

of timber resources and allowable cut, and so I want to say that the timber that is involved in this area has been set aside by our national forest administrators for 35 years, as a part of the Mount Jefferson Primitive Area. It has not been included in the allowable cut calculations for the national forests involved.

There are proposals and recommendations by some to include much more productive timberland in the proposed wilderness.

I am sure that the present position I occupy, Mr. Chairman, is no novelty to you, for I am in the position where the timber people want more of allowable cut, and more land set aside for commercial timber uses; the wilderness people and other conservation groups, as I shall demonstrate shortly, want more set aside for more wilderness. I am confronted with a policy of our Government, based upon Federal statutes already on the books, that our national forests will be developed and administered, and preserved and conserved, on a multiple-use basis, where we take into account timber resources, we take into account the recreational resources that go along with wilderness areas, we take into account the matter of flood control, and all the other multiple purposes that are within the overall concept of multiple use of our forests. So the responsibility that rests on us, as Members of Congress, is to strike what we think is a balance in the interest of the overall general welfare of our people, dealing with limits of degree.

How much are you going to set aside for commercial forest? How much are you going to set aside for wilderness? How much are you going to set aside for recreational areas that are not designated as wilderness areas, scenic areas?

Giving a very brief comment about one of those areas involved before your committee, before you get through with the final handling of the passage or modification of this bill you are going to have to consider the requests of these groups that have different objectives; but may I say to all of them, in behalf of all of them, they are not quarreling with the multiple-use concept.

Timber people think that you can simply have good multiple use and still cut more timber; the wilderness people think the opposite; and then you have other groups in between.

And so I say, there are proposals and recommendations by some to include much more productive timberland in the proposed wilderness. But as the President's proposal now stands, the administration is within the multiple-use concept.

I think that a good job has been done, as I have said, in blending economic and esthetic and intangible factors.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I urge you to enact this bill that will round out Oregon's contribution to the wilderness system. Oregon's contribution of the rugged and beautiful Mount Jefferson Wilderness will then be a valuable asset to the Nation for all time, for all generations to come.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am not saying today that this bill could not be improved by amendments. I haven't had an amendment submitted to me yet that I think, on my present knowledge, overcomes the prima facie case that has been made to date in support of the bill.