural beauty, as well as other places.

I understand this bill is not to take away anything from businesses but is designed to preserve certain areas from encroachment by special interests for personal profits, when it would destroy the natural beauty of a wilderness area. If we don't prepare now, there may come a time when it will be too late to preserve anything from the selfish interests of man.

Yours very truly,

KENDALL BAUER.

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WORLAND, WYO., *November 13, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Congresswoman of Idaho, Chairwoman of Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I am writing this letter to tell you that I firmly believe the wilderness bill as it is now written is most undesirable and not suitable to be enacted into law.

This bill as now proposed would be detrimental to the economy of the West for many reasons—one being that the increased profit to this area from tourists seeking to use these lands would not offset the loss that will be sustained if they are removed from general usage.

The bill would prevent future expansion of natural resources such as mining, lumbering, oil drilling, development of better grazing land, and other normal uses.

If these industries are curtailed, the stockmen and farmers will also suffer, and I believe it is very wrong for eastern interests to seek to control or divert the lands of our Western States for their present or future entertainment.

The millions of citizens living in this section of the United States have every right to control and direct their lands without unwanted and unreasonable interference from selfish eastern interests and I urgently ask that this bill be defeated.

Thanking you for your time and attention, I am,

Sincerely yours,

JOHN BIHE.

SRP03529

BILLING ROD & GUN CLUB,
BILLINGS, MONT., *November 20, 1961.*

Mr. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman of House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I am writing your committee asking them to support the wilderness preservation bill S. 174—I am writing both as an individual, and as vice president of the Billings Rod & Gun Club. As a hunter and sportsman, I cannot advocate strongly enough the importance of keeping our wilderness intact for future generations to enjoy. It would be sheer folly to consider this lightly now, and then in 20 years have to go through the expensive process of buying back land for parks and recreation when we have that now only in primitive form. It seems to me that there should be something safe from the almighty dollar.

Yours very truly,

GABRIEL F. BOGGIO, *Vice President.*

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BILLINGS, MONT.

Mr. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I would like you to support the wilderness preservation bill S. 174 because I want my children's children to be able to enjoy nature in an undisurbed state; our wilderness frontiers are fast disappearing, and if we don't take heed now, industry will relentlessly devour our remaining primitive areas.

As food for thought I'd like to quote a few lines from W. Dougla Burden's new book, "Look to the Wilderness" page 52:

"Much of this wild land lay in its lonely remoteness. Here were no gasoline fumes or tin cans. No sign as yet of that great killer of the wilderness, the paved highway."

Once the lumber industry and mining industry get their way with a wilderness area, it soon disappears. Then where do we go to hunt? fish? hike? or ride a horse? Where do the animals go? Ask people back East. They've lost these places, and I for one hope we'll have the sense to preserve what we already have.

Yours truly,

MRS. GABRIEL BOGGIO.

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CASPER, WYO., *November 3, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN: I wish you to consider this letter as testimony which I would have liked to have delivered at the field hearing on Senate bill 174, the wilderness bill, which the Subcommittee on Public Lands conducted at Montrose, Colo., McCall, Idaho, and Sacramento, Calif. I had planned to attend at Montrose, Colo.; however, business meetings conflicted and I had to be in Denver, Colo., instead.

Sometimes it is unfair to conduct meetings such as this with short notice. Likewise, hearings of such great importance should have been scheduled in the several western public land States. It would seem to me that three spot hearings which you conducted certainly could not be representative of the western area. The hearing at Montrose, Colo., is bound to be prejudiced against any type of wilderness legislation. The Gunnison-Montrose area has been a "sore spot" in the management of public lands for both the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management for many years.

I am F. Howard Brady from Casper, Wyo. I have lived most of my life in Colorado and Wyoming. In fact, I spent my boyhood days in the region of your first hearing. I have been a teacher of biology and geology. I am a professional geologist. I have had the opportunity to visit and study most of the high-level wilderness areas concerned in the legislative proposals. As a geologist, I have studied them as potential oil and gas lands and other mineral sources. As a biologist, I have been able to study these areas as to their natural ecological

status, as they occurred when we first settled them. Our wonderful natural western wilderness areas have not as yet been so much disturbed but what we can preserve them still. In the eastern portion of our country the conservation principles have to be ones of restoration, while here in the West, they are ones of preservation. I have been able to observe the use of these areas from many aspects; recreation, esthetic appreciation and commercial interest. Actually, from a dollar-and-cents point of view, with respect to material resources other than water, they have little value. From the standpoint of esthetic beauty, recreation, tourist attraction and watershed, they hold unold values.

For some specific data, I shall cite the State of Wyoming, of which I am a resident. Wyoming is one of our greater public land States. It ranks fourth with respect to public lands. The Federal Government owns the surface of 47.8 percent of the State of Wyoming. It has reserved the minerals in some form or other under an additional 19.5 percent of the lands. Of the federally owned lands within Wyoming, only 16 percent are considered worthy of wilderness status. For the year 1956, these federally owned lands brought in a reenue of $24,336,976.08. Of this, 96 percent came from oil and gas. Four percent came from grazing, timber sales, land sales and other minerals. Of all the oil and gas revenue, none came from the proposed wilderness lands, and only a pittance of the other came from the wilderness lands. (Data based on "Report of the Director of the Bureau of Land Management," Statistical Appendix for 1956.)

Present status of grazing, lumbering and mineral operation are not to be restricted, so why all this ballyhoo that commercial interests in the proposed wilderness areas are to be stymied?

These proposed wilderness lands are all high-level lands underlain with granites or other pre-Cambrian rock forms, or overlain with thousands of feet of volcanics. They offer essentially no oil and gas potential. They have been prospects now for a century of time with no striking leads as to other minerals of value. In Wyoming, they now give no mineral revenue worth listing on the books.

These areas are thin in soil, scant in vegetative cover, except for bunch grasses and noncommercial timber. The frost-free period is but a few weeks per year. The grazing period where the areas can be utilized is but a short 3 months. These areas are covered with snow for 8 months of the year.

The rightful aspect for which we should value these high-level lands lies in the great amount of snow, ice, and water that is stored up there. I hear few people speak of the needs in preserving these lands as the great water resource they pose. Nothing should be done to disturb this great resource. If wilderness legislation were to disturb this resource, then the commercial mongers would have a right to squawk. Wilderness legislation would serve to protect this great water resource for all time to come. Nothing should be permitted to destroy or change these great water resource areas. I do not say that grazing, lumbering, or mining hinder the preservation of this resource. But overgrazing, improper lumbering methods, and exploitable mining with no regard for refuse is harmful to this great water resource and must be controlled.

Therefore, honorable Representatives and members of the committees concerned with this proposed wilderness legislation, I ask and beg you to consider the Senate bill 174 favorably. It is for the good of the greatest numbers of peoples for all time to come. We must tighten up control and limit the bad use of the bountiful high-level lands which are our greatest resource of water, esthetic appreciation, and recreation.

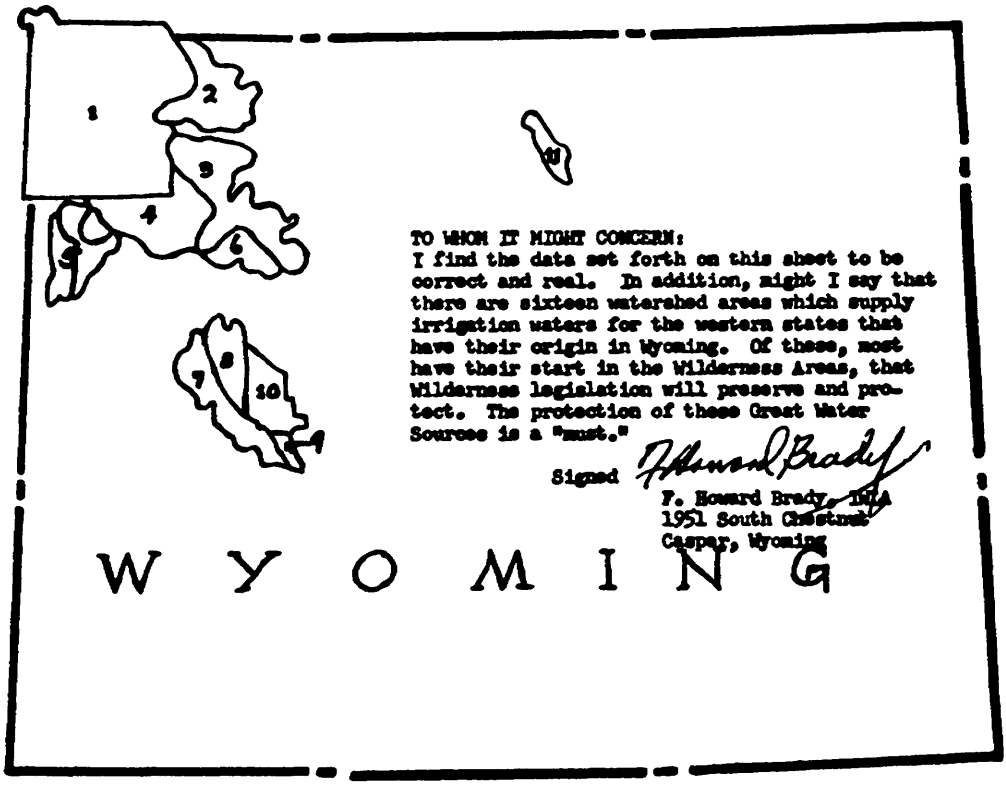
I should like it to be known for the record, that in addition to being a professional biologist, geologist, and teacher, I am an avid fisherman, hunter, conservationist, and naturalist. I am at present a national director of the Izaak Walton League of America from Wyoming and now serve as a member of the national executive board. My efforts are the same as many others in the direction of conservation and they are put forth for the benefit of the greatest number of people for the sake of posterity.

Thank you kindly for making this letter a part of the record.

Sincerely,

F. HOWARD BRADY.

SRP03531




ONLY 11 AREAS IN WYOMING INCLUDED IN NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM—ACREAGE OF 4,833,727 IS ONLY 8 PERCENT OF WYOMING'S AREA

| | Acres |
|---|---|
| 1. Yellowstone National Park (also in Idaho and Montana) | 2,039,217 |
| 2. North Absaroka Wilderness Area (national forest | 359,700 |
| 3. South Absaroka Wilderness Area (national forest) | 506,300 |
| 4. Teton Wilderness Area (national forest) | 563,600 |
| 5. Grand Teton National Park | 310,390 |
| 6. Stratified Primitive Area (national forest) | 147,000 |
| 7. Bridger Primitive Area( national forest) | 383,000 |
| 8. Glacier Primitive Area (national forest) | 177,000 |
| 9. Popo Agie Primitive Area (national forest) | 70,000 |
| 10. Wind River Mountain Roadless Area (Indian) | 183,520 |
| 11. Cloud Peak Primitive Area (national forest) | 94,000 |
| Total | 4,833,727 |

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BIG HORN COUNTY ROD & GUN CLUB,
*Hardin, Mont., November 20, 1961.*

WAYNE ASPINALL,
*House Committee of Interior and Insular Affairs.*

DEAR SIR: The members of the Big Horn County Rod & Gun Club have voted unanimously to support the wilderness bill and seek your support for the preservation of these areas.

It is true that man can create beauty but it is not the same as God created in our forests, rivers, mountains, lakes, and even our deserts. Let us retain a few of these wilderness areas as our Creator intended for us to see and enjoy.

Now is the time for action, a decade from now may be too late as there are many powerful groups whose sole interests are of monetary gains, this helps but a few and not the general public.

We as a group dedicated to conservation and preservation of wildlife and its habitat ask that you put forth your best efforts to assure passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

JAMES CLAWSON, *Secretary.*

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MCGILL, NEV., *November 16, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN PFOST: Please consider the following a strong protest against the proposed legislation that would make the wilderness bill (Senate bill S. 174) law.

It is easy for one's thinking to be swayed by the emotionalistic approach of the misguided, and so-called nature lover. This person would, if asked, tell you that he is interested primarily in natural conservation. Perhaps this is so. The tragedy lies in the fact that so few understand the larger meanings of the word "conservation."

It is my understanding that the word implies developing and using one's resources to what will, in the long run, provide the maximum use of nature's gifts to man. This can be accomplished through planning, control, and by taking realistic, proven conservation measures.

Developing what are now wilderness areas does not mean destroying them or impairing their beauty as the typical advocate of this bill would have you believe. On the contrary, developing means making these huge tracts of land accessible to people like you and I, who would otherwise see of them only their boundaries.

To many people in the East, the wilderness bill carries only nebulous meanings; to the people of Nevada and to others in the West who make their livings by developing the mineral resources in this country, the bill has a far greater meaning—economic life or death.

In closing, I urge you to look for the motives that went into the initiation of this bill and at the true nature of the original advocates of this bill.

Respectfully,

ALEXANDER F. BISSETT.

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BOULDER, COLO., *November 2, 1961.*

Re wilderness bill.

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: Inasmuch as we were unable to attend your special hearing on the wilderness bill which was held at Montrose, Colo., on November 1, we would appreciate it if you would insert this letter into the record of that meeting.

We strongly urge your support of this bill inasmuch as we, as members of the Colorado Mountain Club, use these wilderness areas extensively for recreational purposes and would like to see them preserved in their natural state as much as possible.

The amount of land to be set aside under this bill is such a small percentage of the total land area that it seems a shame that these areas cannot be preserved for the future use of our children and grandchildren as recreational areas. We strongly urge your support of this bill.

Yours very truly,

L. D. and WANDA BLANDING.

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NOVEMBER 17, 1961.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: Please consider the interest of present and future inhabitants of the proposed wilderness areas before taking the drastic action proposed by those who would condemn the Western States to eternal nondevelopment.

 SRP03533

My early years were spent in San Juan County of Utah. Though picturesque, the area is somewhat bleak and desolate. However, in recent years the area has contributed much to our national wealth via the uranium deposits and newly found oil fields.

Please consider the advantages of the multiple use in any legislation affecting our western area.

Sincerely,

B. BLAIN BRADFORD.

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BERKELEY, CALIF., *October 13, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I am writing you as a citizen deeply interested in preserving for future generations some of the values of unspoiled America, about which we all love to sing. I wish to state my position before your committee at this time, as being strongly in favor of such steps toward limited wilderness protection and preservation, as are set forth in bill 174, recently passed by the Senate.

The wilderness bill, S. 174, passed the Senate 78 to 8. In its present form it is the considered product of some 5 years of intensive study and amendment. It is fair to assume that it comes very close to expressing the thoughtful opinion of the Senate, and of the public which elected the Senators to represent them. The 10 percent of votes against the bill roughly represents that small segment of American citizens whose scale of values is in terms of dollars only, and for whom the wilderness is only something to destroy if economic values can thus be obtained. The great majority of our citizens, I believe, do enjoy things of beauty and of inspiration to the spirit. Among these things are these remnants of America the beautiful—places of outstanding scenic beauty still unspoiled by human evploitation. Most of such wilderness areas are in public domain managed by the U.S. Forest Service. At present, such lands can be changed to one of commodity, exploitation, or diminished in area at the discretion of one man—an appointive officer. No public hearing is required where the owners of the property may express their wishes. This is an anomolous situation in our democratic type of government, which S. 174 proposes to correct. No designated wilderness is locked up by this legislation. The final decision is made for the owners, by their top representatives, with opportunity for public hearings and discussion. This is representative government in a democracy, and should replace the present bureaurocracy—however beneficent it has been in the past.

I sincerely hope that this committee will approve the objectives of the Senate bill 174, or its equivalent, and assist in early presentation and passage through the House.

Respectfully yours,

HAROLD C. BRADLEY.

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LAPORTE, COLO., *November 20, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR HON. WAYNE ASPINALL: I am writing in reference to the Wilderness Act (S. 174). We are told that our national population may reach 400 million by the year 2000. If this is so and with the great demand already placed on our game populations, we will be fortunate if any wildlife exists when this date arrives.

An elk is a wilderness species that cannot tolerate civilization. When man moves in or encroaches his range the elk either moves out, dies out or is killed out. Elk must be associated with "primitive or wild areas" because this is his home. This is why I feel it is vitally important to have wilderness and primitive areas. Why should jeeps, tote-gotes, and other contraptions be allowed to ruin areas that we hold and cherish so dearly in an age when rockets and space travel are king? Even at present, our national forests are overrun by vehicles. I feel we should set aside and protect different areas throughout America for recreational use and wilderness game. Inroads of civilization have already caused the wolverine, the grizzly bear, and others to disappear from Colorado.

The primary reason I point out the above is because hunting and fishing recreation is an industry we cannot afford to lose. This form of recreation brought to Colorado over $100 million last year. For this reason alone we must continue to manage with foresight of future demands so as to prolong this industry (we hope as long as man inhabits the earth).

Unless national security or public welfare is at stake, I do not favor modifying the isolation status of our present primitive or wilderness areas administered or managed by the Forest Service. I also feel no modification should be exercised in the operation of these areas except when passed on and approved by congressional act. I feel the Governor of any State should not be allowed to disrupt or veto any consideration or parts thereof when adding to or subtracting from a wilderness area. The managing and operation of wild areas should come under the Forest Service as it has in the past. I also feel pressure groups would and could force State government to cater to their desires; whereas, this corruption is not so likely if handled in Washington.

In a summarizing paragraph, I would like to see primitive and wild areas have a permanent status, with the following restrictions: no roads, no powerlines, no communication lines, no pipelines, no lumber cut, and no mining. Livestock grazing I feel, has a place if kept under control.

If you or your committee desire further clarification of my recommendations, please call or write. I am at your disposal. I hope with all sincerity, that you will give this letter some time and serious thought, because I feel it is our responsibility to plan for our sons and daughters and maybe the future generations will enjoy the out-of-doors as we know it. We Americans are strong believers in peace and freedom. This is why you will no doubt receive many letters from spirited people who are fighting for the freedom of primitive and wild areas.

Sincerely yours,

HARVEY G. BRAY.

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WHITEWATER, COLO., *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I wish to submit for the record of the Montrose hearing, the following testimony, namely:

Since the areas to be taken into the wilderness system are already national parks, monuments, and wilderness, wild or primitive areas and are protected, as such, by our Federal Government, why is it necessary to spend so much time and money creating a new system. If they need further protection, would it not be possible to simply freeze them in the present status?

If we must be forced to accept this piece of legislation, I plead for protection of existing rights, which has been allowed for on the surface, but in section 6(c) 1 and 2 water rights are allowable, if deemed best by the President, and grazing rights are subject to "regulations and restrictions deemed necessary by the Secretary having jurisdiction." Under such provisions they could be completely eliminated.

The bill states that only existing areas will be taken into the system. This would give a measure of protection, but section 3(h) states that any addition of an area, or elimination of an area, must be made by Congress (by law). Therefore, new areas might be added, and old ones are not fully protected, so what is gained? Even private land is not safe.

The 10 years of study and reviews are certain to involve a lot of expense and time that could better be used some other way.

I am not against protecting some natural areas for future generations. I am a nature lover, but why must we leave the way open for possibly unscrupulous future administrators to choke out industry in the West. It is dangerous to our country.

Yours truly,

MRS. HOWARD BROUSE.

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SANTA FE, N. MEX., *October 26, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: The Wilderness Act which is now before your committee for hearings is one which is greatly needed, and also one which can have great impact upon our future as a nation. Great areas of our western rangelands have been

SRP03535


devastated by overuse and are now little more than desert. Only in our national forests has there been a great nationwide attempt to preserve for future generations a part of our national lands heritage, and this has not always been successful. The only lands not now subject to commercialization are those designated as wilderness areas, and there is no guarantee that this will be true tomorrow.

