

judgment on that river that sets it aside, that guarantees that it be used for a single purpose use alone, where does the Department stand? For study or for the preemptive use of a river for a single purpose use before the studies are completed?

Mr. HOLUM. Senator Jordan, that is an excellent question and I share with you the wish that Secretary Udall were here to answer this for you. It may well be that he will want to supplement my answer for the record.

I think, however, that the two proposals are consistent. As far as the work of the river basin commissions is concerned and the comprehensive planning, it has also been recognized that we were going to go ahead and make decisions while this planning was going on. This committee has on occasion, with my enthusiastic support, authorized the construction of certain projects, and I think the planning is consistent with the attention of the Congress and the administration to the establishment of these commissions. I think it is also consistent with that principle that we make other decisions as needed, and that the wild rivers legislation does deserve careful consideration by the Congress.

Senator JORDAN. Would you agree with me that, where there is a conflict, it would be well to pause and give some consideration to a thorough research and study of the water resources and the related land resources that might be developed with the use of that water?

Mr. HOLUM. I am always in favor of studies, Senator Jordan. I would cite a case where I am more intimately familiar, the Potomac River, where after consideration, and I hope the Congress will in the near future act favorably upon it, the Department and the administration have recommended the creation of the Potomac National River, safeguarding this important riverway from Great Falls to Cumberland. But, I do think we have to make some decisions on current projects while these studies are going on, and certainly I know that Secretary Udall shares with you your enthusiasm for the work that Chairman Hoddy and his group are doing in the Pacific Northwest.

I think the Pacific Northwest River Basin Commission is off to an excellent start and that they are going to do a splendid job in the Pacific Northwest.

I do not think the enactment of the wild rivers legislation is inconsistent with that effort.

Senator JORDAN. Well, I am sure it is, Mr. Secretary, and if you will indulge me sometime in a private conference I will show you exactly how it is in conflict with what you are proposing here. If the Salmon River is included in the wild rivers bill, I see the end of the road. We do not need to go into all of these studies that you are talking about here because we will have dedicated our remaining water supply to a single-purpose use. We would just as well withdraw from the studies that go forward in the Columbia Basin. We will not need to study our water resources any more. You have already reached a judgment for us ahead of the studies that we hoped we could make.

Mr. HOLUM. I will be very happy, Senator Jordan, to have your views and I shall carry them back to the Secretary as you expressed them.

Senator JORDAN. He knows them already.

Senator ANDERSON. I think you ought to ask Secretary Udall.