

This is the way they feel about it, intrusion of the recreationists and outsiders into the land—it is a source of irritation to them.

Senator ANDERSON. Who are these recreationists that you speak of? Who are they?

Mr. SCHAAB. Campers, fishermen, hunters, people who wish to go into the area for recreational purposes.

I can't give you a list of their names, obviously.

Senator ANDERSON. Have you an example that will show where somebody has been there camping improperly?

Mr. SCHAAB. The fact that they go in at all, I think, is a disagreeable fact to the Indians.

Senator ANDERSON. What person went in there?

You say went in at all. Who went into Taos?

Mr. SCHAAB. Whoever they were.

Senator ANDERSON. Who were they?

Mr. SCHAAB. I don't know what their names are, obviously.

The Forest Service has taken a position that the land should be open to the public at large for recreation purposes.

Senator ANDERSON. I came to the national forest. I didn't say who it was. I didn't say "Mr. X."

Now, who are these people that you say are a constant source of conflict? Do you have a person you can identify?

Mr. SCHAAB. No; I can't identify a physical body in being with a name, no, I can't, but quite obviously there is no controversy about the fact that recreationists have been permitted to enter the area, and the Indians find this objectionable.

Senator METCALF. Will the Senator yield?

Senator ANDERSON. Yes.

Senator METCALF. It seems to me as if you are having a conflict here, because you state in your statement in the record:

* * * the Forest Service has repeatedly diminished the use of the area by sportsmen: the lakes are no longer stocked with fish, the area is not prime country for hunting, and use by campers has been deliberately discouraged.

Now, isn't that an effort on the part of the Forest Service to discourage the visitors?

Mr. SCHAAB. Yes.

Senator METCALF. Well, do you approve of that, or do you disapprove of it?

Mr. SCHAAB. We certainly approve.

We think that it undercuts the force of their statement that there are important public uses served by this area, because those uses have in fact been diminishing over the years. That is a step in the right direction.

Senator METCALF. Do you want them to stock the lakes with fish? Do you want to have this a prime country for hunting, or don't you?

Mr. SCHAAB. We do not.

Senator METCALF. Then how can you criticize the Forest Service, when you admit in your own statement that this is what the Forest Service has been doing?

Mr. SCHAAB. This has been a development within the last few years.

Senator METCALF. This is what they are doing now.

Mr. SCHAAB. This is what they are doing now, yes.