Ninety-two percent of our national forests are now open to exploitation by private interests and the remaining 8 percent is in danger of becoming so. All that is required is the signature of one man. In the interests of good government alone, is this a situation that we should continue to tolerate?

This bill merely gives congressional sanction to the preservation of those areas now designated as wilderness, and does not take away from the users any privileges which they may have there now. It assures that future generations will be able to enjoy the benefits that only such areas can provide, as those thousands of us who now use them do. There is no justification for opposition by any special interest group, since the bill adequately provides for these interests should the public good require it.

Past testimony by some misguided individuals has been that costs of using these wilderness areas are prohibitive. This is not so. I have spent many hundreds of days on horseback in such areas at a cost of $2.50 to $3 per day. It would have cost me this much to stay at home. Among my friends are many who also use and enjoy the wilderness areas at about this same cost. In fact, most of the people that I know who are using these areas could not afford to pay high prices, since most of them are in the $4,000 to $8,000 per year income bracket. The truth of the matter is that a person can spend what he wants to spend, just as he can do on a trip anywhere, up to a top limitation of about $25 per day.

Actually, for those who object to this bill, it provides many safeguards for their position which are not now possible. At present, new wilderness areas can be added by administrative order, but this will not be possible under the proposed bill.

In conclusion, let me say that it is very hard to understand the reasons for the opposition to this bill. It will not damage anyone, but will provide needed protection of these areas for us and future generations to come, and I cannot see how anyone with the public good at heart can in good conscience oppose it.

Your support of this position will be very greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

GLEN W. BURTTRAM.

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SANTA FE, N. MEX., *October 26, 1961.*

Re hearings on S. 174.

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: I have lived in Santa Fe, N. Mex., since 1947. Because of the close proximity of the Pecos Wilderness area in New Mexico, I have been able to make numerous trips into this area, enjoying the many wonders of a wilderness area, which is not found in many areas of the United States. I feel that it has been a wonderful experience for myself and members of my family, who have enjoyed the wilderness areas of New Mexico.

Therefore, I strongly urge the passage of the above Senate bill in order to assure the preservation of the wilderness areas in our country for posterity.

Respectfully yours,

J. H. BURTTRAM.

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SANTA FE, N. MEX., *November 6, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, Sacramento, Calif.:*

Snowed-in passes prevented many proponents of S. 174 from attending Montrose hearings. Public sentiment for the bill is strong in New Mexico. Endorsing it are the New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association and 20 affiliated chapters, Izaak Walton League, Sportsmen's Association of New Mexico, New Mexico Archers' Club, New Mexico Jeep Herder's Club and their local chapters, Los Alamos Sportsmen's Club and Lion's Club, many other organizations, many news media, and tens of thousands of individuals.

Opponents include some selfish commercial interests who now have 92 percent of national forests and want the other 8 percent also.

Please include this in the record. Your help in getting S. 174 out of committee will be appreciated.

DOC H. BURNETT,
*President, New Mexico Wildlife & Conservation Association, Inc.*

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WHITEWATER, COLO., *November 15, 1961.*

WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: We are writing concerning the S. 174 wilderness bill.

We feel there is no need whatsoever, for this bill, as being beneficial to any parties concerned.

There is already more money appropriated for development of recreation areas, than there is for range improvement. These people need the beef raised on this range, as much, if not more than they do more places for recreation. There is an adequate supply of these facilities now. Also these out-of-the-way places are not going to benefit the average person.

We are very strongly opposed to this bill, and these are only part of our reasons.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. TOM BURWELL.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH., *November 17, 1961.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: The wilderness bill as now proposed has some very serious things in it. The Legislature is sidestepping its responsibility by allowing the Executive to set up the areas and then both Houses are required to veto a poor proposal. The Legislature should receive a definite area from the executive department, debate the proposal on its merits and then pass the enabling legislation.

The mineral and water resources of the Western States are the bases of our economic growth. A reduction in mineral exploration will eventually handicap the whole country. The economical conservation of water is a must if we have even a minimum growth or survive a few low water years. These are much more important than a wilderness area which will be enjoyed by the rich almost exclusively.

Yours truly,

EARL BUTLER.

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KENNECOTT COPPER CORP.,
UTAH COPPER DIVISION,
*November 18, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST: Relative to the controversial wilderness bill, I wish to use this opportunity to express my views.

I feel that "primitive" areas must remain accessible to the prospector to further the discovery of minerals. These mineral discoveries will lead to industry and means of livelihood to the people of Utah and surrounding States.

This enactment of Congress must be carefully scrutinized and given careful and sincere consideration as to the majority of proponents or opponents.

I am not in favor of the wilderness bill because, the withdrawal of this land will seriously affect the future of the mining industry in this country.

MIKE CALLAS,
*Drilling and Blasting General Foreman.*

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EVANSTON, ILL., *October 24, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I urge you to endorse bill S. 174 on the preservation of the wilderness areas.

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We have journeyed the long way from Illinois to Colorado twice in order to find some original wilderness, and it was worth every bit of trouble and expense. With the world as crowded with humanity as it is today, it brings much peace of mind to know there is some natural wonderland left in our country.

Sincerely,

MRS. RALPH B. CHALFANT.

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EVANSTON, ILL., *October 24, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.*

DEAR SIR: I'm sure from your position on this committee that you love the outdoors and realize the lift and strength our wilderness areas can give to the citizens of this great country.

But I want to assure you that there are many who feel as you do. I have taken the Trail Riders trips thru the San Juan and the Maroon Bells Wilderness Areas and they are among my most treasured memories. I plan to return many, many times.

I have seen the devastation that lumbering and grazing can create in these beauty spots and ask that you do everything in your power to prevent it in the few remaining spots that exist.

I am no advocate of "nationalization" of our natural resources, but the personal greed of the few lumber and cattle men and miners who would enter our last few "sacred" spots makes me so mad I see red.

I certainly urge your support of the bill, S. 174.

Sincerely (and hopefully),

RALPH B. CHALFANT.

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CACHE VALLEY BRANCH,
WALKER BANK & TRUST CO.,
*Logan, Utah., November 10, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: Although I have testified once in Washington on behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on S. 174, the wilderness bill, I have not had an opportunity to attend one of the several hearings you have recently held in the West. I would, therefore, like to file this communication in accordance with your invitation to communicate with the committee prior to November 20.

The wilderness bill, as amended, is still, in my opinion, premature in locking up for single-purpose use vast areas already under Federal administration, which, however, have not yet been fully studied and classified.

It is also premature for the further reason that the report and recommendations of the National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission have not yet been made.

While the wilderness concept certainly has merit, it must, in practice, be limited by considerations of the highest use of the lands involved, and that may include productive use not permitted in the proposed wilderness areas, the total of which could easily reach 50 or 60 million acres under the proposed legislation.

A further and even more basic reason for rejecting the bill as it now stands is that it involves an obvious surrender of the constitutional duty and responsibility of Congress to administer and dispose of our public lands. A grant of authority in this bill to the executive branch, with only a difficult opportunity for veto by Congress, represents a capitulation by Congress to the executive department. This is a basic objection which should not be compromised or overlooked.

I would appreciate it if this statement could be considered by your committee in acting upon the wilderness bill.

Thanking you for your consideration.

Very sincerely yours,

FREDERICK P. CHAMP.

CHEYENNE MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY,
*Cheyenne, Wyo., November 16, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Member of Congress,*
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: The Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society, an active club organized in 1928, is unanimously opposed to enactment of the so-called wilderness bill (S. 174).

We join the Legislature of the State of Wyoming and the Wyoming Natural Resource Board in opposition to this measure. This legislation is unnecessary, undesirable, and is so loosely worded as to be subject to varied interpretations through rules and regulations.

Yours very truly,

B. L. MARSHALL,
*Vice President and Chairman, Executive Committee.*

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RATON, N.M., *October 22, 1961.*

In re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*U.S. Representative in Congress,*
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: The Colfax County Game Protective Association of Raton, N.M., feels it is of the utmost importance that the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee act favorably on S. 174 as passed by the Senate.

We feel that it is fair to all concerned, in its present form.

We feel very strongly that we owe it to our children and all future generations to preserve wilderness areas for their enjoyment and moral refreshment. There is a terrific need to get away from the fast pace we encounter in our everyday working lives, and more and more people from all age groups are finding that the peaceful solitude of our wilderness areas fills that need.

In its present form, the bill has provisions to take care of national emergencies. Grazing, State water rights, prospecting and mining, oil and gas and power lines all are safeguarded if the President sees that allowing them will better serve the public interest than denial of them.

Surely this wish to preserve small parts of our last remaining wilderness areas cannot be termed "selfishness." It is selfishness on the part of special interests that would destroy our very last wilderness areas for their own personal gain.

Sincerely yours,

COLFAX COUNTY GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION,
By Dr. JOHN A. LANGSTON, *President.*

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HELENA, MONT., *November 2, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Room 1324, New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: May I submit the following statement favoring wilderness bill S. 174.

I would like to speak particularly and perhaps a little selfishly from the point of view of a third generation westerner. My family was associated with the mining and the livestock industry since its beginning in this part of the country. My training and experience has been in the field of natural resource management. I am very proud of the wealth and variety of natural resources that we have here.

I think that I speak for most westerners when I say we are especially proud of our heritage in history. All too few authentic bits of this zestful and fleeting epic have been caught in writing and on canvas. Presently, synthetic and often ridiculous versions of the early West are being viewed through the medium of moving pictures and television. It is, therefore, particularly pleasing to me that it has been possible to retain unchanged, through primitive or wil-

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derness classification, bits of our western country. We can be assured in this way that our children and theirs will be able to enjoy authentic fragments of the West as it was seen and lived by their grandparents. It is also particularly encouraging that others from all over the Nation share our interest and pride in these areas.

The added protection of Congress as provided by the presently considered wilderness legislation seems very desirable. I also firmly believe that the wild character of these few areas can be preserved without disrupting our western economy. In fact, I feel that their presence adds materially to the monetary as well as the esthetic value of our vastly important outdoor recreation resources.

Anything you and your committee can do to further the final passage of this legislation will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted.

ROBERT F. COONEY.

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MIDLAND, TEX.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I heartily endorse wilderness preservation and S. 174 bill, which I understand will come up in January in the House of Representatives.

As you live in the western part of Colorado the wilderness must be as dear to you as to those of us who have the privilege of seeing it when the opportunity comes our way by means of the wilderness trail trips.

Cordially,

Mrs. R. C. CRABB.

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CROOK COUNTY FARM BUREAU,
*Sundance, Wyo., November 20, 1961.*

GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairwoman, Subcommittee Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Committee of the House, New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: The Crook County Farm Bureau, with a 1961 membership of 403, would like to go on record as being opposed to Senate bill 174, or the wilderness bill as passed by the Senate.

Sincerely,

MRS. ALICE HAWKEN, *County Secretary.*

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MCGILL, NEV., *November 2, 1961.*

Congressman WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman of Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: This letter is written in regard to Senate bill S. 174 which was recently passed by the Senate and sent to the House and is now being considered by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

Speaking as one who has lived in the West for over 50 years, who is a devoted hunter and fisherman, and who has spent a great deal of time in the outdoors, the wilderness bill, if passed, would in my opinion be a great tragedy. Leaving aside for the moment the economic aspects of the program which would close these lands to prospecting, mining, and livestock raising, it is firmly believed that only a handful of people would utilize the wilderness areas for recreational purposes. Without access roads to penetrate the areas few people would be able to carry supplies and equipment on either their person or by horse except for a very limited stay, and there is the further consideration of what would happen to the areas when a forest fire occurs. Without access roads there would be no means of transporting fire-fighting equipment and, as a result, large wastelands would be created.

From an economic viewpoint, the West depends largely upon these lands for economic stability. Instead of withdrawing these lands from prospecting and mining and livestock raising it would appear that the U.S. Government should

encourage and exert every effort to develop such lands. National security dictates that we should be as self-sufficient as possible and not depend upon other countries to supply our needs.

In the opinion of the writer the proponents of the wilderness bill are not acquainted with the true facts and seem to have the impression that by having these lands subject to multiple use they are being despoiled and destroyed. As a resident of the West you are fully aware that such is not the case and that through the control exercised by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management the public lands are protected and maintained with the view of perpetual use, not only for recreational purposes but for the economic benefits derived from mining and livestock industries.

Your rejection of this legislation or modification to permit multiple use is earnestly solicited.

Yours very truly,

R. W. CROSSER.

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AZTEC, N. MEX., *October 21, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: As a family that has enjoyed the opportunity of using our outdoors as they are today, we feel that our wilderness areas should be preserved and strongly favor the passage of the bill S. 174.

We would appreciate your support of this bill.

Sincerely yours,

F. P. CRUM, Jr.
LOIS G. CRUM.

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BIG HORN POST & POLE CO.,
*Hyattville, Wyo., November 11, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Interior Committee,*
*1324 House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN PFOST: Would you please incorporate this letter in the hearings being conducted by the Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee on the passage of S. 174, the wilderness bill.

I urge that no action be taken on this bill for the reasons that the need for such a bill cannot be established in view of the fact that existing legislation has already protected public lands from unnecessary wastes; such legislation would serve the interests of special groups only; and if this legislation is passed a majority of the natural resources in the West would be forever withdrawn from aiding in the development and growth of our great country.

Again, I emphatically urge that your committee see that this legislation does not become a law.

Sincerely,

ROBERT F. CULLISON.

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GRAND JUNCTION, COLO., *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*House of Representatives,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: After having attended the meeting at Montrose, it would appear that there are many salient facts that were not touched upon in the hearing on the proposed wilderness bill, S. 174.

To begin with, let it be stated that I am a devoted conservationist; I enjoy the great open spaces, the wild animal life, and the peace and solitude not afforded by harried city life. However, let us be realistic.

It is claimed by the proponents of this said bill that if enacted into law it will be for all of the American people. Yes, indeed, it will be for all of the American people in perpetuity. The land that is taken off the tax role (and some of it will be) in addition to the acreage that is tax exempt must need be part and parcel of the economic consideration of all of the people for all time to come.

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It is also claimed by the advicates that it will be for the enjoyment of all of our people. I have spoken on this question to a few audiences and out of the number there have been only three people that felt that they might be enabled to enjoy this wilderness, as planned, perhaps once a year. Is this a fulfillment of the planned purpose? Not that they do not enjoy the great out of doors, but these particular wildernesses in question can afford little enjoyment to the numbers who desperately need inspirational quietude. It will cater to the very few who have the time and the propensity to either walk or ride horseback into its environs. Too few people are able to enjoy the wildernesses we now have without placing more acres in confinement.

How many in our cities or even hamlets could take time out of their very busy lives to travel with their families to a vacation spot to see nature in the raw? How many would walk into or hire a horse to enter this wilderness though lovely and albeit restful? Would they leave their families at home or seated in the automobiles while they relaxed? Or would they suddenly teach the members to ride and thus enjoy these primitive areas? How many harried business people or laborers in our metropolitan centers could take time off from their families even on weekends for such a venture? It might not be ill timed to ask, How many now seated in the House of Representatives would honestly have the desire or be able to venture into these primeval territories on weekends or even once each year? They have slightly more time to investigate procedures therein than most folk at that.

In regard to the multiple use (denied in the proposed law) now existing in the U.S. forestry lands it may be stated that all lumbering is under supervision. There is little need for increasing the output of lumber by further withdrawal Because of our tree farms, which comprise some 50 million acres, more timber for commercial use is now being produced commercially than is being removed by logging or insect damage or fire. Yet we must be ever alert to the dangers that can be incurred by insect damage or by fire and must have access roads to quickly get to the danger spots—this in spite of rapid advance made by plane control. Our wildernesses should be used and the public who cannot walk or ride should also have access roads where feasible to areas such as now exist which will permit them to enjoy the quiet places while relaxing. Congress which should be the voice of the people should control.

Not only has the ordinary tourist and lumber interests been left out of the picture, the miners, oil and gas producers, water provisionists, but also the livestockmen. Most of these have an altruistic interest in this land of ours as well as the recreationist. May I state that it was the cattlemen of western Colorado that saved our BLM land who promoted, along with Congressman Edward Taylor, the Taylor Grazing Act realizing that the soil in the vast areas was being wasted away and would soon be like unto the Gobi Desert. It has still remained in the hands of the American people and is not dependent on edict for survival. Slowly, but surely it is returning to normalcy. If this be greed, then make the most of it.

Can it be that those who depend on the great out of doors for a livelihood are greedy ones while those that sit in offices or labor in our cities are the altruistic ones? The very offices and buildings in many instances stand on land that was once a part of a great wilderness that still could be enjoyed by many if only those advoctes of Senate bill 174 would consent to return the building sites where men make a living to vegetative cover from which they sprung. Banish the thought.

The wild animal life might be worthy of comment. Just who is to fence this wilderness area in? Tourists from many walks have seen and thoroughly enjoyed the wildlife in Yellowstone Park. However, when the bears became too numerous in the park they ventured into eastern Idaho and are now creating a hazard to the ranchers and residents there. In places, the wilderness could become an untenable as well as an unnatural situation.

I am definitely for the advancement, protection, development, and enjoyment of our beloved United States, but does this proposed bill accomplish this?

Respectfully,

Mrs. Thomas C. Currier.

OTERO COUNTY WILD LIFE ASSOCIATION,
*Alamogordo, N. Mex., October 22, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I am heartily in favor of Senate bill 174 regarding wilderness preservation.

As a youth I was able to walk out into areas which I felt had not been seen by eyes other than mine, and the wild animals I sometimes saw. This type of feeling allows one to sense the very presence of God and His earth much as He created it. This sort of thing I have been unable to sense in cities, surrounded by brick, glass, and asphalt. Indeed, as a child I asked my mother where all the grass had gone when "they" built streets and sidewalks and buildings over such large areas.

I no longer worry about the grass in downtown areas, but I do wonder where my children and theirs will be able to go to obtain this feeling of having been the first to see even a particular tree or rock formation. I sadly fear that in precious few years one will have to leave our United States and travel to distant lands to be able to view natural splendor without wondering if it isn't about time for the park ranger to break into the reverie and ask us to move on so the others can get a better view.

These are trying times. We are beset by high crime rates, and juvenile delinquency is skyrocketing. Values are distorted by all sorts of environmental influences. I wonder if this is not our own doing. We have made it unfashionable for youth to know our earth as it was. We have covered great expanses of it with networks of highways, powerlines, and so on. It is difficult for a youngster, or adult for that matter, to realize the absolute power of our Creator when all he or she sees during life is man made or is altered to fit a scheme of development.

Without an expanse of wilderness to view, how may we leave our descendants a measure of God's creation to contemplate, and how may we convey to them with impact that God, not man, is supreme?

Yours for conservation,

JON L. DANIELS, D.D.S.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

HONORABLE MADAME: I am (and also my wife) very concerned with the limitations the wilderness bill will place on American initiative.

The other serious aspect of this bill is that in time of need, we (the American people) will not even know what we have in our wilderness areas. It will be a closed book to us and in a world that is steadily becoming more and more competitive, this not only seems foolhardy, but stupid. In the last World War we were forced to import uranium from Africa—although there was an abundant supply in this country. Lack of exploration forced us into a very serious position. We wouldn't like that to happen again. Beryllium is another new metal, which apparently is abundant in this country, but which in the main is being imported from Brazil. I do not advocate closing our markets to other countries, but don't let us close our eyes to our own natural resources by such means as the wilderness bill.

