

PORTLAND, OREG., *March 9, 1968.*

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

DEAR SIRs: We wish to add our voice to those who presented on Feb. 20, 1968 before your committee, the plea for adding the 29,000 or so acres of timber on the west slope of the proposed Mt. Jefferson Wilderness area. We cannot condone the destruction of this timber for temporary benefit of the economy of the region, when a long range view indicates that outdoor recreation may very well benefit the same area for a future of years to come.

For us who have lived all our lives in Oregon it is alarming to see how much of our scenery—a valuable resource of this state—has already been destroyed. Our forests, for one, are gradually disappearing at the hands of timber companies that have moved in from out of state, influencing our officials who see only the present dollar value of our forests.

Mr. Cliff is quoted as saying "this timber will generate 600 jobs in lumber industry in the area." But how long will these jobs last? Then what about the economy?

Furthermore and more important, our forests are needed to preserve our water supply. Recent floods on the west coast show what denuded mountain sides have done! And in spite of dam building!

We ask that our views be included in the hearing record.

Very sincerely,

CARROLL AND LUCILE HIGGINS.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF., *February 16, 1968.*

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

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I want to register my strong support of Senator Kuchel's bill S. 2531 designating the San Gabriel Wilderness as an addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

With our planet being engulfed by people, I feel we need every safeguard to our national wilderness, and this is particularly true when the proposal involves an area close to a large metropolis like Los Angeles.

Sincerely yours,

BETTY W. HANGO
Mrs. Victor C. Hango.

PORTLAND, OREG., *February 17, 1968.*

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

DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I would like to submit a statement on the future status of the Mount Jefferson Primitive Area in the Oregon Cascades. I understand that you will preside over hearings on this matter in Washington on February 19, and that statements may be submitted for the record until February 29.

I wish to express my support of the Forest Service recommendation to include the Mt. Jefferson Primitive Area in the National Wilderness Preservation System. I believe, though, that the Forest Service proposals for enlargement of the area, while most necessary, are not sufficient to meet future needs for adequate protection of the wilderness lands involved.

The unusually narrow width of the primitive area, especially in the north, means that the maintenance of the wilderness character of the area is at best a precarious matter. Logging and normal public use of adjoining lands will certainly threaten the unity and balance of the plant and animal population systems in the wilderness area. I would urge, as a *minimum* revision of the Forest Service proposals, that extensive buffer zones of at least 2 miles average width, be added on the west, from Breitenbush Lake south to and including Marion Lake. Such additions would give protection to the rather fragile (because so narrow) core of wilderness in the area, and at the same time allow these border lands (added on