

In view of this, these areas, even though very scenic, do not qualify for Wilderness under the definition provided by Congress in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act which says in part: A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are *untrammelled by man*, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its *primeval character* and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its *natural conditions* and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with *the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable*. . . ." (Italics added.)

We would object to an interpretation that the past logging and recently used jeep roads in the DuNoir Drainages represent "primeval character or influence" or are "substantially unnoticeable," because it would lower quality standards for the entire Wilderness Preservation System. The criteria used in determining suitability or unsuitability for inclusion of lands in the system is also our guide for administering areas once they are included. For example, the Wilderness Act permits ". . . any activity, including prospecting for the gathering of information about minerals or other resources if such activity is carried on in a manner compatible with the preservation of the wilderness environment." It would be difficult, therefore, to tell a miner that his use of a motor vehicle to make a few trips into a Wilderness for prospecting purposes would leave evidence more "noticeable" or less "compatible with the preservation of the wilderness environment" than the old timber-cutting and well-worn four-wheel-drive roads found in the DuNoir Drainages.

In addition to the question of suitability of these areas, we considered other public values, particularly future recreation needs. The National Forest Recreation Survey completed in 1960 identified five development sites within Area J as being necessary to meet the public needs for auto-access-type family recreation by the year 2000. As you know, the main access routes from the east to Yellowstone and Teton National Parks pass through the Shoshone National Forest. Opportunities for recreation use on adjacent National Forest land will become increasingly important to prevent National Park Values from being lost to overcrowding. In 1964, a formal planning effort by the Forest Service in cooperation with the Park Service was initiated for the areas surrounding Yellowstone and Teton National Parks. During these planning efforts, the Park Service people have pointed out that by 1972, if their planned recreation developments are on schedule and the current upward trend in use continues, they will reach maximum capacity for taking care of people in the parks. Overnight use will, therefore, have to be accommodated on private or National Forest lands outside, the parks. These accommodations need to be located so that people can spend the night there and still visit the parks on a daily basis. The potential recreation sites in Area J are especially important in meeting this need. Those in Areas 2, 3, and D are also important.

If Congress adopts the President's proposal for the Washakie Wilderness, nearly 53 percent of the Shoshone National Forest will be managed for Wilderness purposes and will not be accessible to the majority of Wyoming's vacation visitors. We believe most of the remaining 47 percent of the Shoshone National Forest should remain available for general recreation purposes rather than being managed for Wilderness.

One additional factor that should be considered is that the DuNoir Glacier, within Area J, is the only major live glacier in Wyoming not already in a designated Wilderness, Primitive Area, or roadless portion of a National Park. There is an opportunity, if it is left out of the Wilderness, of making this glacier accessible for public study and enjoyment by constructing a good, high-standard hiking trail from a future nearby road.

Area J also contains about 13,575 acres of commercial-quality timber with an estimated volume of over 100 million board feet. About 30 million board feet of this timber are considered operable under present market conditions and logging methods. About half of this operable volume (15 million board feet) would be removed in the first harvest cycle. This timber resource is important to established industry at DuBois, Wyoming.

There is no evidence to support a conclusion that Wilderness designation is necessary to the maintenance of elk herds in that area. Elk do migrate through the DuNoir Drainages in the spring and fall, just as they do through many other parts of Wyoming National Forests and just as they do through the areas below the proposed additions. However, experience does not support a conclusion that