

PORTLAND STATE COLLEGE,
Portland, Oreg., February 27, 1968.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Congress of the United States,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: As Director of the Outdoor Program of Portland State College, I would emphatically like to underscore the necessity for extending the "buffer zones" in the proposed Mt. Jefferson Primitive Area to encompass sufficient wilderness area on both east and west boundaries.

The concept of wilderness, both aesthetically and economically, does not exist by stating, "This side of a logging road is wilderness and this side is not." There must be a transitional geography in order for any semblance of wilderness area to exist.

In my job at Portland State College I am involved with students in hiking, camping, climbing and kayaking in the Oregon Cascades.

"Wilderness" is a way of life in terms of this program. Looking ahead to our future student population, estimated to be some 20,000 in a few years, I wonder where we will find this way of life for these few students.

Some day we must come to the conclusion that what we are destroying can never be replaced. Certainly, an awareness of this inescapable fact should have some mediating effect on that opposition, which has only concern for making a dollar on today's market. With appropriate planning, we can sustain lands which have no other use than use as a timber resource. Wilderness, we cannot create; we can only destroy. There is so precious little left.

Regards,

SAM D. MCKINNEY,
Adviser, Portland State Outdoor Program.

WESTERN FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION,
Portland, Oreg., February 21, 1968.

Hon. FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: Reference is made to S. 2751, a bill to designate the Mount Jefferson Wilderness, Willamette, Deschutes and Mount Hood National Forests, in the State of Oregon.

The proposal contained in the above-mentioned bill is the result of two administrative field hearings conducted by the Forest Service in 1964 before the passage of the Wilderness Act and in the fall of 1966. Western Forestry and Conservation Association generally favored the Forest Service proposal for a wilderness of approximately 95,000 acres in both of these field hearings. While we were not in complete agreement as to final boundaries and extent of the proposed wilderness, at the same time we recognized the professional evaluation that had gone into the study and which resulted in the proposal. It was due to this that the permanent withdrawal of 1.3 billion board feet of commercial timber involved in the proposal is acceptable. The greater portion of this commercial timber grows on land which is of extremely high recreation and wilderness value interspersed with numerous small wilderness-type lakes.

A small part of this commercial timber (100 million board feet) grows on lands in the southeastern portion of the area called the Candle Creek Basin. Some members of the Association feel that this Basin might well be managed for timber production under the multiple use concept. Western Forestry and Conservation Association, however, does not object strenuously to the inclusion of this area as it is valuable for access to the true wilderness beyond.

We agree fully and commend the Forest Service on the deletion of the Marion Lake Scenic Area from the wilderness area proposal as it will provide for several kinds of recreationists and this withdrawal will provide for their needs and conform to the present practice.

We accept the proposals for small additions which have been made by the Forest Service as a result of the last field hearing. The commercial timber lands in these small areas and under the rest of the proposal appear to be a price which the economy and the State of Oregon will have to pay for the set-aside of this superb wilderness area. The Association is most emphatic, however, in its