

This study is being made at a cost of \$600,000 to the Federal Government, and encompasses some 801,000 acres in the northern portion of the area. I would urge, also, that no action be taken on S. 1321 until a similar mineral investigation is ordered and completed on the remaining 400,000 acres being considered by this legislation for other than U.S. Forest Service classification.

Upon completion of both of these investigations, all areas having mineral resources should be classified in such a way as to keep them open for exploration and development by the mining industry, subject to reasonable restrictions to protect recreational and other values.

The importance of completion of current mineral studies is emphasized by a separate investigation of the resources of Whatcom County, the eastern part of which lies in the areas classified by S. 1321. I am advised that the State division of mines and geology will publish its report within the next 2 months.

Geochemical samples of stream sediments from Sulphide Creek, on the southeast corner of Mount Shuskan, show molybdenum contents far higher than those in any of more than 1,500 samples taken during the past 3 years from practically all the mineralized areas in the State.

This shows the need for further, more detailed exploration in areas such as Sulphide Creek before they are permanently closed to mineral entry by the national park, as proposed in S. 1321.

Of seven known mineralized areas in the North Cascades, comprising some 264,850 acres, 164,000 acres fall within the boundaries of the proposed national park, wilderness, and recreation areas.

These 164,000 acres make up less than 10 percent of the 1,660,000 acres that are proposed for these three classifications; including the already existing Glacier Peak Wilderness Area.

The known mineral deposits are so situated that relatively short roads would make them accessible and would thus permit exploration and development of these resources.

In addition, such mining roads would serve the general public who use the national forest for recreation, hunting, and fishing. To permit mining in the metalized areas of the North Cascades, would thus contribute to the recreational development of the region.

In the North Cascades, where the growth of vegetation is rapid, the works of man, such as abandoned mines, are soon obliterated. From 1900 to 1958, the production of minerals from lands in and adjacent to the lands classified by S. 1321 has been in the neighborhood of \$69 million. Few people are aware of this activity, since the mines from which the metals came occupy very small areas and make up only a small fraction of the total landscape.

Currently, the North Cascades have something to offer to all citizens, and still most of the area can be maintained in its primitive condition, open to hunters, fishermen, and recreationists of all types.

With the creation of a national park and restricted-use wilderness and recreation areas, the problems and congestion that plague the present national parks in the West will be forced on the North Cascades.

The most logical concept in management for the area is the retention of the multiple-use program of the U.S. Forest Service to the greatest extent possible, and that no national park areas be authorized. Where wilderness areas can be established, such as in the Glacier Peak, Eldorado, Okanogan, and Mount Baker regions, I recommend that