

Senator HANSEN. Let me ask you what uses, other than uses by the Indians, are being made in this 48,000-acre area at the present time?

Mr. GREELEY. In the 48,000-acre area, Senator Hansen, there is some grazing by non-Indian-owned livestock on the area which is shown in white on the map at the east end. Under the permit entry system, there is some recreation use primarily for fishing along the river, and that is about it.

Senator HANSEN. Some grazing and some fishing and recreational use?

Mr. GREELEY. Yes, sir.

Senator HANSEN. Does the Forest Service plan to develop further uses in the future?

Mr. GREELEY. Our main concern about what should happen here in the future is that we think some things could be done to improve range management, to improve the grazing administration, and we do think that this is an area that could be a useful area for more day recreation use.

We do not have any specific plans to do this. I am responding to you in terms of what it seems to us would be the right kind of use of this land.

The portion of the area that is shown in white to the right there outside of the present permit area but which is included under the House bill is an area in which the right kind of land use should permit some timber cutting.

We do not now have plans for timber cutting but the right kind of land use looking ahead into the future should permit some commercial timber harvest.

Senator HANSEN. Do you have any misgivings about the compatibility or the conformity of timber cutting in an area that is regarded by the Indians as having very significant religious significance?

Mr. GREELEY. Senator, again I would say I am talking in terms of what should be done on into the future. I don't think we should undertake any commercial timber harvest operations or any other kind of a commercial operation except on the basis of a very careful plan and probably over a long period of time.

Senator HANSEN. You are talking about a commercial operation here, Mr. Greeley?

Mr. GREELEY. No, at the moment I am saying there would need to be a degree of understanding on the part of both the Forest Service and the Indian people about what we have in mind to do and about how it would be done and about what safeguards would be for both watershed protection and for areas that are of significance.

I do not know, sir, whether if the Indian people were to identify the specific localities where there are shrines or where there are other points of specific religious significance, they may be scattered all through there and if so it would not be feasible to do any timber cutting.

Senator HANSEN. Is it your contention that the Indians should be called upon to identify and to make a public declaration of the precise points that hold significance insofar as their religious beliefs are concerned throughout this area?

I gather from the testimony that they have been asked in the past and the responses they have given have not been completely satisfactory