

Since this area contains no commercial quality timber, no significant mineralization, and there are no conflicting land uses, I strongly support the setting up of a San Gabriel Wilderness containing 33,647 acres.

I also wish to urge the inclusion in the San Rafael Wilderness of the proposal for the 2,000-acre addition.

These areas should be brought under the protection of the National Wilderness Preservation System as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

JOHN T. CASSAZZA.
ALICE C. CASSAZZA.

SARATOGA, CALIF.

Senator FRANK CHURCH,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: For the record of the hearing on Feb. 19 I wish to enter my strong support of the bill adding the *San Gabriel Wilderness* to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Sincerely,

EVELYN H. CASE.

PORTLAND, OREG., February 16, 1968.

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

DEAR SIR: I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2751 providing for addition of the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness Area in Oregon to the National Wilderness Preservation System and would like this letter to be made part of the hearing record of the Feb. 19, 1968 hearing before the Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands.

I have lived in Oregon all my life and have hiked in this area many times. The boundaries as defined in S.B. 2751 are identical with the Forest Service proposal, as I understand it. This is the minimum area which should be protected as wilderness.

Additions as proposed by the Wilderness Society, which will no doubt be presented at the hearing, will make valuable additions needed to create and preserve a better wilderness area.

I strongly believe that consideration be given to adding more land on the west side of the area as a buffer zone for the more fragile high meadows at higher elevations around Mt. Jefferson. It is particularly important to move the western boundary as far down stream along the North Fork of the Breitenbush river as possible.

This is one of the few deep river canyons with typical old growth Douglas fir timber, left untouched in the Oregon Cascades. The bounday as proposed in S.B. 2751 is almost at the upper end of the heavy timber and at the beginning of the higher, alpine type country. This canyon is visible from much of the Breitenbush Lake road and to log it will create scars in the scenery right up to the edge of the high country. The proposed wilderness area is only four or five miles wide at this northern end so adding two or three miles on the west will still not leave an extremely wide area, removed from commercial use.

This and other wilderness areas in the Oregon Cascade Mts. protect a fair amount of high, alpine type country but there is very little of the transitional zone between 3000 and 4000 feet, with undisturbed old growth timber, so protected. This is why I emphasize the Breitenbush canyon addition, as being highly desirable. This does not mean that inclusion of a wider area on the west side all the way to the southwest corner and also inclusion of Marion, Square and Long Lakes is not of equal importance. These other additions are highly desirable, but in the interest of brevity I will only discuss the North Fork of the Breitenbush river addition.

Yours respectfully,

RONALD E. BURNETT.