The only time the virginity of these lands will be destroyed is when the multitudinous American public is permitted to go into them. This right they have; then why deny it to the lone prospector or to the corporation that is willing to risk its capital to open new vistas of prosperity for us. In the last 100 years these lands have all been open to exploration. I have traveled a great deal and never has the lone prospector nor the corporate financed pack train detracted from the wilderness area. They are too few to affect it. Not until the multitudes come, will it cease to be a wilderness area. When a legitimate enterprise flourishes as a result of exploration in these lands, not only the entrepreneur benefits, but the entire Nation. Let's not tie our hands.

Your consideration of these factors and our views will be appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. DELAND.

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FORT COLLINS, COLO., *November 6, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: I was very glad to see that the Wilderness Act went through the Senate with so much strength. But it seems that it is hitting tough opposition again from our own State where it should be getting full support. I am very much in favor of the act.

The wilderness areas will be our last recreational areas. Now they are beautiful but once they are opened to motor traffic, highlines, miners, and destructive enterprises, they will be forever marred. Let's get this bill out of the committee and into the House of Representatives with your full support.

Thank you.

HOWARD K. DELOZIER,
*General Contractor.*

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OREM, UTAH, *November 16, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Committee of Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: I would like to register my protest against the passage of the so-called wilderness bill. To remove huge parcels of land, especially in these Northwestern States, and prevent any further development of such lands can only result in obstructing the economy of these States involved—to say nothing of the havoc it would create among the people who already have claims to the use of these lands for mining, grazing, etc., and whose claims could be invalidated by the whims of one man. Another reason why I am against this bill is the fact that it removes from the elected representatives the right to instigate this action and only leaves them with a veto power over it—a course of action that would be practically impossible for the representatives of one State to push through the Congress. After reading as much as possible on this bill, I am thoroughly convinced it is not for the good of the country.

Yours truly,

RUTH DIXON.

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MARKHAM, ILL., *October 19, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: As a member of the Trail Riders of the Wilderness, American Forestry Association, I would like to put in a plea for the passage of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, when it reaches the House of Representatives in January.

I am definitely against the use of wilderness areas for commercial interests, particularly in these times when all the aspects of wilderness enjoyment provide a welcome catharsis from the sights and sounds of everyday 20th century living. I feel that these wonderful wilderness areas should be kept free and intact for future Americans. Riding and camping out in the moutains, away from television, telephones, and noise of machinery has given us all a delightful respite from the threat of atomic warfare and the questionable future of life in outer space. And surely it is a fine thing to preserve a place for some of our vanishing species of wildlife.

Sincerely yours,

MONA DOP
Mrs. N. J. Dop, Jr.

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CASPER CLINIC,
*Casper, Wyo., November 17, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PROST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee of Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PROST: I would like to express my opposition to the wilderness bill which the Senate has already passed.

We out here in Wyoming feel that this would be detrimental to our State. I have expressed my opposition to our Congressman but would like the committee to be informed of my opposition also.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY B. DURHAM, Jr., M.D.

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EL PASO, TEX., *October 27, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: Senate bill 174 as passed by overwhelming majority of the Senate is in urgent need of your full support in the House of Representatives to guarantee a small heritage of unspoiled nature to future generations.

Under present conditions the stroke of one man's pen could turn over these last frontiers to the ruthless destruction of selfish minority interests.

As Congressman, you must change this undemocratic situation on principle alone. Such power should never be vested in any one man in a democracy.

Please bear in mind that this letter is from a Texan who is very much ashamed of the fact that Texas has no national forests, no public domain, no wilderness areas of any kind—only a couple of small national parks.

I shudder to think that without the protection of the Congress all timberland in the Nation would soon be usurped by profiteering private interests.

Surely, it isn't asking too much to set aside a reserve of 8 percent in honor of the Creator who gave us 100 percent of our national forests.

I urge you to listen carefully to the "voice of the people" at the hearing, to weigh the facts, and to change your mind and vigorously support the passage of Senate bill 174.

Sincerely,

PAUL ELMORE, Jr.

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HOLMDEL, N.J., *October 15, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: There have been many pros and cons about wilderness preservation and bill S. 174. Among the supporters are people like myself who have spent wonderful vacations in the wilderness far removed from the economic pressures of a highly complex society.

I am fully aware that the development of all our resources is important in the continued growth of America, as the opponents of this bill so loudly proclaim. However, I think these opponents fail to realize that America's greatest resource is its people.

With an expanding population and improved transportation, more and more people will use the wilderness areas for recreation and relaxation. I am sure you will hear many reasons why this bill should be passed, but my appeal to you is to consider the necessity of relaxation for the well-being of our people, our greatest resource, when you vote on this bill.

Here in the East economic interests have swallowed up almost off of the available land. This is the second chance, but remember that these areas are our last frontiers and there won't be another chance.

Sincerely yours,

S. DAWSON EMBREE.

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EAST ELY, NEV., *November 17, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: Although not one of your constituents, I feel sure that your familiarity with our western wilderness areas will influence you in doing everything you can to prevent the passage of a law that will deny large areas of our great out-of-doors to all but a few wealthy people who will be able to afford special means of transportation and guides to gain access to a great part of it.

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There is undoubtedly mineral and petroleum deposits in some of this country that may sometime be a vital factor in our national defense.

I feel very strongly that we should not leave these areas as a wasteland to be denied any development and access to but a privileged few.

I sincerely solicit your efforts in doing everything you can to prevent such a law from being passed, particularly Senate bill 174.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY FAY.

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NOVEMBER 11, 1961.

Congresswoman GRACIE PFOST.

DEAR GRACIE PFOST: Please put me on record as in favor of the wilderness bill (S. 174).

Thank you.

Mrs. N. FISHER.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 16, 1961.*

Re wilderness bill.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN PFOST: The purpose of this letter is to advise you of my individual feelings relative to the pending wilderness bill. I have been following the progress of the hearings, etc., with some interest, and the conclusions I have reached relative to the bill could best be summarized as follows:

1. It is against the basic concepts of our constitutional form of government, to allow any given parcel of land to be included in a wilderness system short of approval being obtained therefor from a majority vote of both Houses of Congress. Constitutional forms of government become inoperative only when the people and/or their designated Representatives lose a voice in any given governmental area.

2. Being both an attorney and a native Utah resident, I would vehemently protest any restrictions on mining rights in any wilderness area. One need only view the history of this great Nation to see the favorable impact which the mining industry has created.

3. Some primitive areas most probably have many yet undiscovered resources. To unwisely place these areas under unwarranted controls without knowledge of said resources would be extremely unwise. Therefore, I would suggest that inventory controls be set up whereby any land contemplated for inclusion under the bill would be completely inventoried and reports prepared on the same.

4. Finally, may I summarize my analysis of the problem by stating that I am not convinced that the greater interests of the people as a whole would benefit from the proposed legislation. May I respectfully suggest that you and your committee exercise considerable restraint before launching forth on a program which would have far-reaching detrimental effects.

Very truly yours,

DON R. FREEBAIRN,
*Attorney at Law.*

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NOVEMBER 16, 1961.

Re wilderness bill (S. 174).

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: Having spent 55 years in Wyoming I feel I am entitled to comment on this legislation:

(1) I believe it is contrary to the intent and purpose of the original Congress in recognizing the petition of origin for the Western States and the granting of the several charters. These charters guarantee the orderly development of the resources of these States by these States and the total assumption of the government and management thereof by these States.

(2) This bill has hidden implications such as the enlargement by administrative authority with the consent of the President and the subsequent halting of resource development; likewise, the economy resulting would be of a seasonal nature which is bad in itself.

This legislation appears to me to be a steppingstone to worse encroachment of States rights nor do I believe it will accomplish what its proponents desire. I am not opposed to recreational areas but believe that they should be administered by the States involved.

Should this or a similar bill be approved by our honorable Congress I would suggest the same Congress dedicate to the State or States affected in equal amount of public land to be totally owned and administered by the same State or States.

I believe I am putting into words and the thoughts of a majority of our stable Western States population in making these statements.

Thanking you for past and future considerations, I remain,

Very respectfully yours,

FRISON RANCH CO.,
D. T. FRISON, *President.*

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LONG BEACH, CALIF., *October 14, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I wish to write to you in favor and in support of bill S. 174 regarding the preservation of the wilderness areas.

I am riding the forestry trails in the wilderness areas in the Rockies for many years with my friends and I feel that the spiritual and recreational values which we receive cannot be measured in money and that everything should be done to preserve and protect these areas for us and for future generations.

Sincerely yours,

A. ROBERT FUCHS, M.D.

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STATEMENT OF PETER C. GAFFNEY

I represent the Southwest Pine Association, a nonprofit corporation composed of lumber mills operating in Arizona and New Mexico and manufacturing most of the lumber produced in these two States. I am also authorized to say that the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union in Arizona and New Mexico, while not affiliated with our association, is in agreement with the views expressed in this statement.

Our association is not opposed to wilderness areas. We think that a portion of the public lands should be retained in a state of wilderness for the scenic, educational, and recreational values that such areas provide. At the same time, we think that the size and the number of the wilderness areas should not be determined without considering the number of Americans who will make use of them. If Congress sets aside large land areas and millions of dollars worth of surface values for the benefit of a certain small group, it is inviting the other groups that have an interest in public lands and forests to forget about multiple-use management and strike out on their own, with each man for himself.

We think that the control of wilderness areas should remain in the hands of the experienced land managers in the public agencies because legislative procedures are too slow and cumbersome to permit the adjustments required by changing local conditions.

An expansion of the wilderness system in the Southwest could lead to a waste of resources through fires that are hard to fight in wilderness areas, and to interference with the region's needs for water, a high-priority item.

And finally, we think that the passage of wilderness legislation, including the creation of a wilderness council, should be postponed until the receipt of the report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, which will deal not only with the needs of the wilderness proponents but with those of all of the other nonindustrial groups that have an interest in public forests and lands.

On Forest Service lands, in Arizona there are two wilderness, four primitive, and three wild areas, accounting for 710,673 acres. In New Mexico, there are two wilderness, two primitive, and two wild areas, occupying 968,293 acres, or a total of 1,678,966 acres for wilderness purposes in the two States. The total national forest area in the two States is almost 20 million acres, and of this, the commercial forest acreage is about 5 million. This commercial forest land holds nearly 23 billion feet of timber.

In 1958, an estimated 10,300 people spent 14,000 man-days in the Arizona wilderness areas, and 12,600 people spent 23,600 man-days in the New Mexico

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areas. Some of these visitors went into the wilderness areas more than once, so the number of persons is actually smaller than stated. Even if as many as 22,900 people used the wilderness areas, that still is only a little over 1 percent of the population of the two States; and the Nation already has reserved more than 1,600,000 acres of forested and other lands for their use. To look at it another way: The people of the United States have dedicated 73 acres so that each person who made use of the wilderness areas could stay in the areas for about 1½ days in the entire year of 1958 (these figures refer only to Forest Service wilderness areas, and do not include the wilderness areas of the Indians). Is the Congress justified in passing a law that will encourage the setting aside of even more than the present 1,600,000-plus acres and even more billions of feet of timber for the use of this small part of the population?

One of the main reasons that more people do not use the wilderness areas is the virtual prohibition against roadbuilding in these areas and the exclusion of motor vehicles. For all practical purposes, motor vehicles are excluded from present wilderness areas and would also be prohibited in areas set up in the future. This raises the question of why we should encourage the creation of more wilderness areas when the ones we already have are not being used to any extent and are not likely to be.

The policy of managing the public forests "for the greatest good of the greatest number, in the long run" has been followed by the public agencies, and the practice of managing the forests for multiple use has gained wider and wider acceptance. The Forest Service has been respectful of the interest in the forests of the Sunday picnicker, the hunter, the fisherman, the hiker, the scientist, the camper, the miner, the lumberman, the livestock raiser, the water conservationist, and others with legitimate need for the forests. Is it fair then that the interests of a small group should take precedence over all others?

Looking at wilderness legislation from a Southwest regional standpoint, we respectfully point out that in this region the forests suffer more lightning-caused fires than in any other section of the country. If more wilderness areas are established—areas in which there will be no roads for the movement of heavy mechanical equipment to fight fires—we may expect more of our natural resources to be wasted by fire.

Water is a critical commodity in this section of the Nation. The crying need for water in the arid Southwest may require the opening up of forests for the production and conservation of water, and here, the interest of the wilderness cannot be paramount.

The Southwest Pine Association respectfully urges a delay in wilderness legislation until the report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission has been received and acted upon by Congress.

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HOBBS, N. MEX., *October 26, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I am a hunting and fishing license holder in the State of New Mexico and would like to see the House pass S. 174. (This bill is known as the wilderness bill.)

Sincerely,

J. C. GARNER.

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GLASGOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
*Glasgow, Mont., November 15, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: Because of the concern of stockmen and others in this community, the chamber of commerce directors have seen fit to pass the enclosed resolution.

As you will note in the resolution, our board has taken the position that a field hearing should be held in this vicinity before lands in the Fort Peck Range are designated a wilderness area.

We trust you will help bring to our people a better understanding as to how the proposed legislation will affect the economy of this vicinity.

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH T. GORMAN, *Secretary-Manager.*

RESOLUTION PASSED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF GLASGOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON OCTOBER 17, 1961

Whereas the following arguments have been presented to the board of directors of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce against the inclusion of lands situated near Fort Peck Lake as a part of the wilderness area under S. 174, said arguments being as follows, to wit:

(1) That press releases indicated that 946,987 acres of land in the Fort Peck game range are scheduled for inclusion in this wilderness area and this could adversely affect the economy of Valley County and the surrounding area.

(2) That local and even State control of the acreage so included in this wilderness area would be jeopardized to the disadvantage of Valley County and the surrounding area.

(3) That the livestock industry would be adversely affected and jeopardized and the livestock industry is an integral and important part of the economy of eastern Montana.

(4) That the future commercial and industrial development in the area would be prohibited.

(5) That the present use of the area for recreation and boating and hunting could be curtailed.

Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That no lands within the Fort Peck game range be included in the wilderness area unless and until a field hearing be held in Glasgow, Mont., or immediate vicinity for the purpose of establishing facts with regard to the effects such a program would have on the economy of this area; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the delegate to the Montana State Chamber of Commerce meeting to be held on the 29th day of October, 1961, at Helena, Mont., be instructed to present this resolution to the Montana State Chamber of Commerce and request said State chamber to pass a like resolution and distribute same in the proper channels so as to achieve the purposes and results intended by said resolution.

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CIRCLE EIGHT RANCH,
*Choteau, Mont., November 11, 1961.*

Representative GRACIE PFOST,
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PFOST: Since the House is holding hearings on the wilderness bill, as a dude rancher and conservationist, I would like to go on record as urging the House to pass the wilderness bill, without changes, as it came from the Senate.

There are powerful interests working to reduce our wilderness areas all over the country at a time when wilderness areas should be increased rather than reduced in size, in order to meet the demands of an ever growing population.

With the increased population in the years ahead the wilderness areas we now have are not going to be sufficient to maintain the wildlife, timber, scenic beauty, recreation areas unless this wilderness bill is passed in its present form.

As a member of the Dude Ranchers' Association and of the Montana Outfitters & Guides Association, I speak for many asking the passage of the wilderness bill.

Thanking you for your consideration in this matter, I am,

Yours very truly,

KENNETH H. GLEASON.

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GLENWOOD SPORTSMAN'S CLUB,
*November 3, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: The Glenwood Sportsman's Club is an organization in the upper Colorado River and the Roaring Fork River Valley around Glenwood Springs whose membership varies from 50 to 100 members.

This club has had several discussions and panel programs concerning wilderness legislation and we now favor enactment of wilderness legislation patterned after the bill passed in the Senate. Much discussion was held and originally this club went on record as opposing wilderness legislation, but with changes in the

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proposed legislation and in the interpretation by Forest Service personnel who came to our meetings, the club is now on record as being in favor of reporting a wilderness bill favorably by the Congress and passing it on to the President.

Sincerely yours,

CYPE MINCER, *Secretary.*

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CASPER, WYO., *November 17, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: I am advised that your hearings in connection with the wilderness bill have concluded and I would like to make the following comment in connection with this proposed legislation. I am not writing in behalf of the oil industry nor my personal interest in that connection; although the bill would be detrimental to my line of work.

My principal objection to the proposed bill is that some agency in Washington would have practically unlimited control over the Government-owned land in the Rocky Mountain area and this acreage represents a large percentage of our State and adjoining States. I have not been advised of any proposed method of control whereby citizens of the States involved would have any control over the allocation of wilderness land or the operation of such land after it had been designated.

The citizens of the Rocky Mountain States are satisfied with the present status and I believe that practically all of them are opposed to the wilderness bill.

Very truly yours,

F. C. GRIGSBY.

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CULLIGAN SOFT WATER SERVICE CO.,
*Casper, Wyo., November 16, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I wish to state to your committee that I am against passage of the wilderness bill for a number of reasons. The State of Wyoming is now 47 percent Government-owned and with the passage of this bill any amount of this land could be made a wilderness area. This would most certainly affect the ranching, and the oil, gas, and minerals development.

I have yet to talk to a person in Wyoming who is in favor of the bill.

Yours very truly,

C. H. GUTZ.

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CASPER, WYO., *November 17, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee, Interior and Insular Affairs, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I would like to go on record as being in favor of the wilderness bill as it now stands. I think Senator Clinton Anderson has done a wonderful job with the bill as it now stands.

I am a member of the chamber of commerce here in Casper and I see the legislative committee is opposed to the bill; however, the chairman of the group is an attorney for an oil company here so this explains their attitude.

There is nothing the oil companies would rather do than drill holes all over our wilderness areas and the national forests if they could do it.

Mr. Seaton was in favor of conservation and I am sure Mr. Udall must be too.

Respectfully,

R. E. HALLOCK.

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HOMESTAKE MINING CO.,
*Lead, S. Dak., November 14, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, House Subcommittee, House of Representatives,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I would like to go on record as objecting to Senate bill 174, passed during the last session, which I understand is under study by your committee before House action at the next congressional session.

As a mining geologist, with a good many years of experience, I have spent substantial amounts of time in many of the wilderness areas of the United States. My experience covers both commercial work and a period of time as a member of the U.S. Geological Survey. Currently, I am manager of a gold mining company in South Dakota.

My objection to the bill is outlined in the following paragraphs:

*Exclusions are too broad.*—The bill, as passed by the Senate, would make the use of large areas of public land entirely too limited. By refusing to permit development of any areas by roads or buildings for almost any purpose, we would, in effect, have an economic deep freeze on vast areas of public land. This is defintely not in the best interest of the people of the United States.

*Areas are too great.*—It is my understanding that some 65 million acres of land might come under this bill. There is no need whatsoever for any such large areas of land to be included as a wilderness area from which economic development is excluded.

*Will not benefit the general public.*—The bill, as written, will not permit the general public to enjoy the benefits that may exist in the excluded area. The general public does not travel on foot or by pack train to use the trails permitted in this area. The general public travels by automobile and does not get to areas that are not reasonabily so accessible.

*Benefits are for the privileged few.*—This bill will hold from the general public great areas of public land to allow a few people, who are so inclined and financially able to do so, to get into the back country by pack train at considerable expense in time and money. This is a very small percentage of our people. A few people, highly interested in hunting, will be able to use the area. The broad economic benefits that might be available in the area would be prevented from contributing to the people of the United States as a whole.

*Withholds possible wealth from the economy.*—Whatever elements of economic value might be developed in this area, would be prevented from contributing to the general welfare. This is not the way the United States was built. The good things that come to all are there because it was possible to develop without hindrance. the resources of the land of our country.

