

lic, the people that need a place to camp, and a lovely view of the wilderness.

In addition, from such locations, I think people would have an invaluable experience of walking into the wilderness, maybe back to the camp at night, but all of this would accrue to the advantage of the local economy, and we would urge that alternate sources for such mass recreation facilities be fully explored before it is decided to use any part of these locations that we propose to be parts of the wilderness area for such facilities.

With its rugged and spectacular scenery, its many steep and secluded valleys clothed in summer with gorgeous displays of plant life, its 16 lakes, and uncounted streams flowing through both alpine meadows and canyons, and its untamed wildlife to be viewed and studied, the Stratified Primitive Area is unquestionably worthy of preservation in its present natural condition.

When added to the South Absaroka Wilderness, and rounded out with the additions we have suggested, this unit will guarantee a great wilderness experience for all who seek it, as well as preserve scientific values, watersheds, and wildlife.

A good trail system already exists through much of the area. It is being used more each season for horse pack trips and by hikers. There is good access now to the boundaries of this area.

Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, we wish to emphasize our strong support for the establishment of the Washakie, San Gabriel, and Mount Jefferson Wilderness Areas. We commend you and the members of the committee for your prompt consideration of these measures, and urge your early, favorable action upon them. We appreciate very much the opportunity to present these views.

Senator HANSEN. Thank you very much, Mr. Brandborg.

We will next hear from Mr. Robert R. Marshall, of Pomona, Calif.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT R. MARSHALL, POMONA, CALIF.

Mr. MARSHALL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am Robert R. Marshall, and I live at 1986 North Orange Grove Avenue, Pomona, Calif. I would like to explain why I believe the San Gabriel Wilderness should be established as provided in S. 2531.

The proposed San Gabriel Wilderness would preserve an excellent sample of the south-facing slopes of the San Gabriel Mountains. I live near the base of these mountains, as do most people in the Greater Los Angeles area, and I have hiked and traveled in the San Gabriels a great deal. I have also traveled widely in the other mountains of southern California, as well as wildernesses throughout the Western States. I know of no other place quite like the San Gabriel Mountains, and, frankly, I love them.

Their lower, south-facing slopes are steep, crumbly, and generally covered with dense, dry chaparral. In fact, it isn't too far from the truth to say that the chaparral is the only thing which keeps these mountains from falling down.

There are narrow, steep, and often spectacular canyons, and in the bottom of each canyon is a little line of a kind of world totally different from that of the slopes just above. Within this line it is cool—shaded by water-loving hardwood trees. The wild flowers grow here, and there are often trickles of water in the streambeds all year.