

proposal to create the San Gabriel Wilderness as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System become an actuality.

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD M. WALES.

FEBRUARY 1968.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I urge you to support the San Gabriel Wilderness Bill (S. 2531) introduced by Senator Kuchel. We so desperately need a little breathing in fast-growing Southern California, and hope for approval of this bill.

Sincerely yours,

MARY H. WARD.

SEATTLE, WASH., February 24, 1968.

Re Mount Jefferson Classification.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Public Lands Subcommittee,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE: To date only about 1,000 acres of the 30,000 acres sought by conservationists for addition to the Mount Jefferson Wilderness area have been released.

To add the 29,000 acres still lacking would change the proposition to an outstanding accomplishment—a goal, which, if achieved, and I believe it can be, would do much to offset the wholesale trend of commercialism into our sanctuaries of beauty. Far too much of our God-given heritage of grandeur has been devastated beyond recall. Let us strive to conserve what little remains.

I urge you to exert your influence to make the Mount Jefferson Wilderness area a land mark of celestial beauty—a refuge to which one can flee for quietness and contemplation.

It is not possible for me to be present at the hearing scheduled for March 19, 1968, however will you please include this letter in the *hearing record*?

Yours very sincerely,

MARCELIA S. WAHL.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF., February 16, 1968.

SENATE INTERIOR COMMITTEE,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As a former Girl Scout Leader who has spent many happy hours hiking with her Scouts in the San Gabriel Wilderness, I am vitally interested in having it designated as a part of the National Wilderness Area.

Sincerely,

BELLE VIVIAN.

WASHINGTON, D.C., February 25, 1968.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I should like to submit a statement for the hearing record, as I was unable to be present at the hearing on 19 February before your Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

What a pleasure it is to be able to support the Forest Service unconditionally on the San Gabriel Wilderness proposal! They are certainly to be commended, and I hope that the Committee will approve this apparently non-controversial addition to the Wilderness System.

Unfortunately, I must go on record as favoring a larger area than proposed by the Forest Service in the cases of Mt. Jefferson and Washakie wilderness proposals. Although I have not been in those areas myself (as I have in the San Gabriel), I have found in the past that the positions of the Wilderness Society on similar proposals have been excellent and would preserve more of the un-