

opment of this road in the event the bill passes and the development plan is adopted.

The Senate hearings in Washington State brought out much concern among local business and community leaders that the State of Washington would have to relinquish its jurisdiction over the North Cross-State Highway. The Park Service policy of permitting the State to exercise complete jurisdiction over the road was later given statutory character by an amendment adopted in the Senate Interior Committee. I urge adoption of this amendment in the final form of the bill.

The principal opposition to S. 1321 and H.R. 8970 has emanated from sportsmen who fear that the bills would compromise the pursuit of hunting. I, too, am a sportsman who for years has enjoyed hunting. But the facts dispell any notion that the North Cascades National Park would work a hardship on hunters.

The annual deer kill in Washington State is roughly 60,000 to 70,000. While there is no way to estimate precisely how many deer are harvested within the boundaries of the proposed park, the State game commission in Olympia has calculated the figure to be approximately 400 to 500. Many of these deer are taken within the boundaries of what would become the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area. As we know, hunting is allowed in this area.

It should also be emphasized that these deer are high-country deer. They come down to lower ground during the winter. For this reason, then, I doubt very much that we would witness an overpopulation of these animals and therefore a situation like the tragedy in Yellowstone National Park.

Yet, I believe that the Park Service must give serious consideration to allowing controlled hunts of these high-country animals. Under the game regulations of Washington State, the high Cascades deer hunt is confined to a 2- or 3-week period in middle and late September. The hunt occurs, therefore, at a time when few tourists are visiting the area.

Another aspect of the bill important to sportsmen is that provision which requires the Secretary of Interior to consult with the Washington State Game Department before issuing regulations dealing with fish and wildlife in the recreation areas. I urge retention of this section.

Mr. Chairman, I readily support the Senate amendments to the bill. These amendments, described on page 30 of the committee report, were found to be necessary after hearing detailed testimony in the field. In particular I support modification of the boundaries near the Thunder Creek Basin and near Copper Creek.

The chairman will recall in dealing with the Scenic Rivers bill recently, we took similar action with regard to the Thunder Creek area.

In both of these areas the Seattle City Light Co. has tentative plans for dams and reservoirs.

In conclusion, then, I feel that the North Cascades National Park bill offers us a chance to preserve as well as utilize our natural resources.

Investing a little money now will pay a rich dividend of wilderness in conjunction with multipurpose family recreation.

Mr. TAYLOR. We thank our colleague for his statement.