

Saylor bill, and all of the rivers contained in it, would include a very great number of rivers, portions of which are relatively highly developed at the present time.

Mr. CRAFTS. Well, maybe I was misleading you. I was thinking of a wild river as distinct from a scenic natural environment or some of these other classes. I was speaking of a particular class of river. Even that would not be entirely comparable to wilderness, because as I said, it would permit some of these minimal type of developments.

I think maybe natural environment rivers is a more descriptive term of the whole category of what we are talking about, which in essence is to attempt to preserve the status quo of these rivers.

The basic thing is no dams, let them be free-flowing—this is one of the key things. Pollution control is another thing—relatively unpolluted.

This I think is essential, and a narrow strip along the shore so that as you travel the river, you appear to be in a natural environment. One of the best examples that I can cite to you offhand is the Connecticut River from its mouth on up to Hartford, which is in the heart of the eastern megalopolis. If you go up that river in a boat and look at that shoreline as you go up, you think you are way out in the country—in a natural environment—because along most of that strip of that river there is a narrow band of trees and so on. You don't see the houses and the highways and the other developments that are back there. Sometimes that strip may be only 10, 12 yards wide.

When you go along that river on the roadways nearest to that river, which is up on the first bench, you get an entirely different impression of the Connecticut River.

I am just using that as an illustration. What it means to me, and what I think we are talking about is to keep a few segments of our remaining undeveloped rivers in a natural state. We are talking about a very small fragment of our whole national river system. But most of the rivers in time will have developments down to the shore, or very close to the shore. On some there will be a staircase series of lakes, like those in eastern Arkansas, and the big corps developments in Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and up the Missouri River until you get to Fort Peck, and also down in the southeast part of the country.

We are trying to pick out the residuals to keep so that won't happen.

Mr. McCLURE. You are referring to the esthetic quality of the total environment, including that which you see from the river?

Mr. CRAFTS. Yes, sir; I am.

Mr. McCLURE. Now, how do you correlate that to the terrain in the Western United States where the mountains rise for miles out of the river? Is your desire to control the usage on all those miles of hillsides?

Mr. CRAFTS. No; not at all. This is, of course, impractical, and it is not intended—and this question came up this morning, whether the intent was to take a scenic easement from line of sight. Some of the line of sight out of some of those western rivers can be 50 miles, as you well know. This you cannot do. So you compromise, and you maintain a strip, as specified in here, of a maximum of a quarter of a mile, I think it is, on each side. You compromise.