

this is far more enjoyable than trying to pick one's way through logging slash. The Watkins Lake area on the East DuUoir is a similar example of wild country. Kisinger Lakes is one of the most weirdly beautiful places in the West that I have ever seen. It derives much of its scenic attractiveness from the spires and turrets of Pinnacle Buttes, which certainly deserve wilderness protection.

I strongly urge the Senate to amend S. 2630 so as to include East and West DuNoir Creeks and Bear Basin. I think all these areas qualify as wilderness in every sense of the word.

I thank you for the opportunity to have this statement read into the record of the hearing.

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. Smith.

Is the Sierra Club testifying in absentia? Mr. Bonney, did you testify in behalf of the Sierra Club?

Senator HANSEN. The Bonneys have both testified, Mr. Chairman. Is Spencer Smith here?

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. Smith.

STATEMENT OF SPENCER M. SMITH, JR., SECRETARY, CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I am Dr. Spencer M. Smith, Jr., secretary of the Citizens Committee on Natural Resources, a national conservation organization with offices in Washington, D.C.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to offer our views on legislation to implement further Public Law 88-577, the Wilderness Act.

S. 2531, introduced by Senator Kuchel, would authorize the San Gabriel Wilderness Area in the Angeles National Forest in the State of California. This measure has had widespread support by a variety of conservation and citizens' groups. The present proposal would designate 33,647 acres as the San Gabriel Wilderness and would consist of the Devil's Canyon-Bear Canyon Primitive Area and portions of the Bobcat Canyon area.

There is little objection and much support for the San Gabriel proposal since it encompasses a spectacular area, primarily mountainous and unusual granitic areas. In addition, there is a varied and unique wildlife population of big horn sheep, California mule deer, and some black bears. Several small streams also have outstanding native rainbow trout.

Little conflict exists as to the use of this majestic area for wilderness purposes which is but a short distance from the center of Los Angeles. There is no timber of commercial quality or minerals of commercial value. The area would have no private inholdings and there would be no conflicting uses.

It is hoped that this matter can proceed with a measure of dispatch and become incorporated into the national wilderness preservation system at an early date.

S. 2630 would establish a Washakie Wilderness Area in Wyoming comprising the Stratified Primitive Area, the contiguous Absaroka Wilderness Area, and certain additions. There are some differences of opinion as to the precise boundaries, and the total area of this proposal. Certain areas should be excluded, inasmuch as they do not conform to the criteria for wilderness and there appears to be a general agreement on areas so treated. The Middle Fork-Wood River area,