*New mines could not be found in such areas.*—The bill, as passed, limits prospecting in such areas to foot and had prospecting. Mines can no longer be found in the United States by such simple procedures. Therefore, in effect, no mines could ever be found in the excluded areas. Much more expensive and sophisticated methods are now necessary to find new mineral resources to care for the ever-growing demands of our people.

*Such broad scale wilderness exclusions are not necessary.*—The western regions of our Nation contain great areas of wilderness land that in the natural course of events will always be a wilderness. Only in limited instances will the economic situations outlined above develop in these areas. The real purpose is to leave them open, so that where such developments become desirable, they can be accomplished. The rugged mountain areas of the West are so demanding in cost of development that only unusual spots in them will ever be highly developed. We must leave it possible to develop these areas as they become known. The real place where land is disappearing and being gobbled up in use, is the urban and suburban areas where business growth expands at such a great rate, that lands are being turned into areas of concrete and asphalt, and brick and stone. This is probably necessary and no one is terribly excited about getting it stopped. Therefore, why pick on great western areas where no such problem even exists.

*Restricts freedom.*—This bill is one more movement in the direction of governmental restriction and centralized governmental control, taking away from the general population rights they have long enjoyed and which have brought to our country and people the greatest privileges and development known in the world. Let's permit it to continue.

There is in my own State of South Dakota a large amount of land once privately held that is now owned by the Government and controlled by the Bureau of Land Management. This land was bought by the United States during the depression of the thirties. It has been taken from taxation and is managed at extra cost by Government bureaus. There are many ranchers in the region who now use those lands on a rental basis who would be most happy to buy them from the Government. This would put them back as tax contributors to the local communities, and at the same time reduce the cost of Government bureaus necessary now to manage this property. Any such purchase plans meet with a very cold reception in governmental quarters. Again I say, let's not permit Govern-

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ment bureaus or centralized Government to gain any further control than they now have. What we really need is less control.

I hope your committee will do all in its power to prevent the passage of this bill in the restrictive form provided for by the Senate in S. 174.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES O. HARDER,
*Manager, Black Hills Operations.*

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ANTHONY, N. MEX., *October 17, 1961.*

DEAR SIR: I, among many, am very anxious to see the House pass the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174. It is my understanding that the wilderness areas constitute only 8 percent of the total national forest areas in the country and I can't see why the cattle and sheep men are so very anxious to encroach upon this land except that because of exceptionally fine management on the part of the Forest Service, the grazing would be of prime importance to them. If they are allowed in, it wouldn't be many years until the whole area would be overgrazed again as has been done in the past, and that would very adversely affect the watershed. Since the whole country is alarmed about the great need for water in this and coming generations, it seems to me that good management to preserve the watershed is of prime importance in this question.

There is also the esthetic side of the question, the preservation of some small areas of this vast country in their original condition for the pleasure and enjoyment of thousands each year. I speak from some experience for I went to the Pecos Wilderness in September on one of the Forestry Association's many fascinating trail rides, and I have never experienced such a restful and get-away-from-it-all vacation. There are impressive figures which show the total number of people who enjoy such vacations each year and if the areas are not preserved as wilderness areas, it won't be long until a virgin area will be a thing unknown to the United States. Already in the great cities of our land, there are children who don't know what a real forest looks like; they have never seen a wild animal except in a zoo; they have never had the great privilege of camping out in the woods left pretty much as God made them where there are no roads, no cars, no billboards, no telephones, only the great stretches of wilderness, the wild animals, and the waters in the streams so pure that one can drink from them with no fear of contamination.

Please do your utmost to help get this bill through the House. We simply must not allow this country to become all commercial to feather the pockets of the few.

Sincerely,

ELLA. P. HARDING.

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ANTHONY, N. MEX., *October 16, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: I have just returned from an 11-day trail ride in the Pecos wilderness of New Mexico and had a most enjoyable and relaxing time. The wilderness areas offer an opportunity to get away from the rush of modern life. Carla might smash the Texas coast but we were blissfully content with life because we knew nothing of it's approach and Khrushchev might offer to blow everyone to kingdom come but we were relaxed and content.

The wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, which passed the Senate and which you are now considering will guarantee to future generations the same opportunity which we have of visiting these areas where all the mess humans have made of the world can be forgotten in the wonders and beauty of nature. Areas where elk and deer feed on the tall grass of the mesa and grouse and wild turkey are flushed out of the timber and beaver still build their dams across mountain streams. Wilderness areas have these and many other beautiful things of nature that will be forever lost if bill S. 174 is allowed to die.

This must not happen.

Your committee has the responsibility of recommending to the House the passage of this bill and through its passage can insure that wilderness areas will forever be protected so that those yet unborn may enjoy that which we now enjoy.

Congressman Aspinall we look to you and your fellow Congressmen for a favorable report on S. 174.

Yours very truly,

ARTHUR G. HARDING.

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DUBOIS, WYO., *November 19, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: I hasten to write you with regard to wilderness legislation that may come up for consideration by the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee in the very near future.

As a western rancher and cattleman who has spent his entire life in the livestock business, I am opposed to the enactment of such legislation. I can assure you that such are the sentiments of my friends, neighbors, fellow stockmen, and others who are vitally concerned in this matter.

The passage of any such legislation would be portent and inimical to the best interests of the rancher and cattleman who for economic and other reasons of necessity depend on summer mountain range which would no doubt be absorbed in such legislation. Subsequent regulations and potential land use restrictions could result in utter chaos and ruin to the stockmen who have spent years of hard work and life earnings in the development of their holdings adjoining, or in close proximity to, forest grazing areas. The exodus of the stockmen would mean loss of taxation and revenue for both the State and Federal Governments, and would certainly wreck the economy of the small community. Many of the stockmen and ranchers have purchased and developed their holdings on the assurance that grazing permits would be available on Federal rangelands. Incidentally, most of the ranches in the mountain area support and keep literally hundreds of wild game animals from starvation each year that could not survive in mountain wilderness areas. These people have a natural interest in the protection of timber, wildlife, and range resources and do not condone public, private, or other abuse.

We are apprehensive over such wilderness legislation because of its being a prelude in all probability to a series of bills if it is not killed now. It would seem that there are already sufficient national parks, wilderness areas, etc., to suffice even the ego of the most rabid politician or sportsman, or whoever may be sponsoring such legislation.

On behalf of myself and others, may I urge that you use your good offices and influence and vigorously oppose any wilderness legislation which is so obviously untimely, undesirable, and detrimental to the stockmen, local community, the State, and Nation as a whole.

Kind thanks.

Very truly yours,

W. N. HARRISON.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 19, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I am writing in regard to the wilderness preservation and the bill S. 174. As a member of the Trail Riders of the Wilderness I cannot say too much in regard to something being done by our Senators and Representatives to help preserve these wilderness areas for future generations of Americans. It would seem that even now the big cities are closing in around farm areas until there is just one big continual city. How refreshing it is to know that there is still in America some places still not inhabited by humans where one can visit and enjoy nature at its best and the wilderness area. Actually, in my opinion, this is vital.

I feel most grateful to individuals who lived some years ago who had foresight enough to look ahead and plan for the areas of our national parks and set land aside that could not be purchased and used for private and commercial uses but set aside to be enjoyed by the American people as a whole. We Americans owe a great deal to these foresighted leaders of our country and I for one wish to do all I can to help preserve the wilderness areas for others to enjoy in future years to come. In this age of modern civilization it is comforting to

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know we still have these wilderness areas to go to and be refreshed in body, mind, and soul. I trust you will use your influence to further the wilderness preservation bill in the hearings that are forthcoming on this bill. I appreciate your interest in this matter and shall watch with interest the outcome of these proceedings.

Sincerely,

MISS ELAINE HAYS, R.N.

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SANTA FE, N. MEX., *October 29, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.*

DEAR SIR: We would like to strongly urge adoption of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

My youth was spent in the Central Plains with little thought or knowledge of areas that are completely natural and unspoiled. My only contact was hearing the glowing accounts of the natural beauty of Colorado and such places. My first real contact was when I moved to New Mexico as an adult and it is my hope that I may never be far from an area as nearly unspoiled by man as possible.

Therefore, Mrs. Hyatt and I believe the people of our Nation are due as much uplift as can be gotten from this bill becoming a law.

Sincerely yours,

FOSTER H. HYATT.
HELEN V. HYATT.

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ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX., *October 20, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*House of Representatives Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I have followed the wilderness bill from its inception.

The many changes and modifications, the vast amount of debate for and against the bill and the delaying tactics of its opponents in the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee to keep the bill from reaching the floor of the Senate made it seem that the bill would never be voted on. However, once the wilderness bill did come to a vote on the Senate floor it passed with an overwhelming majority.

It is quite obvious that the bill is wanted and demanded by the majority of the States.

I am confident that your House hearings at Montrose, Colo., and the other hearings across the country will again point up the fact that the majority of the people of this country want a wilderness bill and that those opposing the wilderness bill will contiue to be a small minority group that represents vested interests groups that seek monetary gains through exploitation of these wilderness areas.

I also think that nothing new can be said for or against the wilderness bill; just about all conceivable arguments have been from the voluminous reports presented before the Senate committee hearings; therefore, I urge this committee to do all it can to promote passage of the wilderness bill to retain a small portion of this great country in a condition similar to what it was when it was a young nation for all of the people of the present to enjoy and for all of the people who will take our places in the future.

Sincerely,

LEE C. HYDE, Jr., D.D.S.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 15, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: I feel sure that our public officials are far too busy to read all of the correspondence directed to them, but I must take the time to write this letter, for it is the only way that a citizen can express his feelings to those who represent them in our National Capitol. Only once before have I felt strongly enough about a controversial issue to express myself to our Congressmen, but the wilderness bill S. 174 has the potential of being such a stumbling

block in the progress of our great Nation, that I must write in hope there is power in the pen.

Our Nation is second to none because of the spirit of its people and the use they have made of their God-given natural resources. We are looked up to by the free nations of the world because we have been able to give of our abundance that those less blessed may more fully enjoy life. Any legislation that would limit or discourage our constant search for raw materials could be detrimental not only to the land our children will inherit, but to those who look to us for leadership. I would ask of you, and your committee, that no action be taken that will exclude the right to seek for raw materials, that our future will not be endangered by hampering the spirit of discovery.

Very truly yours,

ALTON W. HUFFAKER.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIRS: I should like to see further serious consideration be given to the form of the wilderness bill, S. 174. I have received answers to former communications of Utah's national representatives but believe further consideration should be in order.

In my past experience I have seen natural resources remain idle because of Government park restrictions although I believe with adequate controls no permanent defacing of natural features should occur.

It is with this in mind that I urge that the people's national representatives of all the States be in full control of a wilderness area program.

Very truly yours,

A. G. JOHNSON.

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HYATTVILLE, WYO., *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Interior Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: Please make this letter a part of your record of the hearings being held in regard to the passing of S. 174, the wilderness bill.

I am unalterably opposed to the passage of this bill, not because the principle of primitive wilderness should not be preserved, but rather, because this principle is already recognized by law and acts establishing the national forests, parks, and game refuges. Wilderness has been and will continue to be protected by already established administrative regulations and laws. Any further legislation is, therefore, unnecessary.

Sincerely,

GILBERT E. HYATT, *Attorney at Law.*

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IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.,
*Santa Rosa, Calif., November 3, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Grand Junction, Colo.*

DEAR SENATOR: Reference is made to the Wilderness Act, S. 174.

The Redwood Empire Chapter of the Izaak Walton League (Santa Rosa, Calif.) representing some 135 active conservationists and their families, strongly favors passage of this act in its present form and has instructed me to so inform your committee.

The national office of the league and member chapters from all parts of the United States have already indicated their support. It appears to me to be unnecessary to repeat all the reasons for this support in detail.

Suffice it to say, that we believe the inspirational and recreational values inherent in our natural wilderness areas are solid, tangible values just as important to the well being of this country as timber, livestock, grazing, water power, and mineral resources.

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The total acreage of available and suitable wilderness areas is a very small fraction of our public land ownership, and it is highly improbable that even all of this total will ever be formally dedicated to wilderness purposes.

Our burgeoning population is placing so much pressure on existing wilderness designations that maintaining their status is becoming increasingly difficult. It is illogical and unreasonable to rely on departmental policies and regulations to adequately preserve and protect these areas.

The Izaak Walton League believes that a firm foundation of law, a specific act of Congress, is solely needed to give any real permanence to these wilderness classifications.

Lastly, it should be borne in mind that while only the Congress has the authority to designate these wildernesses, it also has the authority to modify or even abolish them if national emergency ever requires.

We strongly urge approval of S. 174, as amended, and respectfully request that this statement be included in the records of the field hearing of November 6, 1961, at Sacramento, Calif.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN W. SPENCER,
*National Director, IWLA.*

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KEARNY, ARIZ., *November 15, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: The town of Kearny is a community of approximately 1,000 people almost entirely dependent on the mining industry.

The undersigned council members respectfully submit their opposition to the wilderness bill, S. 174, which has now been passed by the U.S. Senate.

The following suggested amendments to the wilderness bill are fully endorsed by this local government.

1. Inclusions in the wilderness system should be approved by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

2. In any wilderness system established, mining rights in lands included should be sustained and continued, including particularly the right to locate claims and protection to the prospector in any discoveries he might make.

3. The "primitive" areas, and areas proposed for inclusion in the future, should not be included in the system until an adequate inventory has been made of their suitability for other uses by persons qualified to make such an inventory.

4. Action should not be taken on this measure until a reasonable analysis has been made of the need and desire of the people for this particular type of resource.

Thank you for your attention to this protest.

Very sincerely yours,

E. A. HECKMAN.
J. F. SHELLEY.
ARTHUR E. POMEROY.

---

BOULDER, COLO., *November 13, 1961.*

WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: I am writing you as chairman of the House Interior Committee and as a fellow Coloradan regarding the wilderness bill (S. 174). I would like to see this bill passed in its present form as soon as possible. I am certain that you and the rest of your committee recognize the value of wilderness as a resource that is impossible to replace.

I feel it is very unfortunate that so much misinformation has been spread concerning this legislation. As it stands now I do not see how any special interest groups could be hurt by the bill's passage. However, I feel any changes in the bill would either destroy its intent or hurt some other function of resource development.

Anything you can do to see that this bill is voted out of committee with a favorable report will be greatly appreciated. I feel we have the greatest single piece of conservation legislation in the past 10 years in S. 174.

Thank you for your interest.

Yours very truly,

BERT KEMPERS.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH,
*November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.:*

We urgently request that your subcommittee in its deliberations relative to the wilderness bill give serious consideration to the need for full development of natural resources. The growing populations in the States that would be most affected by wilderness legislation need job opportunities which largely must depend upon the exploitation of these States mineral resources. In Utah we must provide an additional 15,000 jobs every year to keep pace with our growth. The wilderness bill in its present form does not permit resource development in the areas that are to be selected. Consequently the only important base for new jobs in these States would be snuffed out. According, we urge the following four points for your consideration: (1) inclusions in the wilderness system should be approved by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress; (2) in any wilderness system established, mining rights in lands included should be sustained and continued, including particularly the right to locate claims and protection to the prospector in any discovery he might make; (3) the primitive areas, and areas proposed for inclusion in the future, should not be included in the system until an adequate inventory has been made of their suitability for other uses by persons qualified to make such an inventory; and (4) action should not be taken on this measure until a reasonable analysis has been made of the need and desire of the people for this particular type of resource.

J. P. O'KEEFE,
*General Manager, Utah Copper Divisions, Kennecott Copper Corp.*

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KENNECOTT COPPER CORP.,
UTAH COPPER DIVISION,
*Salt Lake City, Utah, November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR CHAIRMAN PFOST: In a recent telegram to your subcomimttee, we advanced for your consideration the adverse economic impact that wilderness legislation would have on Utah and on the other States that would be affected. Our opposition to the wilderness bill in its present form is founded on the premise that broad and significant powers should be retained by our Representatives in Congress, rather than being administered on an open-end basis by a Federal agency. We can see nothing wrong with the premise that areas to be included in a wilderness system should be individually approved by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress, rather than requiring disapproval to be expressed by congressional action.

The basis for economic growth in these intermountain States is the development of their natural resources. Such development is effectively blocked by the present bill by denial of the right to prospect and locate claims. Proponents of the bill have argued that it does not prevent prospecting, but when you consider that prospecting requires mechanical exploration at depth, it is obvious that the bill would prohibit prospecting.

Accordngly, we urge that any wilderness system should require, in each individual instance, congressional approval after hearing the pros and cons. Mining rights in lands included in any wilderness system should be sustained and continued, particularly the right to locate claims and provide protection for the prospector in any discovery made.

We urge your subcommittee to seriously consider the harm that will be done to the economy of Utah and the other States by the wilderness bill in its present form.

Sincerely,

J. P. O'KEEFE, *General Manager.*

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KENNECOTT COPPER CORP.,
WESTERN MINING DIVISION,
*Salt Lake City, Utah, November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR MRS. PFOST: In the understanding that opposition to the Senate-passed version of the wilderness bill, S. 174, may be registered with your committee until November 20, 1961, I am writing to express my disapproval of the bill without additional amendments which would tend to alleviate the impact its passage in present form would have on an important segment of the U.S. economy, the mining industry.

My view is that—

1. Any and all wilderness system inclusions should be approved by a majority vote of both Houses of the Congress, rather than approved by default through failure of one of the Houses to oppose the President's recommendation; and

2. Consideration should be given to sustaining and continuing any rights which the mining industry now has in public domain lands proposed for inclusion in the wilderness system, particularly the right to locate claims to protect the prospector's rights in any discovery he might make on such lands.

I hold as well that action on this legislation should await the report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, due early in 1962. As you are certainly well aware, 3 years have been devoted to this study and some $2,500,000 have been expended thereon. It would seem logical to me that the findings of this group would have considerable bearing on future action of your own particular subcommittee.

I would be most appreciative if you would give earnest and serious consideration to the foregoing expressions of opinion prior to moving forward with the legislation.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. KINNEAR, Jr.

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RAY, ARIZ., *November 16, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: May I respectfully suggest that any action on the wilderness bill, S. 174, be deferred until such a time as an accurate and reasonable analysis has been made of the need for the wilderness resource and a definite desire of the people for such resource.

Secondly, it does not seem to be either reasonable nor advisable to stifle the mining industry upon which depends an adequate supply of metals and minerals. This supply cannot be maintained if new and virgin areas are closed for exploration and development. Presently known resources are being exhausted and replacement can only be found for the most part in areas that would be closed if the House were to pass the wilderness bill.

Respectfully submitted.

C. R. KNOUS.

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ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX., *October 27, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

MY DEAR MR. ASPINALL: This afternoon I learned that a formal study of the wilderness bill which Senator Anderson of New Mexico introduced in the Senate is to be made by your committee November 1, 1961.

I personally believe that the wilderness bill as passed by the Senate should be recommended for passage by the House without any changes. Unless the wilderness areas are preserved and protected, the generations to follow will not have the majestic forests as a vacation retreat from the ever-increasing pressures of the daily routines.

I realize there are many special-interest groups that are trying to have the wilderness bill as passed in the Senate changed in order that they may profit

from the natural resources. Why not protect our wilderness areas and have them available for all of our population to enjoy that desire to retreat to the rivers in the majestic forests?

Yours sincerely,

WILLARD KOONE.

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MIDVALE, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: I wish to go on record as opposing the wilderness bill, S. 174.

I cannot condone a bill that would take away the rights which the mining industry has now in public domain lands, proposed for inclusion in the wilderness bill, especially the right to locate claims to protect the prospector's rights in any discovery that he may come across on such lands.

I believe at the present time we now have already set aside enough public lands for parks, monuments, etc.

