

create, when they gather in other areas, the Yellowstone elk problem, where there are so many of them that they have to be harvested. This is due to the creation of an artificial hunting situation, which isn't really hunting at all, the point being that if resident herds can remain in areas which are not roaded, or logged, that you have better hunting for the hunters

Continuing now with the written statement—If the Forest Service plans to permit the roading and logging of the upper DuNoir Basin (area J) and the Fivemile and Sixmile Creek areas (areas H and I), we find this hard to understand, in view of the fact that these areas are at high elevations where the forests struggle to exist on steep slopes of rocky, shallow soil susceptible to erosion. These lands constitute a critically important watershed for the Yellowstone River, and should not be disturbed. We see little difference here between the Washakie and the Mount Jefferson situations regarding the exclusions of timberlands from the wilderness areas. For example, on page 7 of the Forest Service's Mount Jefferson brochure, the Service says, "Timber production potential at lower elevations is good. It is relatively poor at higher elevations because of the shallow, rocky soil and the short growing season." Timber production also must be poor at the higher elevations in the Washakie and, if harvested, would prove very costly to the American taxpayer in terms of the cost of constructing logging roads and reforesting the area in exchange for the little timber-sale revenue to be derived from it.

It is our hope that this committee will see fit to rely on the soundly based and objective views of the Wyoming citizen-conservationists.

May I digress again for a moment, sirs, to address myself to the problem raised by Dr. Cliff this morning, with respect to Yellowstone National Park and the need for accommodating greater numbers of people, because of the overflow situation there. They need to accommodate people in the Washakie area by means of having recreational areas. Now, it seems to me that this is tantamount to saying that you can't have wilderness, because of a need to overcome or to handle the overflow crowds in Yellowstone Park.

And this, I think, is an unsound reason for not putting land into wilderness protection. These areas can also be roaded and logged, even if they are recreational areas, and this could be just simply another reason for developing an area beyond its potential. I also have this point to make in that regard, as I am not at all sure the American tourist is going to settle for something like a recreation area in the vicinity of Washakie in lieu of going to Yellowstone. If Yellowstone gets the big publicity play, and this is where people want to go, I am not sure just how well they will take to second-rate substitutes, which I think you could call, in this regard.

I think of the Yosemite National Park situation, where Camp Perry is heavily overused, and other camping sites in the park are relatively unused. This is simply because of the tendency of people to go where there are many more people, and where they find the best scenic advantage.

Thank you very much.

Senator METCALF. Thank you very much, Mr. Wright, you have touched on some very important matters that the committee will consider.

Senator Hansen?