

Mr. KYL. Now, these people up there are willing to do that. But I am afraid you just killed me. Because if we include the breaks, the senators and the representative from the area will not go along with us, and under our "A.M." doctrine, this will automatically eliminate us from consideration.

Mr. CRAFTS. I am not trying to kill you or your bill. I am telling you what I think on the merits. This is almost essential from the standpoint of having a meaningful Missouri Wilderness or Scenic Riverway if it is to have any lasting stability, because these breaks are tearing apart. They are just going to get worse and worse. To rehabilitate that country with short grass plains and light rainfall, it takes considerable effort. It is not a matter of just taking the livestock off.

Mr. KYL. And 10 years.

Mr. CRAFTS. It means reasonable use to allow reproduction. It means affirmative efforts in reseeded. It is expensive and precarious. It is a difficult thing to rehabilitate the breaklands.

Mr. KYL. I would just ask you one more question.

Do you think the cost estimates that we have here are reasonable?

Mr. CRAFTS. You mean in general?

Mr. KYL. Yes.

Mr. CRAFTS. Or just—

Mr. KYL. Let us take the Aspinall bill—is this a reasonably accurate figure for acquisition for easements and so forth?

Mr. CRAFTS. My experience has been, Mr. Kyl, that we always underestimate.

They are the best that we could come up with. We are cognizant of our experience of underestimating. They are based on anticipated acquisitions in fee and easement. I should point out that there is no safety factor cranked in for price escalation. We are talking of acquiring the necessary lands in 5 years for the four rivers in the chairman's bill, if we have condemnation authority. Such authority may never be used, but is a very persuasive thing to know that it is there. It greatly helps the matter of negotiations, not as a threat—although it could be construed as such.

If we have condemnation authority, I believe we can do this in 5 years.

I think the cost estimate is reasonable. However, if we do not have condemnation authority, if it goes on past 5 years, I think it is probably too low.

Mr. KYL. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. JOHNSON of California. The gentleman from Idaho, Mr. McClure.

Mr. McCLURE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am a little puzzled because you have indicated to me some of the—in your statement—the rather exhaustive comparison between the various bills before this committee, and yet have not compared the very basic philosophy, it seems to me to be differently expressed in the bills, and that is what we are trying to accomplish by the establishment of this system of scenic rivers.

If I understand your statement, contained here just in the last several minutes, you think of a wild river as being a narrow strip of wilderness area. And if I understand the implied definition contained in the