

the National Wilderness Preservation System. This support is based on studies of the area that were made by the natural science section and the conservation committee of our Angeles chapter. I myself have hiked in the area, both in the canyons of the lower portion and on the pine slopes of the Mount Waterman ridge in the upper portion.

The club supports the proposed acreage of 36,137 acres and the proposed boundaries, which in most cases extend close to existing roads. The club is pleased to note the addition of 2,490 acres in the Bobcat Canyon area to the wilderness proposal.

We support the proposal because we believe it important to preserve several substantial representative samples of each biome in as natural a state as possible. A substantial portion of the proposed wilderness lies in the chaparral community characterized by drought-resistant shrubs that burst into flowers in the spring, dry out in the summer and fall, and spring up again from underground stems after fires. The canyon bottoms support a streamside community with trees characteristic of more northerly forests such as the White Alder and the Big Leaf Maple. The transition zone of the upper slopes contains several species of pine, incense cedar, white fir, and big-cone Douglas fir. We note the presence of rainbow trout in the area, California mule deer, desert bighorn sheep, brown bears, raccoons, coyotes, and grey foxes.

We urge that the number of heliports designed for fire protection be kept as small as possible. We understand that most of these are and will be located on ridgetops. We wish to encourage the Forest Service to keep them as small and as inconspicuous as possible.

Finally, we urge the Forest Service to keep the dirt road to the south running along the west fork of the San Gabriel River in its present modest status, with locked gates to preclude general vehicular usage.

The wilderness proposal is a good one. We are pleased to support it.

Senator METCALF. Thank you very much, Mr. Ives. Do you have any questions of Mr. Tupling and Mr. Ives, Senator Hansen?

Senator HANSEN. No; I don't. I think, though, Mr. Chairman, it might be appropriate to introduce and to ask for inclusion in the record at this time a working paper that has been prepared by the Forest Service, under the direction of William A. Worf, which contains some interesting statistics. It is headed "Wildernesses, Primitive Areas, and National Park Wilderness Areas in the Vicinity of the Proposed Washakie Wilderness."

Under the national forest wildernesses are included the four areas, Bridger, North and South Absaroka, and the Teton, with a total of 1,780,994 acres. Proposed for addition in the Washakie proposal is 196,390 acres. Primitive areas still being studied in Wyoming are the Glacier, 177,000 acres, and the Popo Agie, 70,000 acres.

In Montana, the Absaroka, the Beartooth, and the Spanish Peaks, for a total of 590,800 acres are under study, and in the Grand Teton and Yellowstone Parks, a total of 1,850,000 acres for a grand total of 4,418,184 acres.

Without objection, I would like to ask that this be included in the record.

Senator METCALF. Without objection, that will be incorporated in an appropriate place in the record, to be selected by the staff.

(The information follows:)