Respectively yours,

R. KOPESU.

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DENVER, COLO., *November 3, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Washington, D.C.:*

Please include my name among the people desiring the wilderness bill. I hope we can preserve at least 1.2 percent of Colorado as wilderness.

Most sincerely,

MARIE KOLENA.

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THE KRIDER NURSERIES, INC.,
*Middlebury, Ind., October 13, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE ASPINALL: For the past 10 years I have spent my vacation in the wilderness areas of the United States—New Mexico, Montana, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, California, Washington, and Oregon. They are all wonderful, and each wilderness has its own beauty. I think it would be a shame to do away with any part of them, and I sincerely hope you will do all in your power to save the wilderness areas.

I certainly am endorsing the wilderness preservation and the bill, S. 174.

Very sincerely,

VIOLET M. KRIDER.

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ANN ARBOR, MICH., *October 16, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.*

DEAR SIR: I am writing to you to urge that you and your committee give the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, favorable consideration, and to state my interest in its passage.

I also would like to state to you my opposition to the proposal to take over private property in Michigan for the Dunes Park.

Had we been farsighted, the dunes and Glenn Lake could have been preserved in their natural state. Surely the wilderness bill is a strong step in the right direction to avoid such mistakes in the future.

Yours very truly,

CLARA C. KUENZEL.

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RATON, N. MEX., *October 22, 1961.*

In re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*U.S. Representative,*
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: As an individual, may I strongly urge the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee to give a favorable report on the wilderness bill, S. 174.

I was born and raised here in this area, and I have been around for 50 years. As a businessman, I fully realize the problems of these Western States. I have friends who are cattlemen, lumbermen, mining men, etc., so I have a knowledge of their particular problems and of the economy of the West.

Over the years, I have watched the predatory and selfish actions of some special interests in trying to make a fast dollar now, giving absolutely no thought to the fact that they are destroying wilderness areas. Is it asking too much to set aside a very small segment of wild and primitive areas for future generations to enjoy? I don't think so.

Wilderness areas are being used more and more by our fastgrowing population, and with every year that passes, there will be a greater need for such areas.

We know that S. 174 as passed by the Senate is surely fair to all the various users of wilderness areas on a national level. According to a recent news release, the Denver Water Board feels that S. 174 as now passed by the Senate is favorable to them in protecting their future water needs.

Let's act now, so that future generations will thank us for saving a small percent of our wilderness for them to enjoy and to which they can escape occasionally for spiritual and moral refreshment.

Sincerely,

DR. JOHN A. LANGSTON.

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BANK OF LARAMIE,
*Laramie, Wyo., November 18, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*New House Office Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: There seems to be a great deal of agitation in regard to wilderness legislation and the establishment of new areas.

So much of the State of Wyoming is owned by the Government that we need to have some use of the public lands. The establishment of wilderness areas takes this land out of grazing use and causes real hardship in areas where the ranchers and farmers are using Federal land for part-time grazing.

We hope that the legislation pending does not pass and would appreciate your assistance toward this end.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE J. FORRER, *President.*

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STRONGSVILLE, OHIO, *October 16, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

SIR: I respectfully request that you give your full consideration and support to the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

All thinking Americans realize the urgent need to preserve the God-given beauty that is so rapidly vanishing from our land. While I advocate multiple use of our national forests, there must be preserved areas that will remain unspoiled, areas that will be a refuge for those seeking quiet and peace, even for a few days of vacation.

Sincerely,

MARIAN LEPPELMEIER.

TERRERO, VIA GLORIETA, N. MEX., *October 23, 1961.*

Subject: S. 174, revised wilderness bill.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

GENTLEMEN: May I express the importance to the American people to the enactment by the House of Senate bill 174.

I am personally residing at Terrero, N. Mex., which is about 6 miles from the south line of the Pecos Wilderness Area.

I am a postmaster at Terrero and also engaged to a limited extent guiding hunters, fishermen, and trail riders who go into the wilderness area. The number of visitors to this wilderness area is increasing year by year and in my opinion will continue to increase rapidly.

I know that the establishment of this wilderness area, as a matter of law, will not interfere with the grazing interests in the area which will be continued as they are now being conducted under the U.S. Forest Service. Years ago portions now in the wilderness area were severely overgrazed with damage to the watershed. Presently the Terrero watershed is capably supervised and in my opinion has improved. I have known this area for years and believe my statement is correct.

I furnish, during the summer and fall months, horses to fishermen, hunters, and trailriders who go into this high wilderness area. In my opinion it would be beneficial to the people of our country to have wilderness areas protected and perpetuated under S. 174.

Very truly yours,

"HAPPY" LEY.

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DENVER, COLO., *November 1, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I was unable to attend the public hearing on the wilderness bill in Montrose today at 10 a.m. However, I want to be on record as strongly favoring this bill. We must protect our wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Once the wilderness is lost, it can never be recovered, ever.

Please incorporate this letter into the record of the hearing.

I am also writing Mr. Wayne Aspinall.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

V. E. LINAWEAVER, M.D.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

HON. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PFOST: I understand that hearings are now being held on a wilderness bill scheduled to be brought before Congress. As you probably are aware a good many mining people in the West are quite concerned over the effect this bill may have on the future of the mineral industry. My working life has been in the nonferrous industry in Washington, Idaho, and Utah.

I have come to believe quite strongly in the multiple use of our semiprimitive and primitive lands. I believe varied interests can be quite compatible on our forest lands. I do not like dredges but I do not see that a hardrock mine should be a detriment to most areas. I lived and worked at Stibnite, Idaho, for a time and certainly felt that the advantages to the people who worked there and to the surrounding areas far outweighed any disadvantage of intrusion into this semiprimitive area.

I hope that you will use your influence to work for controls in the bill which would not only adequately protect the present miner but allow continued prospecting for minerals of all kinds. Some controls should also be incorporated which would limit the size and type of areas which could be included as really primitive lands. With our rapidly expanding population it will be fine to have some primitive areas but we will also need land and all sorts of natural resources to provide for these people.

Sincerely yours,

N. N. LINDE.

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LOS ALAMOS SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.,
*Los Alamos, N. Mex., November 5, 1961.*

Representative WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: The Los Alamos Sportsmen's Club representing 200 families in our community wish to urge that your committee take prompt and favorable action on passage of the wilderness bill (S. 174). We feel that the setting aside of these wilderness areas is urgently needed and can be of great benefit to the whole country.

Sincerely,

ADELE HOPKINS, *Secretary.*

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PFOST: I understand that the record for the hearings recently held on the wilderness bill (S. 174) is being held open until November 20, 1961, for letters relating to the bill.

As an individual planning to continue a career in the extractive industries, an officer of a company presently engaged in mining, and a citizen interested in the optimum development and utilization of all our resources, including "wilderness," I strongly urge the adoption of amendments to the bill to accomplish the following:

(1) Having all wilderness system inclusions approved by an affirmative majority vote of both Houses of the Congress.

(2) Continuation of any rights which the mining industry now has in public domain lands proposed for inclusion in the wilderness system, particularly the right to locate claims to protect the prospector's rights in any discovery he may make on such lands.

I am also of the opinion that action on the bill should be deferred until the report of the Outdoor Recreational Review Commission has been made.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN W. LOSSE, Jr.

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BONNEVILLE, LTD., *Salt Lake City, Utah, November 16, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN PFOST: It has been brought to our attention that act S. 174, the wilderness bill before the 87th Congress, would in its present form effectively prohibit the prospecting for and development of mineral deposits in over 88,000 square miles of the public domain.

As you know, the existence of valuable mineral deposits can not be predicated, for example, the highly important uranium deposits of the Western United States were unknown 15 years ago. The United States is not endowed with enough known mineral wealth to justify arbitrary "locking up" of some which may in the future be the basis for continued national growth, or even for survival. It is important, therefore, that the public be served by the introduction of reasonable amendments to the wilderness bill so that orderly prospecting and development of mineral deposits is not prevented.

We believe that proper amendments should include provisions to allow modern scientific prospecting, under suitable supervision, and should allow the prospector the right to locate and operate claims on which a valid discovery is made.

Another aspect which should receive consideration is that the inclusion or deletion of lands from the wilderness system should require approval of Congress rather than approval by default through failure of one of the Houses to oppose the President's recommendation.

We call your attention to the fact that the current administration of the national forests is an exemplary demonstration that multiple use of the public domain can be accomplished without destroying the natural beauty which we all wish to be preserved for enjoyment of future generations.

Respectfully yours,

R. D. MACDONALD.

BIRMINGHAM, MICH., *October 13, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: Save the wilderness for us and future Americans.

It has been my privilege to enjoy five annual summer vacations as a trail rider of the wilderness with the American Forestry Association.

To climb to the peaks of America through her deep forests and high mountain meadows and to camp at rest by placid lake or turbulent stream in a true wilderness is an American heritage.

Let us preserve this great right for unborn generations of Americans.

The wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, must pass the House in January.

Yours truly,

GRACE H. MALONE
Mrs. Wilford J. Malone.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 16, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PFOST: I would like to express my opposition to the wilderness bill. My current position is directly concerned with the mining industry and I feel this bill would infringe upon the mining industry and, therefore, indirectly jeopardize my life's work. I feel a majority vote of both Houses of Congress should be a requirement before this bill is effected. I also feel that we shouldn't restrict any further the rights of prospecting and discovery of mining claims.

I hope that my opinion in this matter is given adequate consideration. Thank you.

Respectfully,

KEITH B. MATTHEWS.

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EAST ELY, NEV., *November 16, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN PFOST: As a resident of the Western United States, I wish to express my opinion concerning S. 174.

This bill will discourage mineral prospecting and development and create a vast wilderness area impenetrable even to the most rugged nature lover.

In an age where Russia is sending vast armies of geologists and mining experts into their wilderness areas to open roads, make improvements, etc., we are withdrawing our lands from exploration. Do you realize what this would mean if S. 174 would have been law 20 years ago? The development of domestic mineral areas today would be nil.

Please investigate all facets of this problem and I'm sure only one conclusion can be drawn—amend or vote "no" S. 174 for the public of the United States.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL L. MATTOON.

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LAKEWOOD, COLO., *November 15, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: As a citizen of the United States and a resident in the Rocky Mountain Area, I am deeply concerned about the wilderness bill now in your committee. The laws of the land within the United States are usually set forth to benefit the majority of the people. The wilderness bill is one that I consider not for the benefit of the majority, even though I am one of the minority that actually visits wilderness areas.

This bill, if passed, would not only keep many people within the United States from seeing the wilderness country but also lock up our natural resources. The United States is considered the best hunting ground for mineral possibilities, mainly because of the unfavorable economic and political situations

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throughout the rest of the world. Capital investment is safest within the territorial limits of the United States. If the wilderness bill passes, it will cut out a major part of the remaining "hunting ground" which has not been thoroughly explored for mineral resources.

As chairman of your committee, I hope you will investigate this quite thoroughly and I am certain your recommendations for the passage of this bill will be for the negative.

Sincerely yours,

P. A. MEYER.

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MINING ASSOCIATION OF MONTANA,
*Butte, Mont., November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN PFOST: The Mining Association of Montana again wishes to register its opposition to the wilderness system bill (S. 174) as presently written. We believe with the American Mining Congress "that the public interest is best served by keeping the public domain open for the discovery and mining of minerals, both metallic and nonmetallic. No area of the public domain should be closed to prospecting and mining nor should any area which is now so closed be enlarged, either by congressional or by departmental action, unless it is established by proper examination and appraisement by the U.S. Bureau of Mines or the U.S. Geological Survey that the closing of such area will far better serve the national welfare than will the full utilization of the lands involved for development of their potential metallic or nonmetallic mineral resources."

The rapidly expanding population and economy of our Nation require an evergrowing need for more general and intensive use of our resources. It behooves us that the greatest possible encouragement be given to prospecting for minerals that are so vitally needed to maintain and expand the economy and the defense of our Nation, particularly in the light of the nationalistic trend of many nations of the world which could lead to a cutoff of needed minerals from abroad. Every effort should be made on our part to have our Nation as nearly self-sufficient in minerals as possible.

Respectfully submitted.

W. G. MALONEY,
*Secretary-Manager.*

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EL RITO, N. MEX., *October 26, 1961.*

Re S. 174.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: As a resident of rural northern New Mexico for the past 50 years, I wish to express to you and the members of your committee my heartiest support of Senate bill 174, the wilderness bill.

It is imperative that future generations of Americans have an opportunity to know their country at it once was. The rapid pace of mechanization and expansion of many forms of man's activities will shortly so change our Nation that, unless some steps are taken to preserve forested areas as they once were, we shall lose and forfeit an opportunity for city-bred citizens to see what life is all about. It's good that all of us know something of nature and we can only find this chance in our remote, forested areas.

I would humbly suggest, sir, that we do America a favor by preserving for her future citizens a part of her real past.

Respectfully,

GEORGE J. MARTIN.

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APPLETON, WIS., *October 17, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: Please know that I am among the thousands of other people in this country that love the wilderness and am heartily in favor of the bill, S. 174, and would be pleased to see it passed.

My reason for being in favor of this bill is that, over a period of many years, I have found the outdoors to be of such benefit both physically and mentally to me that it has come to me to be almost an obsession. I need to be outdoors at times and I hope that a certain part of our great country can be preserved for future generations to enjoy as I do and have.

Yours very truly,

SMITH MCLANDRESS.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Chapel Hill, November 12, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I am very much in favor of the wilderness preservation bil' S. 174, having been on one wilderness trail ride. I should like to go on many more and have other areas of the country saved for such adventures. Seems to me this is one way to preserve some of America's frontier lands and yet have them available to the public.

Sincerely yours,

ANN MOLLESON.

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MONTANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
*Helena, Mont., November 16, 1961.*

MRS. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee and Insular Affairs Committee, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: The enclosed resolution recently passed by members of the Montana Chamber of Commerce in convention is respectfully called to your attention.

If it is not possible for you to hold the meeting requested by the resolution it is hoped that you and committee will take note of the apprehension with which our members view this piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

H. E. RAKEMAN, *President.*

MONTANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 1962 RESOLUTION

No. 8

Whereas three hearings have been held in the West at points remote from Montana regarding S. 174, generally known as the wilderness bill; and

Whereas numerous Montanans are fearful of the effects of this Federal measure upon our timber, recreation, livestock and other industries; and

Whereas in some cases, local and State control of lands and facilities may be jeopardized by this bill: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That we most urgently urge and request Mrs. Gracie Pfost, chairman of Public Lands Subcommittee and Insular Affairs Committee, to hold at least one additional hearing within Montana and at a point convenient to the many citizens of our State who wish to be heard upon this matter, and who have not had adequate opportunity to do so.

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MONTANA STATE GRANGE,
OFFICE OF STATE MASTER,
*Fortine, Mont., November 6, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE ASPINALL: This communication concerns the wilderness bill, S. 174, which was approved 78 to 8 by the Senate and is now before your committee.

The Montana State Grange supports this legislation and urges prompt and favorable action by your committee.

Our organization comprises 1,500 farm and rural people of western Montana, including hundreds of stockmen. Delegates representing our subordinate

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granges have studied the bill and in regular convention voted approval of the wilderness bill. We do not feel that it can longer be opposed even by stockmen groups, which have been among principal objectors during the years that the legislation has been considered.

Certainly the public lands involved should be considered in the light of public interest, rather than desire for exploitation by private interests.

We recognize that opponents of the measure made an all-out effort to discredit it at the recent hearings held in Idaho, Colorado, and California. We trust your committee will consider carefully the extensive records of Senate hearings, which include more comprehensive testimony in support of the bill.

Sincerely yours,

WINTON WEYDEMEYER,
*Master, Montana State Grange.*

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THE MONTANA WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION,
*Fortine, Mont., November 6, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: This communication concerns the wilderness bill, S. 174, which was approved 78 to 8 by the Senate and is now before your committee.

The Montana Wilderness Association vigorously supports this legislation and urges prompt and favorable action by your committee. As indicated by the information on the reverse side of this letterhead, our group is a private citizens' organization, with a membership of several hundred Montana residents, of all professions, banded together with a common desire to save the wilderness aspect of some of our unexploited lands.

During the course of 11 years of study, discussion, and revision, the wilderness bill has been compromised to meet the objections of groups that might be economically affected by its passage, until it seems that only on general principles can they still oppose it. The bill will establish a policy of protection of wild lands against exploitation by limited private interests: certainly the public is entitled to protect public values of public lands.

There is no economic need to exploit these wild lands for timber, grass, and minerals. Effective conservation of these resources on other lands will produce far more than would be obtained by invasion of the few remaining wilderness areas of the Nation. Especially is this true of timber resources—when we have millions of acres needing reforestation and better management, when we still have appalling waste in timber harvesting.

Respectfully we urge favorable action on S. 174 by your committee and the House.

Sincerely yours,

WINTON WEYDEMEYER,
*President, Montana Wilderness Association.*

LITTLETON, COLO., *November 4, 1961.*

GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: Please make the following part of the hearing record of the wilderness bill, S. 174:

We are for the enacting of this bill for the preservation of wilderness areas for the appreciation of and enjoyment of by present and future generations.

Truly yours,

Mr. and Mrs. GRANT R. MONTAGUE.

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HOBBS, N. MEX., *October 28, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I am writing with reference to House bill No. S. 174 pertaining to the wilderness areas of our Nation.

It is very evident that throughout our Nation free land is almost a thing of the past. I had the privilege of hunting in the Pecos wilderness last year and I can't put in words the feeling that I had in my heart to sit on the side of one

of those large mountains and look the vast territory over and say to myself this is the way God made it and it is still here today.

In closing I would like to see all the wilderness areas be put into permanent law.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM C. MORRIS.

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FARMINGTON, N. MEX.

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Chairman of Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: We are fully satisfied with S. 174 plans to do for our country. We would like to see the committee back this bill all the way.

Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Moss.

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Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*House of Representatives, S. 174 Hearings,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: The purpose of this letter is to respectfully urge you and your committee to act favorably on S. 174. We are strongly convinced that we must maintain an adequate wilderness system, and that S. 174, which is the product of long study and many refinements, is the most desirable means of accomplishing that purpose.

The bill will give the present national forest wilderness system the stability it requires. It will prevent both additions and eliminations from the system except by recommendation of the President and consent of Congress. Furthermore, specific areas may be opened up to commercialization when the President determines that to do so will better serve the public interest than would its denial. What could be more fair than that?

The system includes only 8 percent of the national forest area. Surely we can afford to keep that much of God's great scenic country in its pristine condition as He made it. We owe that much to posterity.

Opponents of the bill often claim that only a very few rich people are able to use wilderness areas. Nothing could be further from the facts than such assertions. We operate a ranch resort and outfit those who wish to ride horseback and pack into the wilderness to camp, hunt, fish, take pictures, etc. A day's trip costs no more than it does to drive a car a hundred miles. A pack-in trip costs no more than to stay at any good hotel in the city.

People—men, women, and children—from all stations of life and from all parts of the country use the Pecos Wilderness area adjacent to our establishment. Forest Service and game department records show that more than 8,000 people used this 165,000-acre wilderness area last year. The use is getting heavier each year. More and more people realize that there is nothing to compare with a wilderness trip for complete relaxation from nerve-racking urban life.

We also enjoy a Forest Service grazing permit which permits us to summer graze cattle within the wilderness as do many others, without interference. We are assured of an abundant supply of good, clean water in the streams originating in the wilderness area, for wilderness preservation is synonymous with optimum watershed protection.

We must maintain a balanced recreational resource program. Suitable areas within 92 percent of the national forest total area is subject to roads, developed campgrounds, summer homes, etc. To maintain a balance we must maintain an adequate system of wilderness areas for those who enjoy or require such pristine vacation spots. There are many, indeed, who demand that kind of pristine, scenic country for their vacations.

