

ness proposal. The differences in this instance represent approximately 28,000 acres. It is important to render judgments in the form of a final recommendation that conforms to the general dictates set down in the Wilderness Act but with an understanding and flexibility in applying the wilderness criteria in specific instances. Some flexibility must be permitted if individual proposals are to have an internal consistency in and of themselves. It appears to us that this can be done without violating or doing other disservice to the Wilderness Act, per se.

Senator ANDERSON. Thank you, Dr. Smith.

Mr. Miller, you are the next witness.

STATEMENT OF JAMES R. MILLER, DUBOIS, WYO.

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Chairman, Senator Hansen, my name is James R. (Jim) Miller. I live near Dubois, Wyo., in almost the center of the DuNoir Valley which has been discussed here for the past 2 days. It is my privilege on a day-to-day basis to look at the scenes that have been discussed here and which you have seen in a great number of photographs. We bought our property and built after extensive travel throughout almost every State in the United States and considerable service abroad, some 25 years of it while I was in the military service. The principal assets of this country that we chose, in addition to its fantastic scenic beauty, are the clear air, the clear streams, and the abundant wildlife.

During the past 3 years I have owned and operated a real estate agency in the fair city of Dubois, and I am constantly amazed at the thousands of people who share my love for the area. They also see the same things essentially in this area that I did when I came there.

During the past 3 years, I have changed my thinking with regard to wilderness and I think the majority of the citizens of Dubois, with the possible exception of Forest Service employees and the timbering industry have changed their thinking as well.

There are a good many things that we need to use our forests for other than wilderness. However, having lived there for 3 years and watching the day-to-day changes that take place, we are more and more convinced that the only way to preserve our forest assets is to go the wilderness route. This has been dictated to us by what we call the scientific or the clear-cut method of timber harvest.

Now, I don't want to repeat a lot of things that have been said here during the past 2 years but one of the things that I think possibly had been overlooked is the true feeling of the people of the Dubois area.

As I said at the outset, I speak only as an individual. However, being a businessman in the town and living out in the area where I talk to the ranchers, the business people, the summer home residents, people of this type, I feel that I can speak pretty much for them. We have no newspaper in Dubois. Our town is not of the size to warrant a newspaper. For the past several weeks this controversy over the Washakie Wilderness and the proposed amendments thereto has caused a great deal of comment, both pro and con. I felt that at this time it would be appropriate to take a single newspaper from one of our adjacent towns and introduce into the record, if I may, the com-