

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held in Riverton, Wyoming, December 8, 1966. The majority of the views expressed, and particularly those of the residents of Fremont County, Wyo., were in accord with the findings of the study team as expressed herein.

Prior to this hearing the U.S. Forest Service had submitted a proposal and had invited persons interested to appear at the hearing and to submit written statements upon the premise "Any views submitted will be included with recommendations of the Secretary of Agriculture to the President and to Congress." However, these were not submitted to the President, and at the present time (February 1, 1968) have not been submitted to Congress, but, on the contrary, have been left in the files of the regional forester of the Denver office. One of these was the full and complete report by the Sierra Club study team.

It is not known whether this was because the majority of the public views felt that a larger area should be preserved than did the Forest Service.

PERSONNEL OF SIERRA CLUB STUDY TEAM

The Sierra Club studies were made by a team of nine members. They all did it as a public service, without compensation of any kind, and all of them paid their own way from their homes to Wyoming. None of them had any conflicting commercial or other interests. All were experienced backpackers and outdoorsmen. They were selected as best qualified for the study from a list of some sixty volunteers.

The leader, Orrin H. Bonney, graduate of the University of Colorado, has been a practicing lawyer for forty years. He has explored, and is known as an authority on the Wyoming back country and wilderness. With his wife, Lorraine, he is the co-author of *Guide to the Wyoming Mountains and Wilderness Areas*, and other books on Wyoming. He is a former officer of the American Alpine Club, and is a member of the Sierra Club, Wilderness Society, Alpine Club of Canada, and other organizations.

Lorraine Bonney, co-author of the above books, graduate of the University of Alberta, and world traveler, was a member of the team. The Bonneys divide their residence between Kelly, Jackson's Hole, Wyoming 83011, and 625 East 14th Street, Houston, Texas 77008.

Three members of the team had forestry experience. Dave Corkran, now working on his Ph. D. and teaching at San Francisco State College, worked for the forest service seven summers in Oregon. Jim Brundy, legal resident of Cheyenne, Wyoming, a graduate of Harvard College (B.A. 1963) and the University of California (M.A. 1965), is now doing statistical and computer programming for the U.S. Forest Service. Jim Underwood is now attending Syracuse Forestry School; he was also assistant leader of National Outdoor Training School at Lander, Wyoming.

Other members of the team were Nancy Baggott, of Los Angeles, B.A. in physical geography; Robert R. Marshall, B.S. in Electrical Engineering, aerospace industry and teaching; Jean Searle, Los Angeles, prominent in conservation studies and working on a local newspaper; and Francis Walcott, an active Sierra Club member and secretary of the Sierra Club Council.

It was a competent group, giving intelligent study and consideration to the problem of what should be included in the wilderness.

The information and study made by the team was then referred to the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club, and to the Council of the Wilderness Society at their annual (1966) meeting, and to the Wyoming Wildlife Federation, and was given full discussion and consideration by these organizations. Each member of the study team was also encouraged to submit without restriction his own personal ideas to the hearing officer, independent of the group findings.

THE STUDY

The study team made an eleven-day reconnaissance into the Stratified Primitive Area and adjoining Shoshone National Forest lands, north of Dubois, Wyoming. The team approached and entered the area via six different road-heads, thoroughly covering the perimeters and much of the interior.

In addition to this, five members of the study team made other trips into the region.