

SIERRA CLUB,
Seattle, Wash., March 1, 1968.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Senate Interior Committee,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: The following statement has been adopted by the Puget Sound Group of the Sierra Club for inclusion in the written record of the hearings on S. 2630, Washakie Wilderness and S. 2751, Mt. Jefferson Wilderness.

"As has been the case in many other wilderness proposals we face in the Washakie and Mt. Jefferson areas the central question: shall wilderness include forests? The Forest Service, following its philosophy that the best use of forest land is the one which will give the highest monetary return, has consistently excluded substantial stands of accessible commercial timber.

"Wilderness is America's heritage. It is more than just the mountains, it is also the forests and the plains that the pioneers knew. If our people are to understand the history of our country they must be able to see it as the pioneers did. We must include *forests* in the areas we set aside as wilderness.

"For this reason we support the proposals to add the West DuNoir Creek and Bear Basin areas to the Washakie Wilderness, and the 25,000 acres of the west side forests to the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness.

"In the case of the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness there is an additional reason for adding the west side forests. The wilderness is only three miles wide in the popular Jefferson Park area and is already suffering from overuse. Additional space must be provided in the same area for wilderness recreation or we shall surely see the destruction of the very wilderness we are trying to save."

Sincerely yours,

MIKE RUBY,
Chairman, Puget Sound Group.

WISCONSIN STATE UNIVERSITY,
Oshkosh, Wis., February 19, 1968.

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

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I am writing to express my concern over the future of wilderness regions of this country and to register support for:

A. The establishment of the proposed San Gabriel Wilderness Area of 33,647 acres.

B. The proposed additions for the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness Area (i.e., 1600 acre Squaw and Long Lake Area, 1596 acre Marion Lake area and the 25,000 acre West Side Zone Addition).

C. The proposed additions which would make the Washakie Wilderness approximately 727,000 acres (i.e., to include 45,813 acres designated as units D, J, 3, 4, F-1, H and I).

I might add that the proposals have not had much publicity in this vicinity, but that, when one has time to elicit support for such proposals, as I have in the past, response is gratifying.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM B. WILLERS, Ph. D.

IDYLLWILD, CALIF., February 15, 1968.

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

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: May I add my humble voice to the Western chorus of those who are supporting the San Gabriel Wilderness Proposal.

I am sure you are cognizant of the values inherent in this 33,000+ acre tract in terms of its utility by the large population of nature enthusiasts residing in the adjacent Los Angeles megalopolis; accordingly, I shall not belabor you with