

This is shown by this dotted line so the whole area of the formally classified wilderness has now been excluded and is not included in H.R. 3306.

Then this dark dashed line which is in the vicinity of the Blue Lake area identifies the 3,150 acres which is described in S. 1624 and in S. 1625 and also is the 3,150 acres that is included in the Department of Agriculture proposed amendment to these bills.

Senator ANDERSON. There are lands in there which at no time were owned by the Indians.

Mr. GREELEY. In answering this question, I would refer to the finding of the Indian Claims Commission which was that there was Indian title to the drainage of the Rio Pueblo de Taos. The question of what constitutes ownership, I think, is probably one of the points at issue here, but we have accepted as being relevant for our decisionmaking processes the finding of the Indian Claims Commission with regard to Indian title but without attempting to go beyond what are the areas that the Commission found had Indian title.

Senator ANDERSON. Have there been problems in connection with fire control?

Mr. GREELEY. Senator, any mountain area has fire problems and this is a part of the country which has lighting problems and there are lightning fires and occasionally, as in almost all areas of human use, there are man-caused fires. There is a history of older fires. There have been no exceptionally large fires since 1939. We have had I think 10 fires in the period since 1949 of which six were lightning fires and four were man-caused fires.

This, of course, is the sort of thing if you stay on top of it, it does not become a problem. There are forces there in place available to handle the suppression when a fire starts through lightning or any other cause. They can generally be controlled while they are small.

I think I should comment, Senator, that we have worked with the Indians to develop a cooperative agreement for fire control activities in the special use area. We developed one which we have proposed to the Indians for their consideration. To date this has not been agreed to by the Indians.

We continue to handle the fire protection there as we have been doing right along.

Senator ANDERSON. Has there been any lack of cooperation?

Mr. GREELEY. I would be hesitant to say there has been a lack of cooperation. We have been able to get help from the Indians when we needed firefighting people. We have employed some of the Indians from the Pueblo for some of our seasonal jobs.

We have paid for the fire suppression work that the Indians have done. I would not want to give the impression that there has been lack of cooperation. The people who have the job of emergency firefighting face problems they would like to get solved in a hurry and sometimes it has been a little difficult to get problems solved in a hurry.

Senator ANDERSON. What is the situation in regard to pest and bug infestation?

Mr. GREELEY. The timber in these areas is subject to disease and insect attacks. We have had some minor bark beetle infestations in that timber but the most serious was by spruce budworms in 1962 and 1966.