

respectfully urge the amendment of this bill to include the areas generally described as follows:

The Bear Basin Drainage, approx. 5,140 acres

The Upper Wiggins Fork-Caldwell Creek Area, approx. 4,040 acres

The upper portions of Parque Creek, eastern slope of Ramshorn, upper portions of Five Mile and Six Mile Creeks, 6,880 acres

The eastern portion of the DuNoir Creek Basins, approx. 24,820 acres.

3. The locations, numbered sections and townships, and approximate acreages of these recommended additions will be shown to your sub-committee by Mr. Thomas Bell, Executive Director of the Wyoming Outdoor Coordinating Council, who will be presenting a statement and showing maps on behalf of several Wyoming conservation organizations at the hearing. This includes the Wyoming Division of the Izaak Walton League.

4. These additions will add approximately 41,000 acres to be added to the 196,390 acres now proposed by the Forest Service for the Stratified Primitive Area as Wilderness. The present acreage of the Primitive Area has been determined at 203,930 acres.

5. I have discussed this proposal with Mr. Bell several times, have read the statement which he has prepared and am in full accord with it. Mr. Bell has given a great deal of time to visiting the area in question, in talking with the many interested residents of the Dubois area in assessing and evaluating the various factors involved. There has been evident general and widespread interest and support for the wilderness proposal in the Dubois area.

6. Attention is called to the previously announced stand of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in which it cites the critical need of the Upper DuNoir Valley as a calving ground and winter range for the large elk herd ranging in that area, and of the urgent need of protecting this area from logging activities which would seriously interfere with the elk. I believe this need justifies its inclusion in the Wilderness.

7. In this particular area of Wyoming I feel that the scenic, recreational and wildlife habitat values far exceed those of any industrial interest and should be given primary consideration in bolstering the economy of the region. There is and should be no conflict with domestic livestock operations in this area in the establishment of a wilderness.

8. A concession has been made by the conservation organizations in the exclusion of the Middle Fork of Wood River in the northeast portion of the present Primitive Area. This is approximately 8,000 acres, which was originally proposed, even by the undersigned, for inclusion in the Wilderness. This area is known to have certain mineral potentials which may be developed in the next 15 years. However, this area is high scenic and recreational values and is the home of a sizeable elk herd.

9. Too much concern should not be given to the evidence in some of these proposed additions, to early logging operations, jeep trails and rough roads or vehicle trails. These roads are not necessary for hunting or other recreational uses, and with proper wilderness protection will, in a few years disappear from view.

10. We do not have and cannot have too much wilderness in these high altitude and highly scenic areas of our State. They are among the most valuable assets of our commonwealth. We should now and before it is too late take proper means to protect and preserve the best of them for the use and enjoyment of our people who will be living in and will be coming to Wyoming in ever increasing numbers in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted.

BURTON W. MARSTON.

WYOMING AUDUBON SOCIETY,
Casper, Wyo., February 13, 1968.

Senator CLIFFORD P. HANSEN,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR HANSEN: The Wyoming Audubon Society wants to enter a plea concerning the proposed Washakie Wilderness Area in Wyoming. We endorse the recommendations of the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, and the Sierra Club concerning additions to the Wilderness Area, particularly Bear Basin and the upper DuNoir drainage. The worth to Wyoming and the Nation in dollars and cents for recreation, as well as any esthetic values of these areas