

The Wind River Indian Reservation lies immediately to the east of this area. We have observed small groups of elk wintering on this reservation which had been marked at the Dennison Meadows elk trap.

We strongly believe that increased hunter pressure afforded by "passenger car" roads in this particular area will result in a shift of elk eastward into the reservation lands for the winter period. We have no control over hunting in these lands.

We believe the State of Wyoming would lose many of these elk permanently as hunting is not controlled by either seasons or bag limits on the reservation.

IMPORTANCE OF ELK CALVING AREAS

Cow elk normally bear their young on sagebrush covered slopes and openings. These areas are normally wet and inaccessible by most roads during the calving period of late May and early June.

For this reason, we are not particularly concerned about road developments in these areas. We would be vitally concerned if any of these small but important habitat types were included in sagebrush control range improvement projects.

VALUE OF ELK HUNTING IN THE WIND RIVER AREA

Elk populations and hunting of these animals has a real and measurable value to the State of Wyoming. An intensive economic survey was completed in 1966 by the University of Wyoming and published under the title "Hunting and Fishing—What It Means to Wyoming."

The 1966 study of check station data reveals that 1,384 resident elk hunters and 189 nonresident elk hunters pursued elk in the upper Wind River drainage.

With an average expenditure of \$270.91 per resident hunter and \$547.85 per nonresident elk hunter these 1,573 Wind River elk hunters contributed \$478,483 to the economy of Wyoming.

A good share of this was spent in the Dubois community and Fremont County, Wyo. We believe this is an important renewable resource of the State of Wyoming and deserving of protection and sustained yield management.

It was on the basis of the foregoing data and research information that our original statement claimed substantial benefits to wildlife values if the upper drainages of the DuNoir River were granted wilderness status.

We appreciate sincerely this opportunity to be more specific in presenting our reasons and know that your committee, in its wisdom, will place our remarks in their proper perspective when reaching final determinations.

Senator HANSEN. Thank you very much, Mr. Crump. We certainly appreciate your testimony, and I am sure that it will be of great interest to the members of the committee.

Let me ask you, are there any mountain sheep residing in any of these areas that are in controversy as indicated by the Forest Service map presented yesterday?

Mr. CRUMP. There are, in the headwaters of the DuNoir, yes. The crest of the mountain area, and both east and west from the crest of the mountain itself.