

Mr. KYL. It is not my intention, Mr. Hartzog, to put you on the spot with this question, but I would like to go just a little further into the reasoning behind your statement that you would rather have no park than the proposal which is included in one of these bills.

Mr. HARTZOG. Thank you very much, Mr. Kyl. I am delighted to elaborate on it.

In essence, a national park has two basic characteristics. It first must have a unique, superlative scenic and scientific value. The historic pattern of the Congress in establishing national parks is that this must possess more than a single attractive feature, but a variety, and secondly, that it must include sufficient lands to permit reasonable and appropriate visitor access and use of it.

In the bill that has been presented by the distinguished and gentle Congresswoman from Washington, she would set aside the Pickets, the most rugged, spectacular, scenic, and scientifically valuable area, in our judgment, in the entire North Cascades as a national park, and then provide that it be managed as a wilderness which, in effect, provides that only those who can walk in can get in. This, in our judgment, is just simply not a breadth of appropriate visitor access and use to qualify it as a national park.

Mr. KYL. I think that is all.

Mr. TAYLOR. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KYL. Yes.

Mr. TAYLOR. The Governor recommends an advisory board for this particular recreation area and national park. What is your reaction to that?

Mr. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman, the Congress has decided in a number of these newly authorized seashores, and the innovative type management for these areas, advisory boards. We have found them to be very helpful, very constructive. We do not feel that an advisory board is a particularly essential mechanism here because these are pretty traditional type areas that we have managed for a long time. A reservoir-type recreation area, we have managed one of these at Lake Mead since 1936. National parks we have managed since the Congress established the Bureau in 1916. We would have no objection to an advisory board and we would be very pleased to work with one.

Mr. TAYLOR. But you have a nationwide operating National Parks Advisory Board now.

Mr. HARTZOG. We do, sir; and they have inspected this country and they are familiar with it, and we expect to consult with them.

Mr. TAYLOR. The gentleman from Idaho.

Mr. McCLURE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Hartzog, I appreciate the information you provided me in regard to the evolution of the national recreation area and the scenic easements that are being acquired. This is a matter which you and I have discussed and on which we share concern as to the direction which may eventually evolve.

You made a statement a moment ago, however, which startled me a little with respect to the acquisition of in-holdings. If I recall your statement correctly, it was along the order that within the recreation areas there would be no plan to acquire in-holdings until the owners wish to sell.

Mr. HARTZOG. As long as their use was compatible with the overall recreational environment of the area.