

are usually on their way to the great population areas of our state, in the central and south portions of Florida. A Suwannee River National Park would be of tremendous benefit to all Americans. The Suwannee River has national interest, not just local and state support. A check of vehicle license tags indicates that about half the people who use our State parks come from other states. A Suwannee River National Park would follow the same pattern.

The full development of the Federal Government would have significant and beneficial influence on the area. The University of Florida economic study estimated that over one million persons would visit the Suwannee National River Park and spend \$27 million annually, thus opening a new business in the area.

The Suwannee River as part of the scenic rivers system has wide support in Florida. The Florida Audubon Society has submitted a statement to the Committee in behalf of the legislation, and the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs have repeatedly expressed their support of the pending bills. The Florida Conservation Council, composed of 13 state-wide groups, urged the passage of legislation on a Suwannee National River Park on March 6, 1968.

I know there is some active and vigorous opposition to the Suwannee proposal, but I believe this would diminish or die if a more exact and reasonable proposal could be made as to what definitely would be done.

Mr. Chairman, I am hopeful the Committee will report a bill establishing a National Scenic Rivers System, including at least for study the Suwannee River, one of America's great rivers, which should be preserved for the future enjoyment of all our people. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF HON. WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, A REPRESENTATIVE IN
CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF WYOMING

Mr. Chairman an issue on which there is virtual unanimity among Wyomingites in public office is that of the exclusion of the upper Green River of Wyoming from any legislation calling for creation of a wild or scenic rivers system.

I appreciate this opportunity to articulate my concurrence in this strongly held sentiment and to ask this committee to remove the Green River from any reference whatsoever in any legislation that might be forthcoming from your deliberations.

Water and the latitude to use it judiciously for both economic development and scenic enhancement are of immeasurable importance to Wyoming's future. Already our entitlement to waters of the Colorado River system is imperiled by the legislative progress of the land debated Central Arizona Project. We cannot look optimistically to the decades ahead if that perspective reveals that the rivers vital to our growth are locked tight into a system which precludes their use by the State through which they flow.

If the Green River of Wyoming is included in a wild or scenic rivers system I fear the effect upon our use of Colorado River waters in our future growth as a State.

I respectfully ask of this committee that it consider how well Wyoming has respected the natural beauty and freedom of flow of this river, and trust to the continued good judgment of Wyoming and her people by agreeing in your councils not to include the Green River in any legislation before you.

STATEMENT OF HON. DON FUQUA, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM
THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Mr. Chairman, last year I told the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee that the preservation of our nation's scenic wonderlands in their natural state for future generations is a laudable undertaking. The fact that this nation has now passed 200 million in population and will continue to grow at an increasing rate makes it imperative that we increase our efforts to wisely preserve a part of our natural heritage.

The problem which confronts my people with regard to the Scenic Rivers Bills now pending before this committee is that no one, and I emphasize the phrase "no one", knows what would happen if the Suwannee River should be included in this measure.