The very fact that commercial interests are bitterly opposing S. 174 indicates clearly that they believe they would have a better chance to commercialize and despoil the areas embraced within the present wilderness system without the bill than they will have with it. That, in itself, is the strongest argument possible for passing the bill and thus remove the wilderness system from the reach of commercial interests.

We are not selfish in wanting 8 percent of the national forests maintained as wilderness. Instead, the selfish ones are those who now have 92 percent and want

 SRP03567

the other 8 percent for private gain. The forests, we must remember, belong to all the people.

We respectfully urge you, Mr. Chairman and your committee, to report S. 174 out of committee with a strong recommendation that the bill be passed by the House of Representatives by a vote comparable to that by which it passed the U.S. Senate.

Respectfully yours,

THE MOUNTAIN VIEW RANCH,
By JULIAN K. GREEN, *Manager*.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 17, 1961*.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: I wish to go on record as being opposed to the wilderness bill, S. 174. This is a very questionable measure and should require a majority vote of both Houses of Congress. In its present state I do not feel it is to the best interest of our country.

Very truly,

WILLIS H. MUSE.

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INDIANA, PA., *October 24, 1961*.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I urge you to to give your most earnest support to the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

My family and I have visited our wilderness areas annually for the past 15 years. We consider the benefits we enjoy, though intangible are measureless. Exploitation or development of these areas would deprive our country of one of its most beloved and priceless possessions, one which could never be recreated by man.

Sincerely,

Mrs. FRED MUSSER.

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NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,
COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION,
*Pittsburgh, Pa., November 1, 1961*.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: At a meeting in Columbus, Ohio, on October 28, 1961, the Board of Directors of the National Speleological Society adopted the enclosed resolution concerning the wilderness bill currently before your committee.

Our support for this bill stems from two related directions. First, the protection and conservation of caves and related features is one of the most important purposes for the existence of our society, which has over 60 chapters throughout the United States. Secondly, our members have come to visit and appreciate wilderness and near-wilderness areas in the course of their explorations of caves. These undeveloped areas represent to us sources of inspiration and recreation, and their loss would be a tragedy to us all. It is against such a background that we submit this resolution.

We remain at your service.

Sincerely yours,

VICTOR A. SCHMIDT, *Chairman*.

NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,
COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION,
*Pittsburgh, Pa., October 28, 1961*.

Subject of resolution: Wilderness bill.

Whereas Senate bill S. 174, to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System for the permanent good of the whole people and for other purposes, has been referred to the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs for action; and

Whereas this bill, known as the wilderness bill, promises to offer desirable and effective protection to the few remaining wilderness areas of the United States; to the ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value contained in the areas designated under the provisions of the bill; and

Whereas caves and associated features, such as natural bridges, sinkholes, and other karst phenomena would necessarily be classified as protected features within the designated wilderness areas; and

Whereas the United States is in severe danger of losing the irreplaceable scenic and scentific heritage offered by caves and related features on public lands through the encroachment of civilization and ultimate destruction by wanton vandalism or illegal commercial exploitation for mineral specimens: Therefore it is

*Resolved*, That the support of the National Speleological Society for the wilderness bill shall be conveyed to the chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, and that that committee shall be urged to favorably report to the House of Representatives early in the second session of this Congress the wilderness bill in its strongest and most effective form.

Adopted by the board of directors of the National Speleological Society in Columbus, Ohio, on October 28, 1961.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 16, 1961.*

HON. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: I am writing you concerning the wilderness bill, S. 174.

I have followed this bill somewhat, and feel that this bill should have the approval of a majority of both Houses of Congress as well as having full support of the people of this country.

I strongly feel that the last few wilderness areas of this country should remain unspoiled by the pockmarks of prospecting, timbering and any other thing that defaces and changes the way the Lord created them.

Let's keep a little of this land from being commercialized and ruined by the relentless onslaught of the people.

Nevertheless, let the majority rule and let's have a majority vote determine what is to be done.

Sincerely,

N. P. NEIL.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH,
*November 17, 1961.*

HON. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN PFOST: I have been interested in the hearings you have been holding here in the West on the wilderness bill, S. 174. I have discussed this bill with my associates and find they feel the same way about certain portions of this proposed legislation. These situations that I feel should be included in any enacted legislation are: Protect the present interests that the mining industry now have in these lands. Remember that this industry gives much employment and wealth to the West. Continued prosperity in this industry depends upon continued prospecting and development wherever possible. New metals or minerals not now used could soon be essential in our rapidly changing economy. I strongly believe it is not proper to "lock up" these areas so that future mining developments could not be made in them.

Again, I would propose that you do not give away your right to represent us. In this I would ask that you amend the bill to read that any future inclusions in the wilderness system would have to be approved by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress. If this were included, I know we would have proper representation in such matters.

I thus ask your careful consideration in these matters and ask that you consider redrafting the measure to include these things.

Respectfully yours,

REED S. NELSON.

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STATEMENT OF WILLIAM H. NELSON, ASSOCIATE EDITOR OF THE DAILY SENTINEL, GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, overlooked in the arguments over the controversial wilderness bill is the fact that all future additions to the national wilderness preservation system it would create would be by affirmative act of Congress.

Consensus of opposition statements at the hearing conducted by the Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee at Montrose, November 1, was that additions to the proposed system could be made by the executive branch of the Federal Government unless Congress passes a resolution opposing the additions.

The negative resolutions apply to recommendations of the executive branch of the Federal Government to make a present primitive area of a national forest or a present roadless area of a national park a permanent part of the wilderness preservation system.

Areas designated as wilderness (there is none in Colorado) as wild (there are four in Colorado), and canoe (there is none in Colorado), would be made permanent parts of the system by enactment of the wilderness bill. National forest areas now designated as primitive (there are seven in Colorado) and the road areas of national parks and monuments (there are five in Colorado), would be included subject to further study.

Paragraph (h) of section 3 of the bill: "The addition of any area to, or the elemination of any area from, the wilderness system which is not specifically provided for under the provisions of this act shall be made only after specific affirmative authorization by law for such an addition or elimination."

Paragraph (g) of the same section would provide that the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture would segregate, or rope off for restricted use, any new area proposed for addition to the proposed system. No appropriation of land in the segregated area of any kind would be permitted for a period of 5 years, during which time the department involved and the President would decide whether or not to propose a law to Congress adding such an area to the system.

After discussing the proposed bill with both proponents and opponents and after listening to several hours of statements at Montrose, I am convinced both paragraphs should be rewritten for clarity. Perhaps section (g) should be eliminated. It was included when public domain under the Bureau of Land Management was in a parallel category to national forest and National Park Service lands. No BLM lands are now involved.

The fear of expansion of the system to include vast areas is the basis of much of the opposition to the bill. Mining, grazing, and water interests are concerned about restrictions in the wilderness-type areas proposed for inclusion into the system, but the general public is concerned about the system taking in all the forests and more, too.

The bill would provide that areas now classified as wilderness, primitive, or canoe in national forests and the roadless sections of national parks in excess of 5,000 acres would be placed in the national wilderness preservation system.

The sections of national parks proposed for inclusion in the preservation system would be reviewed by the Secretary of the Interior during the same 10-year period.

Passage of the wilderness bill would in itself constitute congressional approval of including wilderness, wild, and canoe areas in the system. The primitive areas would be studied over a 10-year period. The Secretary of Agriculture would make recommendations to Congress concerning which primitive areas should be permanently included and which should be restored to regular forest status.

If neither the Senate nor the House passes a resolution opposing inclusion of the land proposed by the executive branch of Government, it would become a part of the system permanently. This requirement for negative action by Congress was the target of many strong statements at Montrose.

Revision of the bill to provide for affirmative congressional action of permanent inclusion of the primitive forest and the national park roadless areas would make the bill more acceptable to the West.

I am convinced there is much misunderstanding about the congressional approval. Many individuals making statements believe that great blocks of land could be added to the system without Congress passing a law. Only the wilderness-type areas set aside by legislative and executive actions during the

past century would be placed in the system by the wilderness bill. Congress must pass a law to add other areas.

Purchase of private land for wilderness areas would be possible, but approval of appropriations of money by Congress would be necessary, giving Congress control over addition by purchase.

When I rechecked my notes on the Public Lands Subcommittee hearing on the bill at Montrose, I discovered that 41 persons made oral statements against the bill; 11 presented oral statements supporting the bill.

Statements and letters concerning the bill received by mail from over the Nation by the subcommittee through the office of Congressman Wayne N. Aspinall included 102 favoring the bill and 33 against.

I am convinced Congress will pass a wilderness bill. Task of the Public Lands Subcommittee and the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee is to prepare a House version of the bill providing as much protection and safeguards to the West as possible.

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BROOKS NICHOLS INSURANCE,
*Casper, Wyo., November 16, 1961.*

Subject: Wilderness bill.

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I am writing to you, as an individual, opposing the wilderness bill, as passed in the last session of Congress by the U.S. Senate. I oppose this bill for many reasons, actualy more reasons than I could possibly get on this paper, but I would like to mention a few.

In the first place, I feel that this bill is detrimental to the growth of our Western United States from agricultural, mineral, and recreational purposes. I feel that it would curtail the ranchers who use great portions of this land for summer grazing. I feel that it would hinder the oil and mineral industries, in the fact that they would not be able to extract valuable materials from the ground, and it would certainly take the recreational areas away from the majority of the people, who now use it. If this bill were permited to be passed there would be very few people who could, or would go into the country on foot or horseback to make use of the country.

I also feel that the Federal Government is taking away enough of our land and removing taxable revenue without going to this extreme, which is actually a minority pressure group that chooses to have this area set aside for their own use only. The thing that really disturbs me more than anything else is that Congress would lose all control, and that the management of this would be placed in one of the self-sustaining Federal bureaucracies that are self-perpetuating.

I will grant you that there is much that is being done to damage and destroy our back countries, but I think that corrective measures could be taken to cure these ills without taking the use of the land away from the livestock man, the oil and mineral man, and the recreational purposes. I truly feel that we are entitled to use this land, as a State, as we see fit rather than throw another Socialist-type legislative log into the fire.

Please consider my letter as one of those opposed to this type of legislation for the reasons expressed above.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

BROOKS NICHOLS.

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OCHSNER, ROBINSON & NOBLES,
*Amarillo, Tex., October 19, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: I should certainly appreciate your careful consideration of Senate bill 174 pertaining to wilderness preservation.

The people of this area rely heavily on the wilderness areas of New Mexico and Colorado for their recreational purposes. It is my feeling that the passing of this bill will insure for my generation and the generations that follow me the wonderful opportunity which is afforded by unspoiled wilderness areas.

SRP03571

I would certainly appreciate anything that you or members of your committee can do toward preserving these areas for the American people.

Very truly yours,

EDWARD B. NOBLES.

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LA GRANGE, ILL., *October 24, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: We are writing to ask that you do everything possible to pass the wilderness bill S. 174.

We are extremely anxious that our great wilderness areas be preserved for us now, and for the future generations before it is too late. We use the wilderness areas for vacation, and feel it is essential to our well-being to leave our jobs in the city and find peace and inspiration in the wilderness.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. and Mrs. HAROLD OLIVER.

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MAGNA, UTAH, *November 16, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.:*

I would like to go on record as strongly opposing the wilderness bill.

I do not believe that the so-called primitive areas and areas proposed for future inclusion should be included. Their suitability for other uses has been reviewed by people qualified to do so. Following this, inclusions should be approved by a majority of both Houses of Congress.

I also believe that mining rights in lands that are included should be sustained. The prospects should still have the right to make or locate claims and be protected in any discoveries he makes.

Sincerely,

GLEN A. OLSEN.

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CHICAGO, ILL., *October 14, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.*

DEAR SIR: In the interest of saving our wilderness areas, I heartily endorse wilderness preservation and the bill S. 174. As a member of the Trail Riders of the Wilderness, I am hopeful that you will not allow selfish or commercial interests to destroy the few natural areas remaining for the people to enjoy.

Most sincerely

RUTH OLSON.

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CHICAGO, ILL., *October 18, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.*

DEAR SIR: As a citizen who has enjoyed spending several weeks in each of the last 10 years in the various wilderness areas in the United States, I am very much concerned about the wilderness preservation bill S. 174 which is up for hearing before your committee.

For our expanding population, it is imperative that our wilderness areas remain intact for the preservation of our natural resources for future generations.

Hoping you will give this bill your favorable consideration.

Very truly yours,

CARL O. R. OLSON.

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KALISPELL, MONT., *November 7, 1961.*

Hon. Congresswoman Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, House Public Lands Subcommittee,*
*House of Representatives,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: While living in southern California I was a member of the Sierra Club and, since moving to Montana, I have been active in the local

sportsmen associations. I doubt if anyone enjoys and loves the out of doors unspoiled more than I do and I heartily agree with the principle of maintaining wilderness areas. However, I have misgivings about Senate bill 174 in its present form.

This bill appears to have an element of class legislation which I believe is unwise even though I appear to benefit—at least temporarily—from its provisions. It seems to provide for an unjustifiably large area to be placed under wilderness status with a procedure established to make changes difficult.

The so-called population explosion is already crowding existing recreational facilities which can be reached easily by the multitudes. As this condition gets more serious I fear a wave of resentment against wilderness areas which provide a site for a relatively few people. Therefore there seems to be a danger that such recreation seekers will team up with community organizations and industries which need some of the materials and resources unwisely locked up in the outskirts of wilderness areas to either destroy the entire program or reduce the areas too greatly. After all, the present bill seems to be rushing along without adequate study and consideration of factors such as the effect on nearby political subdivisions which need timber to furnish employment and to form a tax base or which may need damsites for irrigation water storage and power generation.

I would recommend a bill which would provide for careful evaluation of all known factors for each proposed wilderness unit before it is established on a permanent basis so we may be in a position to prove conclusively the advisability of continuing the program indefinitely.

Very truly yours,

LAWRENCE E. O'NEIL.

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FARMINGTON, N. MEX., *October 30, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I wish to add my recommendation to the thousands of others in this area for prompt, favorable action on the wilderness bill, S. 174.

We must have these areas for the present, but the need for the future generations is far greater. I want my children and their children after them to have a place as God made it to go and commune with nature.

We all need to get away from the stress and tensions of modern life for spiritual, mental, and physical relaxation.

Please, Mr. Aspinall, do all you can to get prompt, favorable action on this bill.

Respectfully,

CHAS. A. PERRY.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH,
*November 16, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN PFOST: As a professional geologist and mining engineer, I have long shared the concern of my colleagues regarding the weakening of the basic raw materials position of the United States. I am familiar through personal experience with the trend toward developing new resources in foreign countries at the expense of dislocation and depression in our own once-strong and self-sufficient mining industry.

I regard to wilderness bill S. 174, I can only see a further industrial retreat in the proposals to terminate prospecting and mine development. The impact of this step backward would be direct and immediate on the economy of the Western States. The citizens working and producing in the areas involved should by all means be given consideration before irreparable damage is done.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM C. PETERS.

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HAMILTON, MONT., *November 14, 1961.*

INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*
(Attention of Hon. Gracie Pfost.)

I respectfully request that this letter of support of the wilderness bill be made part of the record of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

SRP03573

In the past 25 years I have traveled via backpack and horseback over 3,000 miles in our wilderness areas of the West. I would like to suggest that the opponents of the wilderness who are so trying to convince the public that the Nation's economy is dependent upon these areas to get out and look them over for themselves so that they can truthfully say that they know whereof they speak.

Previous to the conservationist's efforts to set these areas aside for recreational and watershed protection they were passed over as third and fourth rate by the selfish greed interests. It is now inconceivable that these same interests have in the 100 and some odd years since the West was first settled so desecrated our resources that our economy is now dependent upon these high, rugged, watershed areas. After these are bled dry, then what?

If our economy at the present time is at such a danger point, why not devote more efforts to establishing tree farms and other reclamation efforts on the millions of acres of land overgrazed and overshorn by the cutout and move-out interests in the past 100 years. Again, why not concentrate on utilizing the thousands of board feet of lumber products still being daily converted to smoke in the lumber mill burners.

In answer to the scare tactics that these wilderness areas need roads for fire protection, let us look at the records. The major fires in the West in the past year have all started off of roads and raced to their destruction in areas interlaced with roads and highways.

Sincerely yours,

ERNST PETERSON.

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KALISPELL, MONT., *November 7, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE ASPINALL: Without your sincere support of Senate bill 174 it will be impossible for other generations to enjoy the comparatively few untouched designated wilderness areas left in our United States.

Increased population, mode of travel, and recreational demands are putting greater pressure on these areas each year. Their value for educational purposes greatly surpasses those of selfish commercial interests.

When these barriers are lifted the damage can never be repaired. It behooves you as a representaive of our people to do all you can to help preserve and protect these small areas from destruction.

I request this letter be made a part of the record.

Sincerely,

LOUIS T. PHILLIPS.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

DEAR MADAM: I wish to go on record as being opposed to the wilderness bill. S. 174. This is a questionable measure and should require a majority vote of both Houses of Congress. I do not feel it is to the best interests of our country.

SUSAN PICKERING.

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DOWNEY, CALIF., *October 12, 1961.*

HON. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: Having enjoyed camping, riding, hiking, and fishing for many years in California, and more recently during the past 10 years in Colorado and, particularly, New Mexico, and therefore, being interested personally in wilderness preservation for such purposes, I am most respectfully asking that you please do all that you can for the passage and support of bill S. 174.

As the grandfather of three subteen grandchildren who have been introduced to the joys and benefits of wilderness life, I value the wilderness areas with an eye to the future far more than I do my own fond memories of the past as well as present enjoyment.

Yours truly,

WALTER GRANT POWELL.

PULASKI COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY,
*Little Rock, Ark., November 4, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: On behalf of the Pulaski County Audubon Society, it is desired to inform your committee that our organization was very much interested in sponsoring the wilderness bill through the Senate, which passed that body by a vote of 78 to 8, and since this measure will come before your committee for hearing, it is desired to inform you that in our judgment this measure is one of the most important conservation measures that has been presented to Congress in a long time. We feel that the provisions of this bill are self-explanatory and that the many benefits that will result to our forests are obvious.

It is desired to urge that favorable action be taken by your committee, and the hope is expressed that it will be favorably reported for action by the House. It is requested that the voice of this group as reflected herein be considered at the time action is taken.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely,

CLEVELAND CABLER, *President.*

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WASHINGTON, D.C., *October 26, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: I have studied the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174, and believe it is a fair compromise of the interests and rights of the many segments of the American people concerned. I am confident that your committee will exercise impartial analysis in reaching its conclusion.

My interest in the wilderness areas stems principally from the five extended pack trips I have taken in the Rocky Mountain areas of Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana.

Sincerely yours,

MARSHALL K. RAY.

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ROCK SPRINGS, WYO., *November 18, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee of Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.:*

I believe the multiple-use plans for utilization of public lands and the past administration of this plan has been good and has been best for the West and the Nation as a whole. I believe the wilderness bill should be passed.

DAVID G. RICHARDSON,
*Rock Springs Daily Rocket.*

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NEW CASTLE, COLO.,
*November 17, 1961.*

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Building,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIRS: This is my testimony concerning the Wilderness Act (S. 174) as passed by the U.S. Senate. I am in considerable agreement with the comments of the first attorney general, State of Colorado, John B. Barnard, Jr., as to the amendments needed to make the Wilderness Act acceptable. It is unconstitutional to make laws that would further abandon congressional authority over public lands and leave the administrators of this Wilderness Act not answerable to the people. This is frightening that the Senate passed this bill. I feel that there is a more ulterior motive of those that pressed for its passage than just preserving wilderness character.

