

Mr. CLIFF. Well, Mr. Chairman, my testimony and the examination by Senator Hansen went into all of these proposals in some detail. We just don't think that the DuNoir Creeks qualify as wilderness under the definition of the Wilderness Act, because of past activities, and present evidence of the handiwork of man.

Furthermore, as I have just elaborated, we don't believe that wilderness designation is either necessary or desirable for the protection of the elk migration routes. This is rather a function of management, and of law enforcement.

Furthermore, the DuNoir drainages contain at least five identifiable areas that need to be developed for public recreation of the type that can be reached by automobile.

Lincoln Point, as I testified previously, has been cut over on two sides. Wiggins Fork, area 3, presents some interesting problems relating to definition of boundaries. When the Stratified Primitive Area was set up, that line was drawn on a map, and as you can see, it doesn't follow any topographic features, or even landmarks.

It is just an arc placed around that basin. It can't be identified as presently drawn, without a great deal of engineering and surveying, and then it would have to be heavily signed for people to recognize it.

There is one recognized public recreation area that needs to be developed at the north end of the corridor, as a jump-off place for travel into the wilderness. That area may look level on the map, but there are not many public use sites that are desirable for development in it.

We could, as I testified, define a line under the escarpment, but it would not be easily accomplished. This is unsurveyed country. There is no General Land Office survey of this particular area.

The Bear Basin area, area D, is already penetrated by a road, and there is one needed public recreation site in there.

A part of area D, the part lying to the west, has wilderness characteristics, and if a proper boundary could be defined which segregated that part from the part penetrated by the road, it might justifiably be added. We wouldn't have very much quarrel with adding part of the Bear Basin area, if we could get a desirable boundary line.

I think that completes my comments on Senator McGee's letter. I appreciate hearing it. I think with what I have said, and with the testimony that has already been given our analysis is defined, and I am sure that the witnesses that will follow will give their analysis of the same situation.

Senator CHURCH. Do you know of any other natural boundary in the area D portion, other than the one you have settled upon, that would meet your requirements?

Mr. CLIFF. The road goes into the basin, about the center, as indicated by the pointer on the map. The part that might be added lies to the west.

Senator CHURCH. To the west of the road?

Mr. CLIFF. West of the road, and we would have to find someplace that you could define as boundaries—preferably on topographic features. We considered that, and decided that the boundary we have recommended best, and the most feasible boundary in the area.

This is elk range, and elk do migrate through it. But we didn't consider this a compelling reason to put it in the wilderness.