

Mr. BOVEY. Neither does the president. He does not get time to fish either.

Mr. Chairman, I am Martin K. Bovey, president of Trout Unlimited, a national organization dedicated to the preservation of cold, clean, free-flowing streams and the splendid sport of trout fishing. We are primarily interested in quality as opposed to quantity fishing, which means that we are infinitely more interested in fishing for smart stream-reared fish than for easily-caught trout fresh out of a hatchery. An important part of what Trout Unlimited means when we speak of quality fishing is the attractiveness of the surroundings amidst which we fish.

Hence, Trout Unlimited earnestly hopes that the 90th Congress will pass either a wild or a scenic rivers bill and thus make possible at least a start on the preservation of some of our relatively few remaining unspoiled, free-flowing rivers. A priceless part of our American heritage was our great wealth of gin-clear rivers flowing unmarred and unobstructed through beautiful country of various types. Every year such rivers grow scarcer as one after another of our streams are jammed or their banks are altered by lumbering, farming, building, or highway construction. Just as we have set aside as national parks or national seashores outstanding examples of the various types of primeval America that greeted the first explorers and settlers, so we should set aside some of our outstanding rivers of various kinds.

Thus, Trout Unlimited warmly applauds the interest that the administration and the Congress is showing in the need to protect scenic and wild rivers. We are hopeful that the objectives of S. 119, H.R. 90, H.R. 6166, H.R. 8416, and other related measures that are now before the committee will be realized in this session of Congress. We do not pretend to have the necessary detail and expertise that will be required in distinguishing between all the specifics of these proposals. We would be less than honest, however, if we did not indicate that we should like to see more rivers classified immediately and placed in the system than any of the present measures would authorize. We realize that such aspirations may not be attainable but we are hopeful that a system can be established embodying the basic principles of preserving the fast diminishing number of free-flowing streams.

We would like to see a bill that would prevent the Federal Power Commission from approving any new project not related to an existing project on any wild or scenic river without specific authorization from the Congress.

Also, we hope the restrictions upon mining as provided for in H.R. 8416 would be in the final version.

We especially urge that the final bill contain a carefully worked out classification system that would permit the inclusion of rivers that range from true wilderness streams to others that are easily accessible and have some development along their shores. The bill should be so worded, Trout Unlimited believes, that rivers currently truly wilderness in nature be kept free of road construction and developed into camping or picnic grounds.

Trout Unlimited also would like to suggest that the rivers and adjacent lands set aside under the bill remain open to hunting.

The principal purpose of preserving wild rivers is to protect their free-flowing status much in the way that the national parks system