The bill requires no independent views of other affected agencies of the Federal Government, State governments, or affected industries in setting aside vast areas with analysis of conflicting uses. It is shocking that only a favored few will have this power. Anyone seeking business potential in these areas, no matter how vital to our country, would be confronted with an almost insurmountable wall. Why subject our people to such dictatorial rule, our Constitution to such mockery.

SRP03575

I still cannot see the need for a wilderness bill. The rancher has always been the foremost wilderness lover. Game conservation as we know it today could not have succeeded without the farmer and the rancher. In the 19th century game not only had to face annihilation by hunters, but death from starvation in the critical spring. Deer do not migrate long distances as they used to. They survive quite satisfactorily on the local farms and ranches in the winter and spring at great expense of ranchers. It is not the practice of game departments now to feed the deer and elk. I have seen pictures of 50 elk surrounding my uncle's haystacks. They are part of Yellowstone Park's great elk herd that travel 50 miles and pick their living from the ranches. Not only that, but friends and relatives of mine in Ashton, Idaho, have shot bear within their city limits. They knew they were park bear as they did not frighten and run away. The bear in Yellowstone have become too plentiful, so instead of shooting them the Park Service hauled and left them at Ashton's city dump. With a wilderness bill of any kind it would be even harder for surrounding communities and ranches to protect crops, property, and persons from the protected animals.

As for western Colorado, we had over 200 deer on our own hayfields last spring. They do much damage to young alfalfa and put the crops 2 to 3 weeks behind. Many ranchers try to compensate for this loss by charging admission to hunters. Compensation can be obtained from the game and fish department, but the actual damage must be proven and this requires considerable redtape. In Wyoming the rancher is allotted so much money from the license of every deer shot, thus recognizing the vital contribution of the farmer. Because many ranchers charge for access to hunt their property or cross their property to Government land, we have had to fight eminent domain amendments to our State constitution.

We have never charged anyone to hunt on our ranch or cross it, as we feel the average working man could not afford to hunt. Still we pay for expensive fertilizer and work long hours irrigating to raise feed for our cattle and the game department's deer. Even now our cattle permits are cut at the whim of the Forest Service, yet the game is ever increasing and so is the game and fish department's business. One can only believe that our situation would worsen under any wilderness bill, and who can deny our importance to game conservation.

Even if livestock is permitted grazing in these areas, would we still be allowed to fence areas of poisonous weeds away from our livestock? The bill is so ambiguous that I can't see how it hopes to accomplish anything that hasn't already been done by the Forest Service unless the exceptions provided in the bill are done away with.

A road in back of our ranch was made impassable to jeeps by fire, then rains. Of the many hunters that came here this fall, only two parties were ambitious enough to climb the mountain in search of deer. Even when we had an accessible jeep road into the area, it was a vast 5,000 acres of wildlands which would thrill the most ardent naturalist or hunter. Because of its location its not likely to change in a thousand years, even if there were mining there. The vast wildlands of unproved homesteads owned by the U.S. Government have changed little since I was a child. Roads, even paved, quickly fade away. These prairie wildlands are becoming even less populated, though the roads are much improved. As for the mountains, many areas by their very nature will retain their wilderness character with or without roads, with or without wilderness legislation.

Why rob the American people of their right to see their country? Few city women would venture into such areas, and unconditioned city men find walking or riding in our area difficult. Many can't afford to travel until they are too old physically for the rigors of hiking or riding. How much more sensible would it be to leave the land to fight against men in its own way.

If the reasons for discrediting this bill sound in self-interest for the cattle industry, then you should readily recognize even more self-interest on the favored few who are pushing for its passage and who would benefit by it.

WINIFRED RICHARDSON.

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SANTE FE, N. MEX.

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*Montrose, Colo.*

SIRS: What with natural and man-caused destruction of our no longer vast forests, wilderness areas, national parks, etc., fires, erosion, lumbering, and all the roadbuilding—all necessary, yes, but so is our future, too.

We now have more leisure than ever in history of civilization. Leisure is good, wonderful, beneficial to society. But it can be dangerous and destructive if not made proper use of. Then it will only lead to anarchy. So that is why we are in great need of more wilderness areas than the few we already have. If we really want a healthy society in the future, then we must plan and act now—now is the time. Our population is growing at a very rapid rate. Are we doing our part to meet that situation?

So please try. be future minded, build for it. We need more playgrounds, forests, and wildlife, but above all we need plenty of water supply at present and much more in time to come.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

BRUNO RUDEK.

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DENVER, COLO., *October 21, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: In this era of overcrowding in urban areas and creeping usurpation of open space, I firmly believe that all wilderness areas must be preserved and more must be saved from "civilization's" desecrations.

I strongly urge that you vigorously support the concept of wilderness preservation and support and endorse S. 174 as one means toward accomplishing that end—both at the hearings and in the House vote.

Very truly yours,

EVELYN RUNNETTE.

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CENTERVILLE, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR GRACIE: I would like to go on record as opposing wilderness bill S. 174 in that it is contrary to the following basic economic formula which has made this country what it is today:

Man's material well-being=(natural resources+human energy) tools

Removing the basic element of this formula would in time affect the local, State, and National economy.

On the basis of the aforementioned, I solicit your cooperation in seeing that any and all wilderness system inclusions be approved by a majority vote of both Houses of the Congress. Also, that mining rights in lands included in established and future wilderness systems be sustained and continued.

Respectfully yours,

W. C. KOHLETTER.

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NOVEMBER 1961.

DEAR GRACIE PFOST: Please put us down as in favor of the wilderness bill or act. We want to see a wilderness left as God made it and intended it to be. A man needs a place to go and relax and if all our wilderness is gone, where can he go? Surely there is enough money in what timber, etc., the already rich have without them taking what little pleasure we poor have left from us. More and more our great country is getting patterned after foreign places with all for money and no fun places left.

Put us down on record as in favor of the wilderness bill (S. 174).

Thank you.

You are a great woman. May God bless you and make your work easier for you.

RUTH and ABRAM SABOTINE.

SRP03577

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO., *November 14, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PFOST: I have represented and do now represent several persons and corporations whose principal business is mining. My clients operate mines throughout the West from Alaska to Arizona.

For what it is worth, I merely want to let the record show that I am in accord with Mr. Miles P. Romney, manager of the Utah Mining Association and the National Chamber of Commerce of the United States in that I fear that bill S. 174 is too vague and broad in scope to guarantee the safeguards that the mining industry cherishes. I would be in favor of amending the language to require a majority vote of both Houses of the Congress prior to inclusion of land under the wilderness system and further provisions sustaining all present mining rights on any land which may hereafter be included in such a system.

Respectfully submitted.

FRANK L. SEYMOUR,
*Attorney at Law.*

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NEW CANAAN, CONN., *October 17, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: As an enthusiastic member of several American Forestry Association trail rides, which have taken me into some of our beautiful wilderness areas, I am strongly in favor of the passage of bill S. 174. I want those areas to be preserved so that my grandchildren can enjoy them as I have.

Sincerely yours,

DOROTHEA D. SHEDDEN.

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OFFICE OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
RIO BLANCO COUNTY,
*Meeker, Colo., November 14, 1961.*

To: The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives.
From: Ivo Shults, Rio Blanco County commissioner.
Subject: Opposition of the wilderness bill, S. 174.

(1) I am a stockman and rancher, and also a commissioner of Rio Blanco County, Meeker, Colo.

(2) I feel that we have too many bureaus in Washington already.

(3) I feel that the Department of Interior, Forest Service, and the Park Service are already doing a good job of preserving our land and forest.

(4) I feel that it would be very detrimental to the development of water, exploration of minerals, oil and gas, in which there is a great demand, and I feel that the demand will be greater in years to come.

(5) I feel that we already have more wilderness area now than the people can use or will ever use, as the people will not venture very far into a wilderness, as it is too difficult traveling and the majority cannot afford guides and horses to go into the wilderness.

(6) If this bill is passed as written it will eventually put a lot of stockmen out of business, therefore taking a lot of taxes away from the States in which they are imposed.

IVO E. SHULTS,
*Commissioner of Rio Blanco County.*

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KENNECOTT COPPER CORP.,
CHINO MINES DIVISION,
*Hurley, N. Mex., November 16, 1961.*

Mrs. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands,*
*House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I understand that the record of your subcommittee's hearings on S. 174 (the so-called wilderness bill) has been kept open to receive ex-

pressions of opinion from those who were unable to attend the hearings. Let me say that we appreciate the opportunity you have given us.

It is no secret that we have consistently opposed this bill and we intend to continue opposing what we believe are features which would impose an unwarranted handicap to the normal development of a healthy mining industry in this country.

Much of this development depends upon the ability of a mine operator to prospect for new mineral discoveries. No mine or ore body is going to last forever, despite the efforts of most miners to turn even the most marginal material into a useful resource. The continuity of a mining organization is contingent upon its ability to locate and develop new mineral sources—a process that takes years before actual mining can be started.

The discovery of these minerals depends upon the traditional right of a prospector—whether an individual or a company—to some protection of any discovery he might make. It is this assurance which has, in the past, provided the stimpulus for individuals and organizations to risk time and money in an often fruitless search for mineral deposits. In its present form, S. 174 curtails the rights and activities of the prospector in many areas which have yet to be explored. It is unrealistic, to put it mildly, to expect that any mineral discoveries of national importance will be made or developed under the restrictions which would be imposed by S. 174.

Despite the claims of some of the proponents of the wilderness bill, we are not against the idea of preserving certain areas of natural beauty for the enjoyment of our children and their children. We do believe, however, that these areas should not be chosen arbitrarily by one group of people without regard to the needs of others.

We therefore urge that the bill be given an unfavorable report by the commitee. If it appears necessary that some wilderness legislation finally be enacted. we respectfully ask that consideration be given to amendments which would do the following:

1. Make it mandatory that any inclusions in the wilderness system be approved by a majority of both Houses of Congress.
2. Sustain and continue mining rights in any of the lands included in the wilderness system, particularly the right to locate claims and protection to the prospector in any discovery he might make.
3. Provide that primitive areas and other lands proposed for inclusion in the future not be included in the system until an adequate inventory has been made of their suitability for other uses by persons qualified to make such an inventory.
4. Suspend action on this measure until a reasonable analysis has been made of the need and desire of the people for this particular type of resource.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

E. A. SLOVER.

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HOBBS, N. MEX., *October 25, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,

DEAR SIR: I am in favor wilderness bill S. 174. I believe that we must begin now to save our national forests, and set aside certain parts of them in order that our children and grandchildren may know our country as it is without being commercialized.

Your support is needed.

Sincerely,

FRED L. SMITH.

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ELY, NEV., *October 16, 1961.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: I wish to go on record as opposing the passage of the so-called wilderness bill (S. 174).

A foundation stone of our system of government has always been "the most good for the most people" and this bill is designed to do only a little good for a very small group of people.

At a time when the rest of the world is exploring and developing natural resources, this bill would do just the opposite, and exclude all possible development of power (chronically short in the West), timber, minerals, and cattle range without even investigating these possibilities. Very shortsighted.

 CRP03579

The First Continental Congress could have passed such a law to protect the wilderness for nature lovers, and this Nation would be nothing. However, development of the wilderness was supported and encouraged, and the land, where possible, put to profitable use—where not, it is still a wilderness, fully as untouched as though entry were prohibited by such a law as S. 174.

Kill this foolish thing—we have bigger problems in the world than this.

Sincerely,

JOHN G. SMITH.

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PITTSBURGH, PA., *October 17, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: For the past 10 years it has been my pleasure to spend 2 weeks a year in one of our wilderness areas. My spiritual and physical rewards have been immeasurable. It is my belief that more and more people are seeking and will seek out this kind of recreation and we must continue to provide the means to enable them to reap the rewards from such a wholesome experience.

I endorse wilderness preservation and S. 174.

Respectfully,

ROBERT E. SMITH.

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COMBINED METALS REDUCTION CO.,
*Salt Lake City, Utah, November 18, 1961.*

Re wilderness bill S. 174.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: As the current battle to protect the economic interests of my company, its employees and the communities it helps to support has been too intense to permit me to appear before your committee, I respectfully submit the following brief statement relating to S. 174.

As a veteran Member of the House, I am sure you are aware of the serious loss of control by Congress to the executive bureaucracies that could result from the passage of S. 174. It should be amended to provide that both the Senate and House must specifically approve each and every area to be classified as "wilderness". I believe the enactment of the bill, as passed by the Senate, would tend to seriously limit or destroy the multiple use of large areas of public domain and unnecessarily increase the power and expense of the bureaucracy.

Early in life I had great confidence in the proper handling of matters of this kind by departments of the Federal Government, but after the sad experiences of the mining industry during the past 10 years as a result of errors in judgment of Federal bureaus, I no longer believe they should be given broad general powers such as contemplated in S. 174.

Fresh in mind are the "have not" theories promulgated in the early 1950's by the Department of the Interior as to lead, zinc, copper, tungsten, and uranium which caused the present burdensome surpluses of these metals.

Another example is the maladministration of the Trade Agreements Act contrary to the intent of Congress.

We invite you and your committee to visit the "oases" established by the uranium operations in the great open spaces of the Southwest so you can judge for yourself whether these ruined the scenery or added interest and comfort to your tour. These operations also produce "heap big" tax revenues and employment.

Please take the time required to properly dispose of S. 174.

Respectfully submitted.

EDWARD H. SNYDER.

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WHITEWATER, COLO., *November 16, 1961.*

Senator WAYNE ASPINALL,
*House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: This letter is written to state my opposition to the wilderness bill, S. 174.

I am against this bill for several reasons:

I think the best use of our forests is obtained where the multiple-use system is used. I believe, regardless of what is said, that this bill will do away with multiple use.

Also, our water development is of prime importance to our part of the country. How can they develop water where they can build no roads?

It has always been my belief that the laws of America are passed to serve the greatest number of people. The wilderness bill, as I see it, does not do this. It can serve only a very select few. In the first place, the average citizen can afford neither the equipment nor the time to go into a wilderness area.

The bill will certainly not serve our families with children.

It has been my experience with people, hunters as well as tourists, that they are not willing to walk or go into country which is not easily accessible by auto. Many people who have come to my ranch are even panicky at the ranch because it is 9 miles to the nearest phone. Can you imagine these people going on into an area where there are not any roads? These are city people, of course, but as I see it, it is city people for whom the wilderness bill is supposed to be written.

I truly believe the U.S. Government should not set aside great areas for wilderness. I believe if people are ambitious enough to walk there are a great many places, even in our most concentrated areas in the mountains, etc., where they can find wilderness.

Another idea, perhaps not often pointed out is this: In a true wilderness where livestock and human development are prohibited, brush becomes so thick and trails so impassable most people could not get around, because they have not had enough experience. A very good example of this can be found very close to my place where cattle grazing has not been permitted for the past 13 years. The trails which I once knew very well, I can barely find now. Hunters will not go into this area because it is too difficult to go into. This also creates great fire hazards where it will be impossible to get in to fight fires.

I also believe that we need all the natural ores that we can get in view of the world situation. The wilderness bill will do away with all practical prospecting.

There are many other objections I could rise, but at any rate I would vote against the wilderness bill in any form.

Sincerely,

LILLIAN M. SOMERVILLE.

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SOUTHEASTERN MONTANA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION, DISTRICT 5,
*Hardin, Mont., November 20, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*New House Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. ASPINALL: The Southeastern Montana Sportmen's Association is the parent organization of all sportsmen's clubs in southeastern Montana.

We are all in favor of the wilderness bill and would appreciate all the help you can give us on this.

Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,

FRANK STARINA, *Secretary.*
CHAS. ZIMMER, *President.*

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR MRS. PFOST: Since mining is our lifeblood in this area, I am committed to express disapproval of the wilderness bill.

In any wilderness system, mining rights in lands included should be sustained and continued. This applies particularly to the right to locate claims and protect the prospector in any discovery he might make.

This is one of many reasons for disapproval, based on the mining industry needs, and further, a reasonable analysis has not been made of the need and desire of the people for this particular resource.

Your considerations in this matter would be appreciated.

Respectfully,

ELMER C. SPEERS.

SRP03581

EAST ELY, NEV., *November 19, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR MRS. PFOST: The wilderness bill, S. 174, which passed the Senate and which is to be voted on by the House early next year makes very necessary that the hearings you are now conducting consider this bill, as now written, on a common-good basis.

Absence of multiple-use provisions from this bill places the highest restrictions possible on a land mass representing approximately 3 percent of the area of the Continental United States. In further comparison, this proposed withdrawal of public lands is equal in size to 93 percent of the land contained in the State of Nevada—a State which had its birth in mining and from mining and other multiple uses of land continues to grow.

I wish to register my opposition to this bill as written, and to favor that it be amended to insure that multiple-use provisions as now exist be continued.

Primitive areas now exist and will continue to exist but the insuring of this is through progressive not primitive administration.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT R. STEELE.

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MIDVALE, UTAH, *November 19, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: I am addressing this letter to you in protest of the wilderness bill, S. 174, as it now stands.

Myself, like most American citizens are interested in preserving and maintaining the natural beauty which the United States has been so graciously blessed. But the present Senate bill 174 is inadequate, and restrictive to the point where the areas to be set aside can never achieve their potential usefulness.

As you no doubt are aware, the primitive areas of the Western States are a storehouse of mineral wealth which for the most part have been unexplored due to their inaccessibility and remoteness. As this country's need for natural mineral resources is expanding at an unbelievable rate, it would be disastrous to close these areas to mineral exploration and production. With the current world trend toward nationalizing of foreign mineral resources, we can ill afford to curtail our own efforts within this country toward maximum utilization of our own resources.

Taking cognizance of the aforementioned conditions, I feel that any wilderness bill should have the following provisions incorporated.

1. Any provision for a wilderness system should have approval by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

2. In any system established, mining rights on lands so included should be sustained, particularly the right to locate claims and the right of the prospector to work any mineral discovery made.

3. The primitive areas proposed in the future shouldn't be included in the wilderness system until an adequate inventory has been made of their suitability for other uses by persons qualified to make such an inventory.

DONALD L. STEVENS, *Mining Engineer.*

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STATEMENT OF WILLIAM F. STEVENS, GYPSUM, COLO.

Gentlemen, having resided in Michigan, having been educated in Connecticut, and having been an avid camper long before moving to Colorado and becoming a racher, I feel competent to make valid observations on the Wilderness Act.

1. The average nature lover will not benefit from the present bill since the more remote sections of any wilderness area will be inaccessible except by means of expensive pack trips, and the fringes will lose the wilderness characteristics because too many people will frequent them.

2. The general public will get far greater benefit from extending the multiple-use principle in the use of Federal lands rather than limiting it. Controlled lumbering, prospecting for minerals, grazing, outdoor recreation, and water

conservation can use the same areas, and those of us experienced in such matters know that such controls already exist.

3. The present bill gives too much power to too few people in determining the best use of Federal lands. The Congress should insist that it determine which areas are to have limited use. More veto power for Congress is not sufficient to protect the public interest and it is an unfortunate extension of bureaucratic power to place an appointed official in a position to tie up land for limited use for as much as 5 years on his own volition.

4. The Gruening amendment should be extended to include all the States since it is ludicrous to think that nonresidents of a State know as much about the local economy, use of lands, etc., as do those who are exposed to the problem daily and can easily make on-the-spot inspections.

