

NATIONAL SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1967

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS AND RECREATION,
OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to recess, at 9:55 a.m., in room 1324, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Roy A. Taylor (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mr. TAYLOR. The Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation will now come to order.

In the absence of objection I would like to place in the record at this point an additional departmental report from the Department of Agriculture dated March 7, 1968, addressed to Hon. Wayne Aspinall, signed by Secretary Freeman, the FPC reports of March 1968 and a statement of the Texas Water Conservation Association.

(The documents referred to follow:)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington, D.C., March 7, 1968.

HON. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for a report on H.R. 752, H.R. 753, H.R. 3389, H.R. 3983, and H.R. 6289, similar bills "To provide for the establishment of the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway in the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin, and for other purposes."

The bills would establish the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway for the purpose of protecting, developing and making accessible for the use of the American people the nationally significant outdoor recreation resources of segments of the Saint Croix River and its tributary, the Namekagon River in Wisconsin. The boundaries of the Riverway would be as generally depicted on a map referred to in the bills.

The Riverway would be administered, protected, and developed by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with statutory authorities available to the Secretary for the conservation and management of natural resources. Any portion of the Riverway within a National Forest would be administered in such manner as agreed upon by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture.

The bills also contain provisions relating to authority of the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands and interests in land within the Riverway, authorization of water projects under the Federal Power Act, and other provisions of substance.

The upper end of the Namekagon River extends into the Chequamegon National Forest for approximately two miles. Most of the lands bordering this stretch of the river are National Forest lands administered by the Forest Service of this Department. Under the bills these lands would be administered in a manner agreed upon by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture.

In 1963, the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior initiated a joint study of the Nation's scenic rivers. As an outgrowth of that study, the Secretary of