

It has been brought to the attention of the Committee in numbers of other statements that the brief history of the fund act shows beyond a doubt that this program is working. The ability of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation to become organized and set up to administer this program certainly brings forth the fact that Federal-State relationships are heading in the right direction.

We would like to call the committee's attention to the fact that each of Wyoming's 23 counties have proposals approved by the Wyoming Recreation Commission. One hundred twenty-four projects had been submitted to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation as of January 19, 1968. Nearly 40 more have either been approved by the Wyoming Recreation Commission or are awaiting approval. These projects represent only political subdivisions and nearly \$2 million in total costs.

The State agency requests are anticipated to be nearly \$7 million over the next 3-year period for acquisition and development of State park and recreation areas and facilities.

We cannot expect the land and water conservation fund program to fulfill the total needs in Wyoming. Private enterprise also has a role to play along with other Federal agencies such as the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. We currently are enjoying cooperative working relationships with these agencies and others. But we do feel strongly that the committee should look with favor upon allocating more funds to be expended by the Federal agencies west of the 100th meridian to help take care of the multitudes of visitors originating in the metropolitan centers with destinations in Wyoming and at Federal recreation areas, Federal historical sites, Federal park areas and Federal forests.

The Wyoming Recreation Commission also foresees problems in the future of the possible diversion of these trust funds to other areas of concern. We, therefore, express to the committee that they also look to an additional amendment to the effect that these land and water conservation funds cannot be diverted for any other cause and that the States retain sole authority for their distribution.

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION,
Trenton, N.J., February 8, 1968.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Old Senate Office
Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: The Delaware River Basin Commission supported enactment of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. I am writing to convey our further support to S. 1401 which I understand is now before your Committee.

Experience in the Delaware River Basin, particularly with the Delaware Water Gap National recreation area project, has already demonstrated how the cost of land acquisition can increase substantially between the time a project is authorized and funds become available for land purchases. Similar experience around the country has placed a burden upon the Land and Water Conservation Fund far beyond its resources. Establishment of new revenue sources; allowance for advance acquisition; and the lease-back and sell-back provisions, as authorized by S. 1401, would all contribute significantly to the solution of this problem.

I am pleased to lend our support to this legislation and hope it receives favorable support in the Congress.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. WRIGHT.

TUCKER ISLAND REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL,
February 7, 1968.

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

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: The purpose of this letter is to inform your Committee of this organization's support for S. 1401 and to request that this letter be placed in the official record of the hearings your Committee recently conducted on this bill.