My request to this committee in considering and rewriting this bill is as follows:

1. Recognize how few people benefit from the creation of extensive wilderness areas.
2. Keep control of the selection of sites within the Congress and require positive rather than negative action on the part of Congress.
3. Shy away from increasing bureaucratic power.
4. Require that the States concerned with a given area be parties to the selection of specific wilderness sites.
5. Most important of all: require that the multiple-use principle be extended and permit exceptions only for compelling national reasons and not to satisfy the selfish interests of pressure groups to limit the use of their own individual purpose.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: The recently held hearings on the wilderness bill, S. 174, posed some items which I feel are in complete disagreement with our individual rights and should be completely reinvestigated and altered.

My feelings in this matter are: Any and all rights that the mining industry now have in public domain lands should be maintained.

The tendency toward bureaucracy should be eliminated by requiring that any and all inclusions to the wilderness system be approved by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress rather than approval resulting in default through failure of Congress to act.

Yours truly,

CHARLES F. STILLMAN.

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CHICAGO, ILL., *October 20, 1961.*

CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,
*Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

SIRS: I do heartly agree with the endorsement of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

Being a trail rider of the wilderness, 14 times camping in different parts of our wilderness areas all over the Western States. I fully realize how important those areas are, not only to us, but to our children and all the coming generation.

Sincerely,

MARY M. STORM.

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MAGNA, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MADAM: Having been employed over 43 years on western railroads, it has been my observation that the future economy of the Western States is dependent upon the right to prospect and develop all possible natural resources such as oil, gas, uranium and all other ores.

SRP03583

I feel that the wilderness bill, if passed, will retard mining industry to such an extent that it will be felt all over the country.

Your consideration in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

L. E. STRONG.

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MAGNA, UTAH, *November 17, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR GRACIE: The record for the hearings recently held on the wilderness bill, S. 174, are open until November 20 for letters expressing approval or disapproval of the bill.

I wish to go on record as being against this bill for the following reasons:

1. Inclusions in the wilderness system should be approved by a majority of both Houses of Congress.
2. In any wilderness system established, mining rights in lands included should be sustained and continued, including particularly the right to locate claims and protection to the prospector in any discovery he might make.
3. The primitive areas, and areas proposed for inclusion in the future, should not be included in the system until an adequate inventory has been made of their suitability for other uses by persons qualified to make such an inventory.
4. Action should not be taken on this measure until a reasonable analysis has been made of the need an ddesire of the people for this particular type of resource.

Your old buddy from Utah,

"CHICK" SUDBURY.

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GREAT FALLS, MONT., *November 20, 1961.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.:*

We, a group of central Montana stockmen and sportsmen, vigorously support the wilderness bill. It is in the best interest of the country. Minority, personal interest groups will make the loud noise and put on the heavy pressure, but please remember, John Q. Public wants, and needs this bill.

THE SUN RIVER CONSERVATION COUNCIL,
Dr. J. H. CROUCH.

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ELY, NEV., *November 15, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: In the interests of good government, I feel that S. 174, the wilderness bill, should be defeated.

I am a rancher's wife. I live at the base of Mount Wheeler, the highest mountain totally within Nevada's boundaries. I would not give up my beautiful views—the sunrises, the sunsets, the camping, the picnicking, the hiking, the mountain climbing, but I do not agree that turning millions of acres of public lands into a wilderness would preserve the land I live on or the area I live in.

The land, itself, is wilderness enough. My nearest neighbor is 2 miles away, the closest town 50 miles away. I have been grateful more than once for the cow trails, roads cut by miners, ranchers, prospectors, when I have had to go in search of my husband or son when their equipment failed.

The only western State that I know of that could use a bill of this sort is, perhaps, California. I don't believe that it would be of advantage to the other States included in the bill, such as New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, Colorado, Idaho or Nevada. These are all States that are doing everything in their power to develop all their resources; States that are encouraging their natives to prospect, to mine, to ranch, to do everything they can to improve their State economically and industrially. I think the choice of whether acreages of land within a State should be turned into a wilderness should lie with the natives of that State who

must derive their living and their happiness from it. Certainly the decision should not be influenced by nonresidents of a State who are nature lovers, but who are not dependent on the land for their livelihood. These people are primarily visitors to these areas. They remain in one of these areas for a week or two at most. They do not reside there on a permanent basis, therefore, they do not see the other side of the coin. They are asking that millions of acres of land be turned into a wasteland, rather than a productive land that secures for its inhabitants a better way of life.

I hope that all these things are taken into consideration when this bill is discussed and voted upon. How many of the letters that you receive in favor of the wilderness bill are from residents of the States involved?

Please, Mrs. Pfost, help defeat the bill for your Idaho constituents and all other westerners.

Sincerely yours,

BEATRICE K. SWALLOW.

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TAYLOR RANCHES,
*Whitewater, Colo., November 15, 1981.*

Hon. WAYNE ASPINALL,
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: I'm writing you concerning the wilderness bill, S. 174.

I have studied this bill thoroughly and feel there is no need for more recreation areas, or more control over what freedom we now enjoy. The average person is not going to get any good out of a wilderness behind a fence, a place they cannot drive to. Why not find a way to raise more food in the way of beef or wildlife for the increasing population? The Forest Service and Bureau of Reclamation are doing all that is needed in the way of recreation and picnic facilities.

I am very strongly opposed to this bill, and these are only part of the reasons.

Sincerely,

LOLA M. TAYLOR.

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SANTA FE, N. MEX., *October 23, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*House of Representatives.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL: The Tiano sporting goods store serves a very large segment of the people in this area who indulge in outdoor recreational activities.

A great many of our customers hike, ride horseback, pack-in, camp, hunt, and fish in the Pecos Wilderness Area. We know that practically all of them are highly in favor of wilderness preservation and necessary legislation to guarantee continued maintenance of wilderness areas. We and they believe that S. 174 is a well-designed and entirely fair bill that will accomplish that end.

We of this company certainly are highly in favor of it. It is hoped that your committee will act favorably on the wilderness preservation bill and give the House of Representatives an early opportunity to vote on it.

Respectfully,

TIANO SPORTING GOODS CO.,
By J. A. TIANO.

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UTAH WILDLIFE FEDERATION,
*Salt Lake City, Utah, November 6, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Member of Congress from Idaho, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN PFOST: As president of the Utah Wildlife Federation, may I take this opportunity to express our endorsement of S. 174, the wilderness bill.

The expansion of our urban and industrial frontiers and the explosion of our populations demand that we protect for future generations some of our primitive lands for the enjoyment and recreation of our people. We believe that exploration by commercial interests should be allowed only when an emergency exists that might affect the welfare or economy of the Nation. We believe that game management on wilderness lands should remain with the States and their

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respective departments of fish and game. We believe that the Congress should have final control on the establishments of such wilderness lands.

Respectfully,

JACK ALLSHOUSE, *President.*

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WHITEWATER, COLO., *November 15, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman of Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: We strongly oppose the present wilderness bill for the following reasons:

1. No need exists for wilderness legislation at this time. The Forest Service manages the wilderness, wild and primitive areas, efficiently and well. Through the years the Forest Service has developed and continues to maintain recreational areas to which the public is welcome to come for enjoyment of the great outdoors.
2. Restricting large areas would be wrong—it would deny access to many people who could not afford pack outfits and equipment necessary to get into such an area.
3. We want Congress to be the body to make decisions such as inclusion of more areas within wilderness areas, etc., not the Secretary of Agriculture. We send our Congressmen to Washington for the purpose of investigating our needs and for giving us legislation that is agreeable to the majority of us, not a few pressure groups.
4. Adopting this wilderness bill would mean setting up another expensive bureau to administer it. This would be not only unnecessary and expensive, it would be downright silly, since all these areas are already under adequate, efficient and careful supervision by the Forest Service, the Park Service, etc.

Please consider the people of the West who know what wilderness areas are, and who realize better than anyone else what the proposed legislation will do to the West. Let's preserve it, yes, but let's make it possible for all of us to enjoy it.

Sincerely,

J.T. WADLOW.
MARY WADLOW.
BILL WADLOW.

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LINCOLN, NEBR., *October 24, 1961.*

Re wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*Montrose, Colo.*

The writer feels deeply the need for wilderness preservation and would like to endorse S. 174 as a means of accomplishing this end.

Your sincere consideration will be greatly appreciated.

HERBERT R. WALT.

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FARMINGTON, N. MEX., *October 29, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Montrose, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: I strongly urge you to do your utmost in the passing of this bill. I believe that our children and grandchildren need to enjoy the wilderness, and without this bill they will never have that privilege. I believe we owe them at least that.

Sincerely,

EUGENE WILLIAMS, Jr.

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THOMPSON FALLS, MONT., *November 12, 1961.*

Congresswoman GRACIE PFOST,
*House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN: I am writing in regard to the wilderness bill which is before the Congress of the United States.

Our community is located in a forest area where at least two-thirds of our economy is based on the lumbering industry. Passage of the wilderness bill would seriously curtail that industry and thereby the total economy of the town.

Western Montana is a tourist attraction with its mountains, forests, and streams, but there is sufficient attraction without setting aside wilderness areas for that purpose.

Trees should be used and land reforested. Forest products are needed. Proper care and use should benefit the majority and not the minority.

Please use your influence to avoid passage of the wilderness bill.

Sincerely yours,

MILDRED H. WOLLASTON
Mrs. Richard A. Wollaston.

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SENATE MINES INC.,
PHILIPSBURG, GRANITE COUNTY, MONT.,
*November 19, 1981.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. PFOST: The following is a protest that I would like to have filed against the wilderness bill (S. 174).

Concerning any wilderness bill we must be very careful that we, or Congress, are not creating just another monster that would not only in the long run be a detriment to the country concerned but also look at the loss in taxes if it were developed into production. I have doubt in mind if a third of our Congressmen are qualified to vote on a bill of this kind because I know that they don't have the true facts in the matter.

Some years ago these irresponsible people created here in this country what was known as the Anaconda Primitive Area and then laid down a blanket location not only over the tops of the legally held mining claims but also over the tops of the patented mining property. As you know for our Government to lay down any blanket location over the tops of any mining claims it then can be classed confiscation of property by Government without due process of law. As you know, also, there is a legal way for our Government to handle cases of this kind, first, by condemning, then appraising, and then going through the courts. Any and all wilderness legislation should be handled in the above manner. When our Congress does wrong then the people must suffer forever after.

At the time they also stopped the sheep and the cattle people from grazing their cattle, these men were running cattle in this country a long time before I first came in and I am now living, working, and spending money in the country for 51 years. They also stopped the sale of timber with the result about a third of the timber is now dead and falling on the ground with the result its become a grave fire hazard, the proof of this we have had a very bad forest fire just about 15 miles west of here last summer on the Bitterroot side that burned over 28,000 acres of valuable timberland and had as many as 2,000 men fighting it with 42 bulldozers making roads to get into where the fire was, the final result the good Lord let down a fall of snow that not only stopped the fire from spreading any more but also put it out for good. Here again the lack of roads in the area handicapped the firefighters from getting position so they could attack the fire.

Thanking you, I am,

Very truly yours,

PAT E. WARD, *President.*

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NOVEMBER 11, 1961.

DEAR GRACIE PFOST: Put me on record as in favor of the wilderness being kept a wilderness.

Future generations, for nature lovers, for lovers of the outdoors, for the healthy man or woman who wants to get away from the city smells and noise. Once the big timber companies, miners, sheepmen, and cattlemen get an inch in that wilderness there won't be a piece of land left free of their filthy cow manure, sheep manure, and other trash that goes with the outfits.

Best regards.

ALICE WEST.
JANE WEST.
JESSIE WEST.

NOVEMBER 11, 1961.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN GRACIE PFOST: Please put us on record as in favor of the wilderness bill (S. 174). Thank you. Five reasons our idea anyhow: (1) for future generations to see our land as the Pilgrims and our forefathers did; (2) for nature lovers; (3) for hearty outdoorsmen to have a place to go to, our people are grabbing up every acre as fast as it is set free to buy or lease. We need land where poor folks can go, too; (4) for the game and fish to have a place to live and increase without being crowded out by people; and (5) white man crowded the Indian and buffalo out. Just as he will crowd out our elk, deer, fish, and other wildlife if they don't have a place left for them free from man.

Mrs. GRACE JOHNSON.
Mr. LAWRENCE JOHNSON and SONS:
CECIL JOHNSON.
LEVI JOHNSON.
ALFRED JOHNSON.

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NOVEMBER 1961.

Congresswoman GRACIE PFOST.

DEAR MRS. PFOST: We should like very much to be put down on record as in favor of the wilderness bill (S. 174), I believe it is called; the one passed by the Senate.

We want something left for our future generations, for our rock collectors, for bird watchers, photographers, and just plain folks like us that love this great country. We have the greatest, most wonderful country on earth. Must we let the already rich corrupt every inch of land we have? The cattlemen and sheepmen own big ranches. Why do they need more grazing? The timber companies waste more little trees than they cut. Why do they need more land? We think they want to build large motels, etc., so they can grab a little more to put in their pockets.

Best regards,

Einar Nielsson, Mrs. Einar Nielsson, Ivan Devoe, Fautheree Loudermilk, Franco Migliacci, Vincent Greco, Vittorio Masheroni, Libby Van Huesson, Janice Funicella.

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NOVEMBER 11, 1961.

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Congresswoman.*

DEAR GRACIE PFOST: Please put me on record as in favor of keeping our wilderness a wilderness always.

JANE PICKAVET.
JOHN PICKAVET.

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BILLINGS, MONT., *November 9, 1961.*

HONORABLE SIRS: I am writing to you on behalf of Senate bill 174, as regards our national wilderness areas.

This is a very important piece of legislation, of national interest, at present and far into the future.

No doubt some of you have children and will have grandchildren and also great-grandchildren, and the millions of other Americans that will be here after us; how about them?

Are they to be deprived of the privilege of enjoying the great and grand outdoors and all the recreational facilities that it entails?

If there is any doubt about this I suggest you study the statistics on the millions of people that journey from all parts of the Nation to visit our existing national parks, and this is only the beginning.

Are these present and future citizens' recreational enjoyments to be condemned and penalized for the sake of interests that are motivated strictly by a vicious greed that fairly shouts, "To hell with America, let's exploit and rob her in the name of progress while we can."

These same interests would make a mockery of our democratic system of majority rule.

Therefore, I, a family man, a voting citizen, and above all an American who loves America, implore you to exert every means, and more, within your power to secure passage of Senate bill 174.

Millions and untold millions of Americans will forever be grateful to you.

Sincerely,

ALBERT S. WOLD.

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WATERSHED CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROJECT,
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO, ALBUQUERQUE,
*November 14, 1961.*

Re S. 174 hearings.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, House of Representatives, Montrose, Colo.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am George W. Worley, director, Pack Foundation watershed conservation education project, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N. Mex. I am concerned with furthering public understanding of the basic dependence of all citizens, individually and collectively, upon natural resources, the interrelationship of these resources, and the urgency of initiating and maintaining an effective conservation program.

It appears to me that maintenance of our high watersheds in a state of highest production of water and lowest production of sediment is of utmost importance, particularly to the future of the areas within which these watersheds are found, and generally to the welfare of our Nation. I favor the establishment of a system wherein, if it seems desirable upon deliberate examination, such watersheds, and other lands with similar attributes, can be given adequate and permanent protection. I believe that the wilderness preservation bill S. 174 provides for such a system, and favor this legislation.

A concern for the protection of vital watersheds is my primary reason for supporting Senate bill 174. I also favor this legislation because it provides for the preservation, in relatively original condition (a condition which grows increasingly unique), of certain prescribed areas. The areas considered in the wilderness preservation bill are comparable to the virgin prairie areas which are being reserved in and by those States and areas where they are found. Both the high watershed areas and the prairie areas have scientific, esthetic, recreational, and material values which cannot justifiably be ignored by any unselfish patriot. Such values, when destroyed, are irrecoverable, and I believe represent losses far in excess of the temporary gains realized by unthinking and selfish exploitation of the material resources of the areas.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE W. WORLEY.

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RATON, N. MEX., *October 21, 1961.*

Re wilderness preservation bill, S. 174.

Hon. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
*U.S. Congressman,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: We believe that prompt action on the above mentioned bill is of vital interest to all people, particularly so, here in the Western States where we are endowed with so much natural beautiful terrain, which should remain that way for our future generations.

I am a native of northern New Mexico, having lived here for nearly 50 years. I have seen several localities stripped of all their natural beauty.

We hope you will take whatever action necessary to get this bill made into a law, where no individual can, by signature of his name, destroy all for which it stands.

Sincerely,

JAMES E. WRIGHT.

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CASPER, WYO., *November 21, 1961.*

Hon. GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairman, Subcommittee, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*
*New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN PFOST: We regret that your committee has not to date found an opportunity to schedule hearings on Senate bill 174 in the State of Wyoming. We continue to hope that such hearings may be arranged prior to further action on this bill. In the meantime, we wish to go on record as opposed to this bill in its present form. It is our considered opinion that the full authority for the extension of wilderness areas should be retained by the Congress.

Respectfully submitted.

H. A. TRUE, JR.,
*President, Wyoming Oil Industry Committee.*

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KEMMERER, WYO., *November 17, 1961.*

Congresswoman GRACIE PFOST,
*Chairwoman of Subcommittee of House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, New House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN PFOST: At the national convention of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts (NASCD) held in Memphis, Tenn., in February 1961, the following resolution on the wilderness policy of the association was adopted. There were 49 of the 50 States represented:

The NASCD, in view of the rapidly expanding population of the Nation, recognizes the need for allocating areas of public lands to parks, defense, recreational, wilderness, and other noncommercial purposes. At the same time, we take the position that each and every allocation of public land to such specialized single-purpose use be made only after thorough study and justification; that any allocation of public lands transferred from multiple to restricted use be made only after a complete inventory of all the resources of the area involved, which sets forth their essential uses; that these uses be cataloged in accordance with the present and potential needs; and further, that we oppose vigorously all indiscriminate, unselective, and excessive allocations beyond the demonstrated, justified needs for the purposes indicated. Moreover, we strongly urge adequate provision for access roads, fire protection, watershed protection and water production on all lands retired from multiple to restricted use.

We wish to enter this resolution into the congressional hearings on wilderness legislation.

Yours truly,

J. WALTER DIMOND,
*Vice President, Wyoming State Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.*

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A friend of ours is typing this for us, otherwise our writing is so bad we are afraid you could not read it. We do not talk good English plain so we do not go to the meetings but our children do talk pretty well and learn good English. We have been here many years and have our citizenship papers. We love this country now like no other place.

We want to go on record as in favor of keeping a wilderness a wilderness always. We have seen lovely land torn up and big ugly buildings put up. Farmland torn up to build dumps. We think any country so lucky to have beautiful wilderness areas should keep some of it always for their own grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. CONSUELO VELAZQUEZISKI.

Sons:

"MICKO" MIKALJON VELAZQUEZISKI.
"D. J." DJANGO VELAZQUEZISKI.
"ZEKE" ZEQUINKA VELAZQUEZISKI.

Daughters:

"OLLIE" OLIVEIRA VELAZQUEZISKI.
MARIE ANGELA VELAZQUEZISKI.
ELEANA MICHELLE VELAZQUEZISKI.

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CHICAGO, ILL., *October 17, 1961.*

Hon. WAYNE H. ASPINALL,
*Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.*

DEAR SIR: The undersigned strongly urge that you vote in favor of the wilderness preservation bill, S. 174. Certainly the preservation of wilderness areas for our generation and for posterity is urgently required. The preservation of some such areas of our national heritage must transcend the limited benefits to a relative few special interests.

Very sincerely,

STANLEY W. EVASKUS.
GEORGE A. [Illegible].
EILEEN C. BOCK.
EVELYN BARTA.
PHILIP F. ATWOOD.

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