

The Massachusetts Audubon Society recognizes Monomoy Island as a unique ecological area near the greatest concentration of human population in the United States. The island's ecology cannot withstand any intensive human use. Its highest human value would be as a wilderness. In our section of the United States there are far too few regions that could qualify for wilderness protection as adequately as Monomoy Island. In preserving Monomoy's wildness, the Congress would be preserving a rare commodity that only nature can create.

For these reasons, The Massachusetts Audubon Society expresses its support for passage of S. 3425 which would give Monomoy Island wilderness status.

Senator METCALF. As I understand it, if this were given wilderness status, you would have to abandon your beach buggy tours?

Mr. BAIRD. We would be delighted to do this.

Senator METCALF. This is agreeable to the society?

Mr. BAIRD. More than agreeable.

Senator METCALF. Thank you for coming down and giving us your statement.

Mr. Lou Clapper, in his usual cooperation with the committee, has presented his statement and it will be incorporated in the record at this point.

STATEMENT OF LOUIS S. CLAPPER, NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Mr. CLAPPER. I am Louis S. Clapper, chief of the Division of Conservation Education, National Wildlife Federation. Our organization has its national headquarters here in Washington, D.C., at 1412 16th Street NW.

By way of identification, the National Wildlife Federation is a private organization which seeks to attain conservation objectives through educational means. The Federation has affiliated in 49 States. These affiliates, in turn, are composed of local groups and individuals who, when combined with associate members and other supporters of the National Wildlife Federation, number an estimated 2½ million persons.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, the National Wildlife Federation long has supported the concept of wilderness preservation and we are pleased to have this invitation and opportunity of commenting upon these bills.

In our opinion, these bills are of special importance to this subcommittee and to the Senate in at least three respects. First, these are the first Senate hearings to be held on potential additions to the wilderness system that are not within a national forest. Of course, the Wilderness Act initially incorporated into the system only those areas of National Forest already classified as "wilderness", "wild", or "canoe" and the two bills which have gone through the Congress, and have been approved by the President, are in national forests. Second, this hearing is unique for the Senate because it is the first to be held on areas other than those located in the West. Third, the subcommittee also possibly may encounter a relatively new question. Some wildlife refuges, for example, have been set aside principally for the purpose of preserving and allowing the management of particular species of wild-