

Mr. TAYLOR. Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

From our hearings in the field we realize that the question of the private uses to be made of this land enters into the thinking of the local people. What private uses would continue in the recreation area, for example?

Dr. CRAFTS. Mr. Chairman, all of the private uses that are permitted in a national forest may continue in a national recreation area, including timbering, mining, grazing, and so on. Really, the fundamental and principal difference between the two is that if it is a national recreation area, there is legislative recognition that the use of the land for recreation is the priority use and that the other uses must be compatible and are secondary to the primary uses as designated in a national recreation area.

As a matter of fact, in these two proposed national recreation areas in the Senate-passed bill, and one in the administration bill, there are not now any significant timber uses or grazing uses. There is some hunting use, there is cabin use, there are recreation developments, and this sort of thing.

Mr. TAYLOR. Hunting, fishing, timber harvesting, and mining would continue in the recreation area pretty much as at present?

Dr. CRAFTS. I think that is correct; yes.

Mr. TAYLOR. What about skiing?

Dr. CRAFTS. Skiing will continue and may be developed in a national recreation area, just as it may be developed in a national forest. Of course, skiing is a recreation use and this would be given high priority.

This is one reason that Ruby Mountain right south of Ross Lake, was included in the recreation area—because this is considered to be a very fine skiing area.

George just advised me that the Senate-passed bill requires a special study of the skiing potential in the recreation areas. I might say that this is another reason. The winter sports aspect is one of the reasons why the Granite Creek area was left out of both the administration bill and the Senate-passed bill. It is because there are ski opportunities on these slopes as well. The other reason, of course, is the highway.

Mr. TAYLOR. Under this legislation the Department would have authority to provide skiing facilities or enter into concession contracts with private concerns to provide it?

Dr. CRAFTS. That is right.

Mr. TAYLOR. Now what change, if any, would be made in the private uses of the wilderness area?

Mr. HARTZOG. That portion of the area put in a national park, Mr. Chairman, would not permit hunting, but most of the hunting, as was explained by Congressman Meeds yesterday, is in the Stehekin area which is proposed for the national recreation area and, therefore, hunting would be permitted according to applicable Federal and State law.

Dr. CRAFTS. And there is some hunting on this side of Ross Lake, which would also be in recreation area.

Mr. TAYLOR. What changes would be made in uses permits in that section designated as wilderness?

Dr. CRAFTS. In the first place, this is designated as wilderness in both bills. There is a slight difference in boundaries. This has for many