

efforts might have been better directed to more stable areas of the Potomac immediately nearby, and in the marshes to the south, known as the Dyke; the birds would probably have received much greater benefit.

Having been an inactive hunter for a number of years, I can assure you that the northern area is not a natural habitat for wildlife because of the numerous drawbacks this area has in the way of foul water and rapidly shifting silt, and ever-increasing mud flats, and proximity to dense housing, namely the Hunting Towers Apartments.

I have slides that are photographs incorporated in the earlier report submitted by me to you on this subject which show the progress of siltation in the summer of 1964. The last two slides I will show you were taken in 1968.

Colonel RHEA. Mr. Holland, I would like to interrupt you a minute. You and your other members are taking quite a bit of time. I ask you to try to summarize your points. I think you have made most of them already. We do have a lot of other people that want to make presentations.

Mr. HOLLAND. Colonel, I apologize. I am on my last page now. I would like to show these two or three photographs and that's all.

This photograph is taken from an aircraft. It shows the beginning, in the upper right part of these mudflats. That was taken in 1964 and at a time when the tide was high.

This next photograph was taken from the ground in the same period when the tide was low. You will note there are two channels, one pointing toward the south into this better area and the main channel going off to the left out to the river which carried the main bulk of the water itself. Again, you see the harbor; also, the dock.

This is taken from the top of the apartments looking out there and you can see the main channel going into the river.

This picture was taken this last month. The channels have disappeared. The mud is all flowing to the south when the tide is not fully high.

This is the destruction in the southern area where the game refuge is that we suggest will be protected to a degree by this operation. The last picture shows you some of the quality of the material on the bottom, debris of all kinds, metal, tree limbs, stumps, paper, tin, just very, very trashy material. In the series of several photographs which you have been furnished, you will see that this does not change from day to day. This is the same trash.

That's all the pictures I have, sir. I would just like to make a brief summary.

Out of the original estuary known as Greater Hunting Creek in former times, 30 acres remained in the inner basin. Of the outer basin, consisting of 450 acres, only 150 acres remain unimpaired out to the headlands, which is the Maryland-Virginia State boundary.

Most of this degradation was caused by other construction than private. We have roads; we have all sorts of highways and things which have been built in there and have caused this trouble.

We are discussing with you today, gentlemen, the use of an area which is completely destroyed for any recreation or wildlife purposes.

We wish to put it to a productive use. We wish to move the water through this area that is now in mudflats and a cesspool in a manner to protect some of the surrounding area and to remove the unpleasing aspects, both esthetic and odorous, that exist in this site.

Thank you, Colonel; I am sorry to take so long.

Colonel RHEA. Thank you.

Next I will call on Congressman Reuss, the Congressman from Wisconsin.

STATEMENT OF HON. HENRY S. REUSS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

Representative REUSS. My name is Henry S. Reuss. I am a U.S. Congressman from the State of Wisconsin through whose flyways come so many of the diving ducks which for centuries have lived happily in the area of Hunting Creek which is sought by the applicant to fill.

I appear here on behalf of myself and the Honorable John Moss, Congressman from California.

We have a prepared statement and with the Chair's permission, I would like to submit that for the record and then to proceed, briefly, to summarize my point.

Colonel RHEA. Yes, sir.