

H.R. 8416 precludes condemnation of (1) State-owned lands; and (2) lands owned by any political subdivision of the State as long as the subdivision is following a management plan for such lands in accordance with the purposes of the Act.

3. APPLICABILITY OF U.S. MINING AND MINERAL LEASING LAWS

Both H.R. 8416 and Senate-passed S. 119 continue the applicability of such laws. Neither bill affects valid mining claims existing on the date of the Act. Mining claims validated after the date of the Act and mineral leases issued after such date will be subject to appropriate regulations.

In addition, H.R. 8416 provides that mining claims validated after the date of the Act will give the mining claimant title only to the mineral deposits in the claim, together with the right to use the land surface.

H.R. 8416 further withdraws the minerals in Federal lands, which constitute the bed or bank of a river included in the system by Act of Congress or which are within one-quarter mile of such river, from the operation of the mining and mineral leasing laws. H.R. 8416 also withdraws, for not more than an eight-year period, the minerals in the Federal lands adjacent to the rivers specifically listed in the bill for further study.

4. PROPOSED WATER RESOURCES PROJECTS

H.R. 8416 precludes Federal agencies from assisting by loan, grant, or otherwise any water resource projects having a direct and adverse effect on a wild or scenic river area included in the system, as determined by the appropriate Secretary.

H.R. 8416 also contains a similar provision with respect to the rivers listed in the bill for future study for addition to the System.

Senate-passed S.119 does not contain such provisions.

5. NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS REVIEW BOARD

Senate-passed S. 119 creates a national wild and scenic rivers review board to conduct studies and furnish reports to the Congress on the developments on each national wild or scenic river area. The board consists of the Secretaries of Interior, Agriculture, Army, the Chairman of the Federal Power Commission, and involved State Governors. H.R. 8416 does not contain such provision.

6. APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZATION FOR ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

Senate-passed S. 119 authorizes the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary. H.R. 8416 authorizes the appropriation of not more than \$6,500,000 for the acquisition of lands and interests therein.

I have not commented specifically on other pending bills before the Committee, such as the several ones relating to the St. Croix, one bill by Congressman Laird relating to the Wolf River, H.R. 7020 by Congressman Hammerschmidt relating to the Buffalo, and H.R. 14180 by Congressman Kyl relating to a Lewis and Clark Riverway. I shall, however, be glad to try to answer questions on these bills if desired.

In conclusion, I might point out that in some rather significant respects the Scenic River System bill appears to be a companion measure to the Wilderness Act. The basic thrust of all these bills is to preserve segments of rivers that are now largely undeveloped in a free-flowing and relatively unpolluted stage, along with minimum shoreline strips so that we shall have for posterity examples of what the rivers of America were in their natural or semi-natural condition.

The proposal contained in all the bills to designate a few rivers initially to specify certain additional ones for study, and to require that subsequential additions be by act of Congress follows the same general pattern as the Wilderness Act.

There is strong support for scenic rivers legislation throughout the country among conservation groups and I believe by the general public that is becoming increasingly concerned about the quality of our environment.

Federal legislation has gradually come to the point where it is today over a