

SAN GABRIEL, WASHAKIE, AND MOUNT JEFFERSON WILDERNESS AREAS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1968

U.S. SENATE,
PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 10:15 a.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Senator Frank Church (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senators Frank Church (Idaho), Lee Metcalf (Montana), Thomas H. Kuchel (California), and Clifford P. Hansen (Wyoming).

Also present: Senator Mark O. Hatfield (Oregon).

Staff members present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Stewart French, chief counsel; Porter Ward, professional staff member; and E. Lewis Reid, minority counsel.

Senator CHURCH. The hearing of the subcommittee will please come to order.

This is the time duly noted and set for hearings on three bills, S. 2531, S. 2751, and S. 2630.

In 1964, Congress and the President established the National Wilderness Preservation System. Under provisions of the Wilderness Act, Public Law 88-577, suitable additions may be made to the system with the approval of Congress.

The first of these to come before the Congress since 1964 was the proposed 143,000-acre San Rafael Wilderness Area of California. A bill establishing the San Rafael was passed last year by the Senate, but is still pending final House action.

The bills we consider today would add three new areas to the Wilderness System. S. 2531 proposed establishment of 36,137 acres to be called the San Gabriel Wilderness in California. S. 2751 would create the Mount Jefferson Wilderness of 96,462 acres in Oregon. The third bill, S. 2630, would combine the existing South Absaroka Wilderness with the Stratified Primitive Area and some adjacent lands to establish the Washakie Wilderness of 679,520 acres.

Now I think at this point, if the committee has no objections, we will include the text of these three bills, and also the message from the President requesting them, in the record.

(The documents referred to follow:)

[S. 2531, 90th Cong., first sess.]

A BILL To designate the San Gabriel Wilderness, Angeles National Forest, in the State of California

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with subsection 3(b) of the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 891), the area classified as the