

This is the most democratic method of screening out those who care from people whose interest is casual.

Some of the lower forest country west of the proposed wilderness should also be included. Walking a narrow path through the mature Douglas Fir forests there can be as uplifting in its own way as climbing above timberline on Mt. Jefferson. In a sense, the present Jefferson Wilderness Area is even narrower than it appears on a map. With the exceptions of the high peaks, the terrain is less rugged than in most mountain wilderness regions. Many lakes here can be reached by almost level or only gently sloping trails, while similar distances in the High Sierra or the Rockies generally require considerably more time and exertion.

Most important of all, we must never forget how rapidly the population of Oregon is expanding. The number of people utilizing wilderness areas is increasing even more rapidly. Certainly the trend will continue in the future, as more and better light weight camping equipment and foods become available, as experienced back country travelers take their friends, children, and other relatives on that first memorable trip in the wilderness, and as more and more people leave their automobiles in search of solitude and undisturbed natural country.

Senator CHURCH. We now turn to consideration of the Washakie Wilderness. We have a number of citizen witnesses here from the State of Wyoming, Senator Hansen, in deference to you and the number of Wyoming witnesses that are here, I would like to suggest that you just take over and chair this portion of the hearing, while your Wyoming witnesses are present, because I know of your very central interest in this Washakie matter.

Senator HANSEN (presiding). Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Let me assure you, however, that the Wyoming friends that I have here today, and I hope all of them are, have a very high regard for you.

They have watched your performance in the Congress for a number of years, and I am certain that while they may disagree as to the specifics of what might be done with all of the area under discussion before us here today, they do share my great respect for you and for the things you are trying to do for our country. Having expressed my appreciation to you for your very fine gesture, I would like to suggest that you carry right on.

Senator CHURCH. Thank you. I am going to be here as much as possible for this hearing. I have a conflict with the Foreign Relations Committee. I have to attend to that for a few minutes, and then I will be back.

Senator HANSEN. I will be happy to chair.

Senator CHURCH. I would appreciate your chairing the hearing while I attend to the other business.

Our first witness is Leslie E. Shoemaker of the Wyoming Outfitters Association.

Senator HANSEN. Mr. Chairman, if I could interrupt just at this moment, I would like to submit for the record, if I may, a statement from the Governor of Wyoming who is not able to be here today. He forwarded me his testimony, and asked that I see that it is inserted in the record. So without objection may I ask that it be included in the record at this point?

Senator CHURCH. It will be included at this point in the record.

(The document referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF HON. STANLEY K. HATHAWAY, GOVERNOR, STATE OF WYOMING

First of all, let me say that I recognize the importance of the Wilderness concept to the people of the entire United States. Those of us who are fortunate