

preserved for wilderness, will far exceed any money yielded from commercial timber operations.

We would recommend the exclusion of the Kirwin Mining District from the proposed wilderness system. Portions of this area have been recommended for inclusion within the wilderness district. The Kirwin District does contain valuable mineral deposits of molybdenum, lead and silver. It is our understanding that one large mining company anticipates conducting large scale mining operations in the area. We would suggest that the south boundary of the mining area be moved south to the Middle Fork of the Wood River. South of this boundary mineralization is absent, and this area should not be excluded from the proposed wilderness area.

We would appreciate your submitting our views to the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, of which you are a member, at the February 19th hearing concerning the Washakie Wilderness Area.

We realize that you have introduced Bill S. 2630 and we want you to know that we sincerely appreciate your interest concerning the Washakie Wilderness Area and as a group of Wyoming citizens, we wish to thank you for your efforts.

It is my personal feeling that there need not be any great conflict between the various parties who utilize the public lands. Usually the great hue and cry that arises when various legislative proposals are made concerning the public lands could be resolved if all parties concerned would sit down together and mutually discuss the matter. "Lack of communication" is much more of a problem than basic differences of opinion.

I am endorsing a copy of a letter which we have sent to Senator Frank Church concerning the February 19th hearing.

Yours truly,

JOHN ALBANESE, *President.*

WYOMING AUDUBON SOCIETY,  
Casper, Wyo., February 12, 1968.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,  
Subcommittee Chairman, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: The Wyoming Audubon Society wants to enter a plea on the proposed Washakie Wilderness Area to have the regions added suggested by the Sierra Club and the Wyoming Game & Fish Commission 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 aesthetic values of these areas preserved as wilderness will far exceed any commercial timber money.

On the advise of several geologist members we would exclude the Kirwin area from this wilderness system. We believe this has valuable mineral resources and would suggest the Middle Fork of the Wood River as the south boundary. South of this stream the geology is different and it should not be excluded.

Respectfully,

JOHN ALBANESE, *President.*  
JOSEPH W. YANT, *Treasurer.*  
Mrs. BRUCE WARD, *Secretary.*  
Mrs. FLORENCE J. SPRING, *Vice President.*  
OLIVERS V. SCOTT, *Director.*

WEST COVINA, CALIF.,  
February 17, 1968.

PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE,  
Senate Interior Committee,  
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I am submitting my comments in regard to the San Gabriel Wilderness area as proposed in Senate Bill S. 2531. I desire that these comments be entered as part of the hearing record on this bill.

The national wilderness problem is not nearly so much how much we shall have as how much can we have. This is now true and will increasingly become fact as the works of man spread over the land as these works have spread through much of the San Gabriel Mountains.