

of the soil or cover here can lead to "damage from torrential rain storms . . ." The truth of this statement has been graphically illustrated at nearby Brooks Lake where the road was blocked by mud and rock slides triggered by a cloud-burst over an up-slope timber operation in 1966. The road below surrounding uncut areas was untouched.

The people most directly affected by any decision made on the inclusion or exclusion of these two fringe areas in the Wilderness system are the people of the Upper Wind River Valley and the town of Dubois. These people are now experiencing the benefits of both a growing recreation and timber industry and have had ample opportunity to examine each. Yet every civic organization in Dubois and the great majority of the residents of the upper valley have strongly endorsed Recreation as the ultimate economic destiny of the area and feel that every acre of timber cut detracts from this value.

The reasons for this stand are not hard to find. Dubois has experienced the boom of the arrival of industry and is now beginning to feel the depressive effect that follows. The town is surrounded by another temporary city of tar paper shacks and trailer houses. Uncontrolled waste burnage daily pollutes the air. There is increased, non-tax paying pressure on the schools and the resulting bond issues will remain to be paid by the permanent stock-raising and recreational businesses long after the migratory workers associated with the industry have made their cuts, left their slashes and departed.

The residents of this area are historically oriented toward ranching, livestock, guiding and outfitting interests—interests naturally compatible with recreation in general and incompatible with such "once over and get out" industries as timber and mining. These people realize that wild animals, such as the elk, are wilderness animals and need wild areas to survive. They know this from years of experience and are only pleased when their knowledge is confirmed by recognized biological experts of the Wyoming and Colorado Game and Fish Departments. They have seen timber operations on Wiggins Fork and Horse Creek and saw the established resident elk herds in these areas vanish.

The upper Wind River Valley Stockmen's Association and the Wyoming Outfitters Association are two specific organizations on record supporting the inclusion of the DuNoir and Bear Creek areas in the Wilderness system. On December 8, 1966, Outfitter's spokesman Ned Frost wrote: "That these proposed additions are of greater intrinsic value to the single use of recreation than they are to the total combination of all other phases of the multiple use theory; that one multiple use facet, livestock grazing, not being incompatible with recreational use, could and should be continued in any event; that another multiple use facet, lumbering, conducted as has been the practice in the Wind River Valley, and particularly as exemplified on the Wiggins Fork, would physically maul the terrain, open it to increased ravages by natural erosion and largely ruin it for the prime use of recreation."

But the people of Dubois can speak well for themselves, as can the Outfitters, the Stockgrowers, the Game and Fish Department, and all the rest of the interested industries and agencies. The Recreation Commission can and will speak only for the Recreation interests.

The Wyoming Recreation Commission wholeheartedly endorses and supports the proposed Washakie Wilderness designation for the present Stratified Primitive Area. Further, we join in endorsing the inclusion of the DuNoir and Bear Creek areas in the Washakie Wilderness and ask that you consider our above listed points and the long-range economic development of Wyoming as an outdoor recreational oasis in making your decision.

Senator HANSEN. Also I have a copy of the letter sent to the chairman by A. E. King, the commissioner of public lands for Wyoming. I ask that the original of this letter be placed in the hearing record at this point.

(The letter referred to follows:)

STATE OF WYOMING,
Cheyenne, Wyo., February 14, 1968.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Interior Committee,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Being unable to appear before your Committee to present testimony in person on S. 2630, pertaining to the Washakie Wilderness