

There are 1,495 cattle and 6,800 sheep permitted to graze in this area. Since I am not one of the permittees, I feel free to brag a little on the high-quality cooperative use and management that this area exemplifies.

In the existing primitive area, animals which prey upon wildlife and livestock have been controlled. We urge that this be continued in the wilderness area to enhance the management of wild game and livestock. Uncontrolled predators will drive the game animals and livestock to perimeter areas which could force an overutilization of surrounding lands.

We support the proposed Washakie Wilderness Area plan, which was originally outlined by the U.S. Forest Service, and we recognize its value; however, we would oppose the inclusion of additional lands which would materially enlarge the present primitive area. We feel that enough public land has been designated as "wilderness area" in the West and especially Wyoming.

We would like to remind the committee that, once an area is locked up in a "wilderness" designation, this can mean that only a few "privileged" persons will ever be able to see or enjoy the beauty of the area. The severe restrictions placed on access to wilderness areas alone have much to do with making travel through these areas extremely slow and expensive. The items of time and cost necessarily eliminate the use of these areas to the mass of our general public.

Finally, we urge this committee, and ultimately the Forest Service, to be most cognizant of the extremely important role these lands contribute to the production of our Nation's food and fiber, and respectfully submit that the multiple-use principle is the greatest good for the greatest numbers.

Thank you, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. You support the Forest Service proposal, then?

Mr. VIVION. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Senator ANDERSON. All right.

Senator HANSEN?

Senator HANSEN. Mr. Vivion, where is your home?

Mr. VIVION. I live in Rawlins, Wyo., Senator.

Senator HANSEN. Are you a user of any national forest areas?

Mr. VIVION. Yes, we are.

Senator HANSEN. What areas?

Mr. VIVION. The Medicine Bow National Forest, in southern Wyoming.

Senator HANSEN. Is there any wilderness within that Medicine Bow forest?

Mr. VIVION. There is no designated wilderness area in the Medicine Bow National Forest.

Senator HANSEN. Any primitive areas?

Mr. VIVION. I think not.

Senator HANSEN. Have you been over this primitive area that is being proposed for inclusion in the wilderness system in northwestern Wyoming, the area we are talking about here this afternoon?

Mr. VIVION. Quite a number of years ago, and at that time I wasn't aware of whether it was being designated as a "wilderness area," and so as to the exact and specific areas, I am certainly not familiar with them, Senator.