

7. An increase in recreation visits amounting to 10¼ million in the first 20 years.

8. A reduction in the cost of forest protection amounting to \$1.6 million in the first 20 years.

The appropriated funds needed for the 6,000 miles of road are estimated at \$14,640,000 per year for ten years, based on 1965 costs. After allowing for maintenance cost, the Forest Service calculated an average rate of return for each of the first five years of additional benefits amounting to 3.3 percent of the cumulative investment in the roads. For the second five years, the rate of such additional returns was 3.7 percent per year.

The details of this analysis are certainly subject to questioning, but the analysis as a whole illustrates an important and sound concept: There is an opportunity to increase government returns from the national forest through the judicious use of additional appropriated funds in the construction of roads.

Again, we respectfully ask that you maintain the authorization for the construction and maintenance of forest roads and trails at the \$170 million level. The funds are needed for the government to meet its obligations and opportunities in the management of the national forests. Absence of such funds will mean undesirable restrictions on government income and economic strangulation of dependent communities.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. We are having a yea and nay vote. I wish you would stay here. We will come back as soon as we can.

I have this one comment, I share your concern about this program. At my direction, in 1966, this committee explored thoroughly the standing of the 10-year program and we reported a bill and passed it in 1966 that was designed to help get the program back on schedule, as you will remember. I hope that we will be able to continue those authorizations so that work can be done as soon as our budget situation lets the money become available. Now, you know that. I hope they will continue this program.

But if you will release us for about 15 or 20 minutes, we will be right back.

Mr. CRAIG. Thank you, sir.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. Very important legislation is on the floor.

We will recess for 15 minutes.

(Whereupon, a short recess was taken.)

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. The committee will be in order.

We have some important legislation on the floor and we will probably be called in the next 15 or 20 minutes, so we will go as far as we can.

Before we recessed, we had Mr. Craig on the stand.

Mr. Craig, you have more?

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. Chairman, I was just about at the end of my testimony when you had to leave, and at that time you indicated that 2 years ago the committee had seen the need for trying to get the program back on the track and that was when you authorized \$170 million for forest roads and trails. And that is my purpose in being here, asking you please to consider keeping it on that same track, rather than reducing the authorization to \$125 million, as the bill proposes as I understand it.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. That is right.

Any questions or comments, Mr. Denney?

Mr. DENNEY. Well, I just want to say that I have read your statement carefully. What you are saying is if we would just follow out what the original intent of the law was, why you would be satisfied; is that right?

Mr. CRAIG. Yes, sir.