

ing, and increasingly they are being forced out of the park into the lower valleys where they either die, are killed by ranchers to protect their property, or must be taken under hunting seasons which are only eliminating seasons. The Nation has been sickened watching the application of similarly outmoded policies in the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, where elk by the thousands have been ruthlessly slaughtered by Park Service employees under the most abject circumstances which completely destroys the great natural dignity of this wonderful specie of wildlife; only for the reason that an outmoded, wornout, disproved policy of preservation prohibited their taking under more humane and sportsmanlike conditions.

Why should we compound these tragic errors and further these empty philosophies in the North Cascades? There is no reason in logic, or in fact, to deprive the general public of the opportunity to legitimately hunt big game in the proposed park area. To do so, would be an unnecessary deprivation of the opportunity to engage in wholesome big game hunting by responsible people under proven principles of conservation.

The impact upon sports fishing, although less dramatic, is even more detrimental.

The use of fishing waters within the proposed park area is an increasingly intensive one and the necessity for active restocking programs has clearly been proven. Presently, they are nearly all annually restocked by the department of game from our system of trout hatcheries, utilizing airplanes. Such a program of stocking is essential for the reason these waters offer little or no potential for natural restocking.

These are the reasons why a large national park in the North Cascades and a third national park in the State of Washington would be highly detrimental to the interests of hundreds of thousands of fishermen and hunters. The result would be a taking of legitimate and badly needed hunting and fishing opportunities without a logical reason of any kind.

If I may, I would like to close by noting the classic words of that nationally known dean of American conservationists, Dr. George A. Selke, as part of his statement contained in the official North Cascades Study Report. They are: "It is my opinion that we have overlooked the possibilities of both hunting and fishing, but especially hunting, in planning for the future. These are two of the finest of our traditional sports that appeal especially to youth approaching manhood. It is my strong opinion that hunting and fishing should receive more attention as we consider our outdoor recreation responsibilities. These fine diversions have honorable traditions of their own and each has enriching concomitants that are wholesome for our youths. We simply must see that they are continued as an important part of posterity's heritage." The establishment of a third major national park in this State will not assit in achieving these goals.

Our need in the State of Washington is not one of setting aside major areas of public land for the selective recreational desires of groups of people, rather, it is a compelling need to make all of our public lands available for the recreational needs of all of our people.

This is not only the need of today, it is an essential need of tomorrow. Fishermen and hunters and fishing and hunting will pay the