

ment opportunities and for what appears to me to be a clearly stated and unbiased report of their findings. I also express my appreciation to this committee for conducting this hearing so that the views of interested people and organizations can be heard and considered in deliberations about future management of the Sawtooths.

I strongly support multiple use principles in the management of most of this Nation's public lands. The growing population and increasing resource needs—food, fiber and recreation opportunities, including wilderness—required that this type of management be applied to most of our land base if these demands are to be reasonably met.

The national recreation area idea is, to me at least, a comparatively new one, and praise Idaho's two Senators and the park service-forest service study team for considering this. I believe this management concept is eminently well suited to the Sawtooth country. In general, it appears such a designation, along with reclassification of the primitive area as wilderness, will very appropriately recognize the scenic and recreational endowments of this land and provide for their intensified protection and the widest opportunity for recreation use and enjoyment. It will also, as I understand, provide for other resource uses such as grazing, lumbering, mining, ranching and hunting to the extent they are compatible with recreation values.

I strongly endorse the national recreation area concept of management for these specific reasons:

1. The national recreation area concept offers the broadest range of outdoor recreation opportunities. Hunting and fishing will continue under State administration and regulation. Organization camps operated for the benefit of youth will continue. The winter sports potential can be fully developed. Year-round recreation attractions can and will likely develop.

2. Big game animals can be kept in balance with their habitat through sport hunting. An established local outfitter business can continue.

3. The timber, forage, mineral and agricultural resources of the area can continue to furnish food, fiber, and minerals to growing population, contribute to the local economy and minimize disruption to established ranching and lumbering enterprises.

4. It will minimize possibilities for duplication of management and development and maximize opportunity for coordinated effort through one-agency management of the national recreation area, Sawtooth wilderness and surrounding national forest land. The same level of development and administration would very likely be more costly if two agencies were involved.

5. Less land would be taken from private ownership if legislation for a national recreation area were enacted.

6. The western ranching atmosphere of the valley lands would be maintained and enhanced under the national recreation area plan. Even though this activity imposes on the naturalness, it is one of the prime attractions of this splendid land as I view it.

7. Maximum opportunity for local, State, and Federal development is provided under the national recreation area designation.

In conclusion, I strongly endorse legislation under management concept provided in Senate Bill 1267.

STATEMENT OF BROCK EVANS, NORTHWEST CONSERVATION REPRESENTATIVE,
SIERRA CLUB AND FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs and the Sierra Club have a long record of concern for the scenic and wilderness quality of the Sawtooth Mountain region, recognizing this area as one of the most beautiful in North America. In the recent past, these organizations have testified in favor of an enlarged Sawtooth Primitive Area, to be reclassified and made a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and also in favor of National Park status for the present Primitive Area and the contiguous scenic lands surrounding it, again with wilderness status for the Primitive Area section of the Park.

Our position of concern for the fate of the Sawtooth region remains unchanged today. We still believe that a large National Park, embracing both the upland and the lowland features of the area, is the best possible method of protection for the outstanding scenery of the Sawtooths, including their pastoral foreground areas. We still believe that the present Primitive Area, with additions of contiguous wildlands, must become a part of the Wilderness System. Finally, we believe that