

the proposals for Pelican Island and Monomoy National Wildlife Refuges and the several areas included in S. 3502.

I appreciate the invitation to appear in behalf of all those who have a profound interest in the protection of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey. As the secretary of this foundation, it was my pleasure several years ago to help initiate a fundraising campaign which raised well over a million dollars in private contributions with which to purchase the first 3,000 acres in the Great Swamp for dedication as a national wildlife refuge. The foundation donated the land to the Federal Government, and the large number of contributors to that highly commendable refuge project have the wholehearted support of millions of conservationists across the country in urging the enactment of S. 3379.

The Great Swamp is one of the finest natural areas remaining in the Northeast. It is unique in many respects, and is even more unusual because of its close proximity to the dense population of the New York metropolitan complex. Lying less than 30 miles from New York City, it contains timbered knolls and ridges, broad meadows, and wooded ponds. Ornithologists have identified 154 species of birds there; more than 75 species nest on the refuge; and about 80 species of plants are native to the property.

People from all walks of life contributed to the fund that was raised to preserve the area. Individual contributions were received from people from many States. In fact, some of the largest contributions that the foundation received were from residents of Pennsylvania. That is the best evidence that can be given to the widespread desire for providing added wilderness system protection to the two areas designated in S. 3379.

We always have regarded the two areas as separate and distinct units, and we would prefer to have them characterized as two adjacent units. Arrangements could be made to close the road that separates the two tracts, however, if that should be deemed necessary. Many of those who are familiar with the topographical and ecological features of this outstanding area believe that there are many good reasons for dedicating the separate units as provided in S. 3379. We hope that it will be cleared for Senate enactment without delay.

I feel very strongly that there are other impelling reasons as to why we should have two areas. No. 1, the area on the right on the smaller map displayed previously in red has been named the M. Hartley Dodge area.

I would like to say Mr. Dodge, who passed away, was on the board of this foundation for about 40 years. He was a very philanthropic person, a man very active in all forms of conservation and I was delighted to learn, after his passing, when they talked of classifying this area as a wilderness, that they say fit to name this after Mr. Dodge. I think this is an excellent reason.

In addition to that, as Mr. Gottschalk brought out, the two areas are ecologically and topographically different. I think they could rightly be classified in that way.

Senator Allott, you and Senator Jordan and I have traveled over vast wilderness areas, but we are never going to have those vast areas here in the East, those areas you are familiar with and think about, Senator Hansen, and you, Mr. Metcalf, out in your part of the country.