

CRESWELL, OREG., *February 15, 1968.*

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Senate Subcommittee.

DEAR SIR: As one of the members of the Obsidian Mountain Club of Eugene, Oregon, and also one of the founders of the Club, I have had many hiking trips into the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness area, having climbed Mt. Jefferson five times.

In 1930 our Club in Eugene, had its two week summer camp at Marion Lake, in August, so visited the many other lakes such as Square and Long Lakes.

To have all three of these lakes and a high-value buffer zone to protect this narrow Wilderness which is but from four to ten miles wide.

To include the 117,000 acres is the minimum for this beautiful mountain meadows, lakes, creeks and then the majestic Mt. Jefferson.

I do hope your committee will be able to see that this can be made one of the most beautiful of Wilderness areas.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND L. SIMS.

LAKE OSWEGO, OREG., *February 20, 1968.*

Re Washakie Wilderness hearing, S. 2630.

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

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I strongly urge that the present Stratified Primitive Area, with the addition of the 7,366 acres proposed by the Forest Service and the 45,800 acres recommended by Wyoming citizen groups, be combined with the existing Absaroka Wilderness Area to create the Washakie Wilderness area of 725,533 acres and that this be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

I feel that the reasons given for the addition of those areas recommended by citizen and conservation groups which are not now included in S. 2630 are most valid and should be given much weight by the Committee. They are the result of much study by those who know the area best.

The Upper DuNoir Valley not only contains some of the most superb wilderness in the area but also is an important part of the elk migration route into the adjacent Teton and South Absaroka Wildernesses and deserves preservation for this reason alone. Bear Basin is another integral part of the elk range. The timber in the high country of the smaller units excluded from S. 2630 grows very slowly, would be expensive to cut, and is of much more value as wilderness to the citizens of the United States to whom it really belongs.

Therefore, it is my sincere hope that the Committee will add these areas as well as those proposed by the Forest Service to the Washakie Wilderness Area.

I request that this letter be included as part of the record of the Congressional Hearings on the Washakie Wilderness held January 19, 1968 in Washington, D.C.

Sincerely yours,

JEAN SIDDALL.

LAKE OSWEGO, OREG., *February 21, 1968.*

Re Mount Jefferson Wilderness, S. 2751.

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

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I strongly recommend that the Mount Jefferson Wilderness Area be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and that the 2800 acres of forest in the Willamette, Deschutes and Mt. Hood National Forests adjacent to it which still exist as wilderness between the Primitive Area and the roads which encircle the area be included in the Mount Jefferson Wilderness, as recommended by conservationists and as they do in actual use today.

The Mount Jefferson Wilderness Area as proposed by the Forest Service in S. 2751 is only a part of this area and is so narrow that were it level, one could walk across it in an hour. It is vitally necessary that the wilderness along the west side also be included to protect the fragile high country which even now is showing signs of overuse. Oregon needs timber, yes, but the trees in this area have a value as wilderness beyond that which any logger can put on them. If excluded and logged, the trees in the area now outside the proposed wilderness