

now. In 1962 the public use per year was about 7 million and was distributed as follows:

	<i>Percent</i>
Sightseeing and picnicking-----	54.0
Camping -----	23.0
Winter sports-----	11.0
Fishing and hunting-----	8.0
Riding and hiking-----	2.0
Wilderness travel-----	.2
Other uses such as nature studies-----	1.8

From these figures it can be seen that the majority of the people who use the North Cascades for recreation purposes depend on access by road, and use public campsites and recreation areas. Only two-tenths of one percent of the people use the remote areas for wilderness travel. In effect, this means that the establishment of large inaccessible restricted-use areas would be for the benefit of an extremely small number of people—not the general public. Bear in mind that should 19 million people be using the North Cascades for recreational purposes by the year 2000, placing restrictions on the greater part of the area would not solve any problems but could create many new ones.

Of the multiple uses of the land in the North Cascades, mining in recent years has received little attention. This contrasts sharply with the early history of the area. The first white men to penetrate this region were prospectors, and for many years, these explorers and developers of new wealth were essentially the only people to use the area.

For years the North Cascades of Washington have been looked upon as a potential source of gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, and other valuable minerals. However, because of the remoteness of the area, poor access has greatly hampered exploration and development of many significant mineral deposits. Over a span of 92 years, from 1875 to 1967, more than 52,000 mining claims were staked for minerals in Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, Chelan, and Okanogan Counties. Roughly 7,800, or 15 percent, of these claims are within the boundaries of the North Cascades National Park and the wilderness and recreation areas proposed by S. 1321. Many of the claims are no longer valid, but several hundred individuals still hold valid claims, and at least 90 claims have been patented to become privately owned property. Patents were issued on these claims by the United States Government because the land was considered more valuable for its minerals than for other purposes.

Numerous reports have documented the mineral resources in the area. The most comprehensive reports are two-part 600-page inventories of metallic and non-metallic mineral resources of Washington, published by the Division of Mines and Geology of our own Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and a 436-page document on mineral and water resources of Washington prepared for Senator Henry M. Jackson's Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs in 1966. However, such reports as these must be recognized as being simply compilations of the available information about earlier prospecting and geological investigations. They only hint at possibilities for the future.

Our Division of Mines and Geology will soon have completed an investigation of the mineral resources of Whatcom County, the eastern part of which lies within the areas classified by S. 1321. Our report on this investigation should be published within the next few months. Because the North Cascades Primitive Area in the eastern part of the County was being investigated by parties from the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Bureau of Mines, our geologist concentrated his work mostly outside the primitive area and thus outside the area involved in S. 1321. However, he did take a few geochemical samples of stream sediments from the primitive area for analysis, and two samples from Sulphide Creek, on the southeast flank of Mount Shuksan, showed molybdenum contents far higher than those in any of more than 1,500 samples taken during the past 3 years from practically all the known mineralized areas in the State. This illustrates the need for further and much more detailed exploration in the Sulphide Creek area before the area is permanently closed to mineral entry by the national park.

Although the known mineral deposits in the North Cascades are scattered throughout the region, most of the significant deposits appear to be concentrated in seven distinct areas or metalliferous provinces within or immediately adjacent to the recreational areas proposed by S. 1321. Each of these areas contains deposits